

MINUTES OF 2004 BUSINESS MEETING EFCE WORKING PARTY ON DRYING

Nuremberg, Germany
Wednesday March 17, 2004, 19.30-20.30

Persons present:

Prof. Julien Andrieu (F)
Prof. Antonello Barresi (I)
Dr-Ing. Ioannis Evripidis (GR)
Prof. István Farkas (H)
Mr. Ian C. Kemp (GB)
Prof. Michel Roques (F)
Mr. Christian Schwartzbach (DK)
Dr. Milan Stakic (YU)
Dr. Stig Stenstrom (S)
Prof. Dr.-Ing. Evangelos Tsotsas (D)
Dr. Henk van Deventer (NL)

Apologies for absence:

Dr. Carl-Gustav Berg (FIN)
Dr. Catherine Bonazzi (F)
Dr. Bojan Cermák (CZ)
Dr.-Ing. Dietrich Gehrman (D)
Dr. Ir. Angélique Leonard (B)
Dr. Zdzislaw Pakowski (PL)
Prof. Antonio Mulet Pons (E)
Prof. George D. Saravacos (GR)

Dr. Alberto M. Sereno (P)
Prof. Ingvald Strommen (N)
Prof. Czeslaw Strumillo (PL)
Prof. Radivoje Topic (YU)

Other delegates not attending:

Dr. Odilio Alves-Filho (N)
Ir. Karl Anthonissen (B)
Prof. J. Bueno De Las Heras (E)
Mr. Bianchi Janetti Claudio (I)
Prof. Anatoly A. Dolinsky (UKR)
Dr. Ing. Roberto Faucitano (I)
Prof. Dr. Markku Karlsson (FIN)
Prof. Eli Korin (ISR)
Prof. Norvald Nesse (N)
Mr. Tom Taylor (GB)
Prof. Dr. Dimitrije Voronjec (YU)

Not contactable by e-mail:

Dr. Ansgar Sorensen (DK)
Mr. Heikki Jaakkola (FIN)
Prof. D. Marinos-Kouris (GR)

1. Opening remarks

The Acting Chairman, Ian Kemp, opened the meeting and expressed - on behalf of all attendants - his gratitude to GVC-VDI for making the practical arrangements and hosting the technical and business meeting, and for kindly providing the dinner for the latter. This was now the third in the revived series of joint technical and business meetings, after Magdeburg 2002 and Crete 2003. There had been an excellent overall attendance for this meeting, with over 70 people registered, of whom nearly 50 were from the German national society. The policy of combining EFCE Drying WPD meetings with meetings of active national societies appears to have been successful and it is hoped that it can be encouraged further in future.

2. Membership

Ian Kemp noted the apologies of various members who were unable to attend but sent their good wishes for the success of the meeting. Prof Roques attended as an alternate for Dr Catherine Bonazzi.

Mr Kemp also pointed out that the chairmanship had in effect been vacant since the Crete meeting, where he had reached the end of his three-year term. Prof Tsotsas

had been chosen as chairman-elect, but as he was officially a guest rather than a delegate, had had to await ratification of his new delegate status by the GVC (which has now been completed). In the meantime, Mr Kemp had continued as acting chairman.

The Chairman welcomed the following new delegates:

Germany: Prof Evangelos Tsotsas, replacing ?

Germany: ..., replacing Dr Dietrich Gehrman

Italy: Prof Antonello Barresi

Sweden: Dr Stig Stenstrom, replacing Prof Roland Wimmerstedt.

The efforts of these countries to provide updated delegates was appreciated. It was noted in the previous business that some official delegates have been inactive for many years whereas other people with an active involvement in the WP are still guests, and members were encouraged to request their national organisations to update their delegation wherever appropriate, so that the WP's official composition reflects those who are currently active in the field. The point was made that in many countries, it is very difficult to trace which national organisation has the responsibility of appointing delegates, and to persuade them to take action!

3. Minutes of previous meetings

The minutes of the meeting at Crete (September 2003), which had been previously distributed, were noted and approved.

