

January 25, 2006

DVS CEO Lecture Series Continues

With Raj Gupta, President, CEO Rohm and Haas

National Chair's Chat
by Dr. John C Chen

You do not have to be an AIChE Member to join us on Wednesday, January 25, 2006 to hear Raj Gupta the President and CEO of Rohm and Haas.

Mr. Gupta joined Rohm and Haas in 1971 and has held positions of increasing responsibility both domestically and internationally.

In December 1998, Mr. Gupta was elected to the Board of Directors and named Vice Chairman in January 1999. He became Chairman and Chief Executive Officer on October 1, 1999. Mr. Gupta assumed the additional title of President in early 2005.

Mr. Gupta holds a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (1967), a M.S. degree in Operations Research from Cornell University (1969), and a M.B.A. in Finance from Drexel University (1972).

Mr. Gupta is the immediate past Chairman of the American Chemistry Council, and the Society of Chemical Industry, America Section. He sits on the board of trustees for Drexel University. He is a member of the boards of Tyco, The Vanguard Group, the American Chemistry Council, and the Chemical Heritage Foundation.

The dinner meeting is at the Union League of Philadelphia, which is an interesting and historic place to visit on its own.



Mr. Gupta is the immediate past Chairman of the American Chemistry Council, and the Society of Chemical Industry, America Section.

Meeting Date: January 25, 2006

Location: The Union League
140 S. Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

Times : 6:00 - 7:00 Social;
7:00 Dinner
8:00 Speaker

Price, members & nonmembers:

Cost is only \$50 and membership is not required, students \$25. Dress code requires jackets and ties.

RSVP: Registration can be made on our website, www.aiche-philadelphia.org. Or by contacting Doug Kriebel, dkriebel@kriebel-ltd.com

No shows will be billed unless cancelled prior to meeting.

Directions:

www.unionleague.org

The following is a message from Dr. John Chen, AIChE President. The message is an abridged version of Dr. Chen's message at the AIChE National Meeting in October 2005.

In my campaign statement of 2004, I noted the premier status of our Institute, but also noted several serious and inter-related issues facing AIChE: declining membership, short residence time for new members, lesser participation by industrial members, and changing environment of the profession. It is my opinion that the continuing decline in membership is the most pressing issue for our Institute, one that in fact is a measure of how well we deal with all the other issues.

I'd like to briefly lay out the strategy and plans I have to address this issue. I propose a three prong strategy: (1) Improve relevance (2) Globalize, and (3) Energize.

Relevancy Initiative. Relevance is in the eyes of the beholder, and I believe that different segments of our membership desire programs of different character. I believe that we should examine AIChE's portfolio in the context of individual members' interface with core chemical engineering technology. We have completed an audit of all the 89 AIChE programs, measuring each for relevance value to the different segments of our membership. In October, the Board devoted a strategic planning session to redesign the overall portfolio and select opportunities for enhancement. One example of an immediate opportunity is the

(Continued on page 6)

COMMUNICATING WITH OUR MEMBERS

By Richard Kral, Data Base and Membership Chair

AIChE local section officers have three means of communication with our membership; this paper newsletter, our website, and we are developing an email service called TOPICA.

Paper Newsletter

Our simple measurement of success is how many members and friends attend our monthly meetings / plant tours. The primary purpose of our newsletter is to announce these monthly meetings. Each year we revisit the need for our newsletter, and we should; our typical meeting restaurant cost is \$1,000 and an issue of the newsletter is \$600. This seems out of line until one considers that the value donated by the speakers, plants and universities far exceeds what we spend to promote them in the newsletter. That is the secondary purpose of this newsletter which is to promote our industry, institutions and individuals here in Philadelphia / Delaware Valley.

Our members have been treated to this award-winning newsletter for 15 years and they can depend on it arriving in their mailbox 2 weeks before an event. 15 years dedicated by Doug Kriebel (editor) and Rob Bubeck make this possible.

Website

We made a few furtive starts on websites since at least 1997 and started the present website address www.aiche-philadelphia.org in 1999. Charles Rudolph has been our webmaster since 2002. He was the first to post a newsletter to the website (October 2003 and every newsletter since). Charlie keeps the website very fresh as many of you have discovered; our average hit rate since August 2002 is 187 per month.

