

MHEA Matters

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Presidents Forward What's New in MHEA Report from Bulk09 The President goes underground Strategy Workshop Review Site Visit Report



Forward from The MHEA President

Welcome to the latest issue of 'MHEA Matters', the first to be prepared in-house by our Secretary Peter Webster.

Much has happened since I wrote the last Foreword in November 2008.

The low point of these intervening months was of course the sad loss of Harold Wright but many other events of an extremely positive nature have taken place to afford some balance.

For me the key point is the Strategic review taking place across the whole spectrum of activity which will, when completed, stand us in good stead for many years to come. I always have believed that if an organisation is 'standing still' – then it is actually 'going backwards' and this review has given a broad cross section of the members a real input into how things should be done in the future. Several key changes have been agreed and they are starting to come through right now with the first Business Forum in September and the complete upgrade of the web site over the next three months. A big 'thank you' to all members that put many hours into these review sessions.

My final comment is on Bulk09. Given the current state of the economy I can only say how delighted we were with this year's conference. In terms of quality and relevance it was, in my opinion as good as ever and goes to show that when times get tough, like minded people still need to get together to share experiences and ideas.

Steve Clewley
President MHEA

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What's New in MHEA !

Check out below what's new and forthcoming events in MHEA, make a note in your diary now.

MHEA Business Forum

Bretby 24th September 2009

Come along and meet RWE Npower and E-ON and find out what it is they, the customer are looking for from Bulk Materials Handling Suppliers and Service Companies.

Get the latest news from the Executive Committee and Strategy Workshop.

The venue is the Bretby Conference centre near Burton-On-Trent in the centre of England. This is a great opportunity to Network with fellow members and find out what's happening in your industry

Summer Site Visit

MHEA is off to Sunny Cornwall to visit The Imerys China Clay Operation at St Austell on the 15th July. The visit will start at the China Clay Museum, then onto View the Pit, Refinery and Dryer / Ports Facilities, we end up at the Melbur Pit to view the Dry Mining.

There are spaces available so book NOW

2009 AGM

The AGM will be on the 28-29 October, provisionally in Newcastle. We hope to have a site visit to the Port of Tyne to see the new developments going on there, particularly Coal Handling.

I will circulate the membership with more details nearer the time but why not put a note in your diary now

Bulk10

The provisional dates for Bulk10 are 13-14 May 2010 at the Hilton Hotel Blackpool. It's a long way off but why not consider offering a paper. The event is a must for all MHEA members so put it in your diary now.

Review of Bulk09

Technical Design Seminar

April 23-24 Blackpool Hilton

bulk09

Web: www.mhea.co.uk

This years Bulk09 proved to be a successful and well attended event considering the current economic climate, 70 plus delegates enjoyed a mixture of informative and technical papers, the networking and socialising which is always an important part of the Seminar was as good as ever. Once again there was a strong international flavour to the event reflecting on the Global activities of MHEA members companies. The ties with academia came through with papers from Glasgow University, The Wolfson Centre, Newcastle University Australia and Delft University of the Netherlands

Highlights from Bulk09 Technical Design Seminar

Opening

Simon Phillips, Construction Logistics Manager Crossrail Ltd formally opening the Bulk09 event. Simon went on and presented a paper on the Crossrail project now underway in London. Simon's paper concentrated on the logistics of building a new Railway across central London focusing on the issues with handling the excavated material, over 200,000m³ per month at peak times by Road Rail and Ship !



Innovations In Belt Conveying

An interesting approach to monitoring conveyor belt idlers was the subject of Dr Gabriel Lodewijks lecture. The advances in wireless technology and reduction in cost has brought the theory closer to reality. The system would work by monitoring the temperature of the idler and notifying a central hub of the need for attention. Another aspect of belt conveying was covered by Greg Bierie who explained new concepts which can be employed when designing new installations to avoid material spillage and dust control. Dr Stefan Hinterholzer from Sandvik Mining Germany introduced the concept of Formed Rollers, these offer through their design much improved life compared to conventional types



Pneumatic Conveying

The session was chaired by Dr David Mills who also gave the Plenary Lecture on The Possibilities and Capabilities of Pneumatic Conveying Systems, the three papers in the session proved to most enlightening with Professor Mike Bradley's paper on Pneumatic Conveying, Is It For Me being and entertaining and informative session on how to decide whether to buy a Pneumatic system and, once decided, how to buy one that works ! Dr Don McGlinchey from Glasgow Caledonian University spoke on trouble shooting pneumatic system which did not perform as expected.