4. Chairman's report

The Chairman thanked all members for their support during his three-year term of office and the six-month extension as acting chairman. It was particularly good to see the continuing good co-operation and networking between members, through the revival of technical meetings, and also the submission of proposals to the EC (though regrettably unsuccessful).

(From Crete minutes)

The Drying Working Party website, while not as regularly updated as had been hoped, is up and running, and provides a successful link into the EFCE main site and a number of key worldwide drying websites. It is hosted by the Chairman's employer, Aspen Technology Inc., who purchased Hyprotech from AEA Technology in May 2002. The address is:

<http://www.hyprotech.com/proman/efce>.

It will be inappropriate for the website to continue at this location; alternatives could include the IChemE (UK) or a location under the control of the new Chairman. The website will also require updating when relocated.

5. Communications from members

(a) Conferences and meetings

(b) EC proposals

(c) International Energy Agency

(d) Nordic Drying Conferences

(e) any others

6. Future direction

Repeated from 2003 meeting:

(The future direction of the group had been discussed in some depth at the Karlsruhe meeting in 2001. The basic strategy continues to be; to encourage dissemination of knowledge about drying (e.g. at technical meetings and via the website) and to assist networking in Europe. There are not many countries where there are sufficient people specifically interested in drying to form a national group. The present system of combining a business meeting with a 1-2 day technical meeting appears to have been well received, and presents a good way for technical contacts and networking to be maintained, especially as the IDS (International Drying Symposium) will not return to Europe until 2006, in Budapest. The Chairman welcomed the willingness of national groups to host EFCE WP meetings, thus promoting national and international cooperation simultaneously; the current meeting is being hosted by the Greek association, and offers have also been received from other national groups. The Working Party requires one business meeting a year, but is happy to encourage additional technical meetings or conferences, especially where these cover a subject of special interest to a sub-group of the WP. Where significant numbers of members meet together at a separate conference, such as IDS, an informal update meeting can be arranged; the last of these was at IDS 2002 in Beijing. A similar meeting could be considered at IDS 2004 in Sao Paulo.)

7. Future meetings

Proposed Paris meeting in 2005 to be hosted by AFSIA – Prof Andrieu
The next ECCE congress will be combined with the World Congress of Chemical Engineering in Glasgow in 2005. It is possible that the organisers may provide facilities for working parties to hold their meetings immediately before or after the conference to avoid the necessity for all delegates to pay the conference fees. It was felt that this was not an ideal occasion for an official WPD meeting, but would provide a useful opportunity for delegates to meet if they were separately attending the World Congress. Delegates are encouraged to submit papers before the deadline of 1 July 2004.

8. Chairmanship handover

Ian Kemp had been elected to the Chair at the Business Meeting in August 2000 at IDS (Noordwijkerhout), and reached the end of his term at the Business Meeting in Crete in 2003. Professor Evangelos Tsotsas of Magdeburg University, Germany, had been elected unanimously as the new Chairman, but was officially a guest of the Working Party rather than a delegate. To comply with EFCE regulations, Ian Kemp had remained for official purposes as Acting Chairman and Professor Tsotsas became Chairman-elect, awaiting his nomination by GVC as a full delegate. It was confirmed that this ratification had now been completed and the Chairmanship was therefore officially handed over.

9. Dates of forthcoming meetings

The next official Working Party Business Meeting will take place in 2005, time and location to be decided.

Informal meetings of the WP will take place during IDS 2004 in Brazil, and provisionally at a joint technical meeting with AFSIA in France in November 2004. An informal meeting has also been suggested for the WCCE7/ECCE5 at Glasgow, UK in July 2005.

Forthcoming meetings:

IDS 2004, Sao Paulo, Brazil. 22-25 August 2004.

CHISA 2004, Prague, Czech Republic. 22-26 August 2004. (No drying session planned due to the clash with IDS)

World Congress and ECCE-5, Glasgow, Scotland, 10-14 July 2005.

10. Closure of the meeting

The Chairman thanked delegates for their valuable contributions and added his good wishes for the success of the rest of the technical meeting before closing the business meeting.

Ian C. Kemp
Retiring Chairman of WP on Drying
March 2004

Evangelos Tsotsas
Chairman of Drying WP