Email Meeting Reminders, TOPICA

Years ago we tried Email Meeting Reminders via our workplace or private accounts. Restrictions by our employers and spam filters convinced us to seek a professional service to handle emails. Ideally AIChE National should provide this service, however National uses and recommends that local sections use a commercial service called TOPICA.

TOPICA provides a free email service paid for by advertising. From our National database, we provide your email addresses

(only) to TOPICA which sends an opt-in invitation to you to join our list. TOPICA does not disclose information to third parties. Once you opt-in to our invitation, TOPICA may ask for additional information so you can join other TOPICA lists which is optional.

"Nothing is easy". In September we invited all 1300 email addresses on our members list and 130, that's only 10% , accepted our invitation. We expect that out-of-date email addresses and spam filters account for the low acceptance rate, but we wonder if privacy concerns are a factor. We tried again in October and invited the 50 email addresses from the Uniqema meeting and received a 40% acceptance rate. We are developing a new page on our website where members can sign up directly with TOPICA for our email meeting reminders. Even if you successfully become our subscriber, workplace spam filters often dump our messages.

We realize that it may take years for the Email Meeting Reminders to develop into an effective communication tool. We are committed to making that happen.



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CHEMICAL CONSULTANTS NETWORK

January 11, 2006, Meeting

Visit our web page at www.chemconsultants.org

Date & Time: Wednesday, January 11, 2006 at the Cynwyd Club, Bala Cynwyd, PA; Networking, 5:30 PM; Dinner, 6:30 PM; Talk and Business Session, 7:30 PM.

Speaker and Topic: Four Secrets to Effective Communication John Leslie, Shining Star Coach

Abstract: If you want to get your message across to your audience, it's not sufficient to just "give 'em the facts." To get and keep their attention you need to do four things: Tell a Story, Make it Personal, Find the Conflict, and Use Humor. John will present and demonstrate these secrets that get and keep the audience in the palm of your hand.

Biography: John Leslie is a Certified Professional Co-Active Coach from Coaches Training Institute(CTI). He is a member of the International Coach Federation(ICF) and Philadelphia Area Coaches Alliance(PACA) After earning a Ph.D. in Chemistry, he worked 26 years the Rohm and Haas Company as a research scientist and consultant. After early retirement he has started a second career as a coach

Location: The Cynwyd Club, 332 Trevor Lane, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004. From City Line Ave. (Route # 1) drive north on Conshohocken State Road (Route # 23) about 3 long blocks. Continue north on Trevor Lane instead of following Route #23 left. At "Y" in road one block north on Trevor Lane turn left where clubhouse and parking are on the left side of the road. Please park in lot if space is available; otherwise park on Trevor Lane. If lost, call the club at 610-667-4524.

Reservation: To make or cancel a dinner reservation, e-mail CCNReservations@aol.com or call the ACS office at 215-382-1589 (leave message on voicemail if necessary). Fee, including food and beverages, is \$35. Early Bird discount price is \$25 if reserved by the Thursday before the meeting. Late reservations and walk-ins subject to availability. No-shows will be invoiced.

Professional Development

by Mark Delucca

The list of jobseekers is way down. We have 4 members looking for work right now, down from 18 a year ago. Higher fuel prices, and the hurricanes may have been a disaster for the country, but chemical engineers offer solutions so we again in demand. Money is being spent again plants and infrastructure. Yes, some of these jobs are along the gulf coast, but at least people are working.

Reports from the major recruiting firms say that more people are looking to upgrade the jobs they are in. This makes sense. Grateful to have a job, many people in the last few years have settled for jobs that are less than ideal. As the economy improves, they are more comfortable trying to improve their own situation.

October Valero Tour Review

On Wednesday October 26th, 40 local section members and guests were graciously invited by the Valero Paulsboro refinery to participate in a guided site visit. Following a detailed slide presentation by the refinery construction manager, Kevin Fetchko, on the latest initiatives at the refinery and corporate wide Valero (the nation's largest independent refining company) the participants boarded a bus for the guided tour. The tour, led by Paul Abel - Senior Process Engineer, included visiting the FCC Unit and new FCC Scrubber and followed the production path of crude refining into gasoline, aviation fuel, and lubrication oil products. In addition, several refinery infrastructure improvements project sites as well as product terminals and holding areas were visited. A last stop at the DCS Building with plant operating descriptions by Greg Davis and the Control group was followed up by a dinner at nearby Nino Gervasi's Restaurant in Paulsboro. The local section and tour participants were all very grateful for Valero's cooperation and guidance on this exceptional opportunity to view a world class operating refinery.