Environmental Issues

The session focused on specific environmental issues in specific industries such as Rubber Linings in Rod and Ball Mills, On-Line Monitoring of Combustions performance on coal fired boilers and Reduced Unburned Carbon through Fuel Pipe Balance. Some heavy topics which have a direct effect on the environment.



Exhibition at Bulk09

Copies of papers and the seminar book are available from the Secretary:

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Project Opportunities

Session Chairman Dr Stefan Hinterholzer introduced papers from Industry which despite the current economic climate had ongoing opportunities. Andy Archer's paper on Materials handling Issues in New Build Power Stations highlighted the expectations of power generators when considering the Materials Handling Equipment, Andy stated that whilst Materials handling systems are a small part if a new build they are a vital component and suppliers must be prepared to meet exact criteria. Brian Reeves from the Port of Tyne presented a paper on the current re-development of the port, highlighting Coal importation facilities. Phil Garners paper on Clean Coal and Carbon Capture described the three distinct elements to process, Capture, Transport and Storage. There are several proposed schemes short listed in the UK offering real opportunities.

Handling Secondary Fuels

Frank Boyles of Saxlund International Ltd presentation on the Handling of Secondary Fuels explained through the use of photographs the different systems available to handle these materials utilising such systems as the Tubfeeder and the Push Floor System. As an alternative Sinisa Jaksic from Jeffrey Rader explained the factors influencing the choice of a Pneumatic Conveyor to handle secondary fuels. In the final presentation of the section Ivan Skidmore from Bulk Material Solutions, Construction and Operations Support Group RWE Power International talked about utilising PFA (Pulverised Fuel Ash) better in the Brickmaking and Ceramics Industries.

Screening Feeding & Weighing

The final session was opened by Adrian Brown from Fritz & Macziol who gave a very interesting paper on improving efficiency and reducing cost of your Inbound and Outbound logistics by utilising automated loading and dispatch systems. Darren Frost from Stock Redler spoke on the subject of In-Motion weighing, the presentation looked at the systems available and the different application areas. Dose It ! Was in the title of Richard Farnish's paper on Weighing Systems for continuous Feeding, Specifying, Selecting and Troubleshooting. The conclusion of the paper was to get the basic things right, Confirm Accuracy, Evaluate characteristics and consider the propensity to segregate and review handling and loading techniques. The final paper for 2009 was given by Ron Hurst from Mobotec USA on the subject of Material Separation in Pulveriser Mills. The system involves magnetic separation, hard to grind materials are removed as are hazardous trace metals, Unwashed coal can perform like washed coal and can be further refined to reduce SO₂, HG, Nox and particle emissions.

Brian Mackenzie, Vice President and Chairman of Bulk09 congratulated the Session Chairman and Speakers for their time and effort in presenting their papers. Brian commented on the superb atmosphere the event generated and hoped all the delegates had had an informative and enjoyable experience at Bulk09

Steve Clewley, current President of MHEA closing Bulk09
In his closing remarks Steve spoke about the need to belong to a trade association in these difficult times and on how MHEA can offer help and support to it's members through events such as Bulk09



Dr Harold Wright

During the conference many marks of respect were made to the late Dr Wright who sadly passed away earlier this year, he had made the Bulk events what they are today, a minutes silence was held at the opening as a mark of respect

The MHEA President goes underground !



The MHEA President, Steve Clewley recently spent a shift under-ground at Daw Mill colliery to help celebrate the mine breaking the British output record for 2008.

Daw Mill produced 3.2Mt last year, and Steve was invited to visit the site by Wyn Griffith, Operations Design Engineer for UK COAL, the Yorkshire-based mining, property and energy company that owns Daw Mill. Wyn is also President of the Midland Institute of Mining Engineers.

Accompanying Steve were Graham Leason, also from MHEA, Barry Lye, President of the Institute of Materials Minerals and Mining (IOM³), Adele Wilbraham, Membership Development Manager, IOM³ Michael Forrest, Commissioning Editor - Minerals and Mining, *Materials World*. The party was guided by Neil Battison, Daw Mill Electrical Engineer, and Wyn.

The visitors received a safety briefing before collecting their lamps and self-rescuers to begin the 7.5km journey underground, reaching a depth of 800m, to visit 302's coalface, the current operating production unit in the Warwickshire Thick seam. After travelling in by from the pit bottom by battery locomotive and 'Driftrunner', a type of underground Jeep, the group completed the journey to the coalface on foot.

The party saw the heavy-duty mining equipment in operation, and the mighty Eickhoff SL500 coal cutting shearer, which extracts coal up to a height of five metres and loads it onto the Armoured Face Conveyor for transportation out of the mine. Steve and Graham also observed powered roof supports in operation, advancing the conveyor and supporting the roof on the coalface, as well as the electrical supply transformers and computer-controlled electrical switchgear that control the 4.7MW needed to operate one of the most technically sophisticated coalfaces in Europe.

Visitors were shown the drive system for the belt conveyor used in 302's main gate to transport the coal from the coalface before it is transferred onto the rest of the conveying system.

The group spent approximately four hours underground. Upon returning to the surface, the visitors toured the surface facilities, including seeing the mined coal reach the surface via the drift conveyor, which runs at 4.6m/sec with a capacity of 1200t/hr.

The party enjoyed a buffet lunch while receiving an overview of the supervisory control and data acquisition control system used to operate and monitor the underground machinery, environment and safety systems within the mine.

Footnote:

If you have any interesting stories please send them to the Secretary for inclusion

MHEA Strategy Workshops UPDATE



The Strategy Review group have now held 4 meetings, all facilitated by Nick Garthwaite who has extracted the last ounce of thought processing power from all the members who attended, as you can see from the pictures the session were very intense but rewarding, I am pleased to report that following the last meeting some clear actions have resulted.

1. **Web Site.** At the last Executive Committee meeting the expenditure to establish a completely new Web Site was authorised, when complete the site will have been completely re-vamped. The project will take around 3 months to complete, it is intended that the new site will become the interactive core of MHEA
2. **Business Forum Meeting.** As you will have read the first meeting is planned for the 24th September at the Bretby Conference Centre, we are sure these will become a no miss event, make sure you are there !
3. **Training.** It was very clear that member companies are interested in training services from MHEA, the group is investigating the best way forward and will report back soon.

Watch out for future updates !

Secretaries Corner:

This is the first in-house News Letter so please excuse any errors or omissions.

I would welcome stories / articles from the members regarding projects or business opportunities which can be shared. If you would like an article included please contact me. I hope to be able to issue 4 MHEA Matters News Letters each year revolving around the new Business Forum meetings, the next one being in the Autumn.

Please feel free to circulate the news letter to colleagues and non member companies, we want MHEA to become the place to be in the Materials Handling World and there are lots of potential members out there who may not realise the benefits of membership, MHEA is changing and we want everyone in our industry to know about it.

Please support MHEA events, those who do know that networking within the membership can bring about surprising results and benefits, maybe a chance for some extra business and exchange of ideas?

Peter



Site Visit To Orchid Recycling Plant at Huyton Liverpool

In February a group of MHEA members travelled to Liverpool for a tour of the Orchid Recycling Plant.

Bob Anderson and Andy Gilbert conducted a full tour of the plant followed by an excellent presentation on the Defra new technologies project. As a demonstration centre it is impressive, shoe horned as it is into an old storage warehouse. The plant comprises 2 process lines each capable of handling 6 tph or 40000 tonnes per annum of household waste. The secret of the plant's success is its unique application of proven process engineering design and systems. This enables up to 85%/90% of wasted materials to be recovered for reuse. The recyclates recovered, for example plastics, ferrous and non ferrous metals, glass and rubble are clean and odourless.



MHEA Members at Visitors centre

Thanks to Linda White from Fairport Engineering for organising the Day