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Advertise your products and services to more than 1000 chemical engineers in the Delaware Valley!

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Program Chair Scott Smith (left) presenting Frank Cesare, Plant Manager of Uniqema with a certificate of appreciation for hosting the DVS September Tour.

Member News

Last spring we published Otto Pfefferkorn's letter where he playfully announced, "I've moved to Moscow". We have more news from Otto and include his address for his friends

Dear Richard

Many Thanks for your letter of 15 March 2005

I am living in a conventional 3br. 1 bath house on a relatively quiet street, about 5 minutes by car from the Scranton city limits.

Don't have a picture of the new abode - gave that to the mover so that he could spot the house. Do however have a picture of three of the reasons why I moved here (my grandnephews)

The rationale to depart from the Philadelphia area was painful at best. My family, with me as a one year old, came to Philadelphia in 1929, and from 1940 on what was once Torresdale Manor and was renamed Bensalem has been my home. I graduated from Bensalem High and Penn State, and put in a tour of duty as a volunteer in the army, which included living "off base" while in post VE day Germany. I was in CIO

My work took me from Freeport, Texas in the south to Mississauga, Ontario in the North and from Chula Vista, California in the west to Israel in the east and included almost two years working out of London. UK. With multiple trips to Saudi Arabia and the Sudan - BUT BENSLEM WAS ALWAYS HOME.

BUT - three weeks plus in the hospital just one year ago and the persuasion of family prompted me to make the move. Unless you have experienced something similar you probably can not imagine how many memories are attached to the 64 plus years of accumulated memorabilia which I had to either move or dispose of.

Meanwhile let me wish you and all of the members of the Delaware Valley Section the AIChE the very best

Very truly yours
Otto Pfefferkorn

RR2 Box 2082, Blue Shutters Road Moscow PA 18444.



Tech Tips - Lisa M. Walton, P.E.

The organic chemical and specialty chemical industries are subject to the regulation of the Clean Air Act (CAA). In addition to tightening plant stack and waste discharge limits, process equipment is also subject to emission limits. Agitators used in conjunction with hazardous air pollutants must be monitored in accordance with the regulations.

A variety of factors must be considered when determining which plant locations are subject to the CAA guidelines. In general, any plant handling significant amounts of hazardous organic chemicals are required to monitor equipment emissions.

The CAA guidelines list the monitoring and maintenance requirements for agitators in chemical service. Some of these requirements are:

- 1 Monthly leak sniffing with appropriate detection equipment
- 2 Calibration of detection prior to each inspection
- 3 Documentation and record keeping of each inspection and calibration
- 4 Regular visual inspection.

However, these requirements can be relaxed if the agitator is equipped with the following:

- 1 A double mechanical seal
- 2 A seal support system with buffer fluid
- 3 A seal support system that maintains the buffer fluid pressure above vessel pressure.

These requirements can be fulfilled using a double mechanical seal combined with a pressure compensating system on the seal buffer fluid. This is a proven technology utilizing a spring-loaded hydraulic piston.

With a pressure compensating seal solution, only periodic visual inspection of the seal system is performed. No leak monitoring is required; the only CAA requirement is periodic visual inspection.

Lisa Walton is a sales engineer for Kriebel Engineered Equipment, Ltd.

Letter to the Editor

Hi, my name is Kusha Tavakoli, and I am the president of the UPenn chapter of AIChE. As a member of AIChE, I have been receiving the DVS Newsletter each month, and I am hoping that some members of our chapter are able to attend the tours that the Delaware Valley Section sets up on a regular basis.

However, because of the timing of the newsletter's distribution, I have not seen the newsletters prior the sign-up deadlines for both the Uniqema and Valero Refinery tours. In the case of the Valero tour, it was rescheduled and there was no way of knowing about it until I received the newsletter, at which time it was too late to sign up.

I noticed that on-line at www.aiche-philadelphia.org, AIChE has the newsletter in PDF format, and I wanted to suggest emailing the newsletter either in addition to or as a substitute for receiving a paper copy, or at the very least receiving updates about the DVS events.

I hope that the Valero tour went well and that the DVS continues to build on the successful year it sounds like it has been having.

Thanks,
Kusha Tavakoli
AIChE President
University of Pennsylvania

Kusha,

Thank you for your correspondence.

We target each newsletter delivery to arrive approximately two weeks before an event which is when our members normally make their final decision to attend. We use first class U. S. Postage to hit our planned delivery date and speed its way through internal mail systems; we are aware that internal mail systems are a weak link.

In September we rolled out a third party newsletter delivery service called TOPICA for the purpose of sending email reminders of our meetings.

Please refer to Richard Kral's article on communications.

Editor

AIChE National President Chair's Chat

(Continued from page 1)

Speaker's Bureau, a program that was dropped during the fiscal crisis of the past several years. We have already taken steps to re-institute this in a revised format. Other examples have been identified, including new some new thrusts. The three Operating Councils, working with member volunteers and staff, will begin to implementation some of the most desirable projects. Over time, AIChE's portfolio will continuously increase in relevance to our membership, segments by segment.

Globalization Initiative. The clear shift toward international capitalization of new chemical, petroleum and energy plants argues that chemical engineers need to function productively regardless of national boundaries. In addition to the existing international affiliations of North American Chemical Engineering Society and the World Congress of Chemical Engineering, we should look for new opportunities to promote international exchanges, increase of AIChE membership world wide, recruitment of international companies for our Industrial Technology Alliances, and many yet unconsidered possibilities. Toward this end, discussions recently have been initiated with the UK Institute of Chemical Engineering (ICHE), Canadian Society for Chemical Engineering (CSCHE), the Chinese Industry and Engineering Society of China (CIESC), the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and several of the major chemical/petroleum firms in China. Our objective here is to aid our US members in becoming more effective professionals globally, and to aid our industrial stakeholders in their global enterprises.

Energy Initiative. Having recently and successfully enhanced AIChE's activities in nanotechnology, sustainability, and biological science, we now look for the next major arena for chemical engineering and science activities. Arguably, there is no other socio-techno challenge that impact the chemical enterprise, the professional opportunities for our members, the well being of nations and humanity, and toward which chemical engineers are so well suited to provide essential contributions, as the challenge for energy supply, production, utilization, and conservation. We have started with several specific steps. Foremost, AIChE's Commission on Energy Challenges has been organized to recommend the priority programs and activities that would enable AIChE and its members to exert the greatest beneficial impact on this field. Additional activities include: (a) meeting of AIChE officers with US Secretary of Energy, (b) a special conference on LNG, (c) a Critical Issue Forum on Energy, to be organized by our Government Relations Committee at the '06 Spring National Meeting, and (d) plans for increased technical sessions on energy at our future conferences. My hope is that AIChE will be a significant participant and contributor in the milieu of energy challenges.

Today, I only can give this brief description of my goal and plans for AIChE. These are the realities of time, money, and people limits. As you recognize, all three initiatives are "big" issues, the solutions for each having time-scale of several years. It is with this in mind that I have sought to get a jump start this year, as you may have noted from the several thrusts already initiated. All your Directors and staff are committed to protecting the financial well-being of AIChE. Having survived the recent trip to the fiscal emergency room, we are determined to avoid a repeat visit, and even to building up our reserves. This means that all initiatives will be carefully budgeted, and each will be judged on its value versus cost. Finally, people -- AIChE is a volunteer driven organization. We, members all, are the real resource of the Institute. To a very large extent, the three initiatives I lay in front of you will succeed only to the level that our combined volunteer efforts will push them. I trust that you agree with the potential benefit that my three initiatives could bring to our members, our profession, and our Institute, and that we can join together to use them in leveraging AIChE to a bright future.

Thank you and I look forward to our continued work together.

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2005 – 2006 AIChE- DVS Event Schedule

February 16, 2006

Symposium: Vaccines – at a brew pub TBD

Cost: \$20/\$10

March 16, 2006

Plant Tour: Rohm & Haas -- Bristol

Cost: \$20/\$10

April 11, 2006

Student Awards Banquet -- Drexel

Cost: \$20/\$10

Section Administrative Announcement

The Delaware Valley Section of AIChE has established a Financial Advisory Committee. The role of the Committee will be to oversee the management of accumulated funds. The Board will help create continuity of fiscal management. The Board will aid the Local Section Executive Committee in ensuring their fiduciary responsibility. The inaugural members of the Financial Advisory Committee are Doug Kriebel, Richard Kral, and Karl Saydlowski (Section Treasurer).

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Mail address corrections to Data Base Manager at above address .

Our Files are continually updated with your input and membership information from AIChE Headquarters.

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