

November 16, 2006

AstraZeneca Tour – Wilmington, DE
 Joint Event with the Society of Women Engineers

Through the efforts of Kersey Vakharia, AIChE member and AstraZeneca employee, our tour of AstraZeneca's world-class Automated Compound Management Facility (ACMF) has been rescheduled to November 16. The joint tour at AstraZeneca's Wilmington R&D campus with the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) was initially scheduled for September 27 and sold out quickly. AIChE reached out to AIChE and SWE members on the original registration list first before opening the event to others.

AstraZeneca's Wilmington R&D facility focuses on psychiatry research. Their state-of-the-art ACMF also supports additional research facilities around the globe including Montreal, Boston, and Soder-talie, Sweden by utilizing robotics to prepare samples for drug discovery purposes.

Enjoy dinner and networking after the event at the Delcastle Inn Restaurant.



AstraZeneca's Wilmington R&D facility focuses on psychiatry research.

Meeting Date: November 16, 2006

Tour Location:
 1800 Concord Pike
 Wilmington, DE 19803

Dinner Location:
 Delcastle Inn Restaurant
 801 McKennan's Church Road
 Wilmington, DE 19808

Times:
 3:30 – Tour
 5:30 – Cocktails & Networking
 6:30 – Dinner

Ticket Price:
 \$20 Members & \$10 Students

RSVP: On-line at <http://www.aiche-philadelphia.org/events/events.html>
 Or Chuck Clerecuzio
 charles.clerecuzio@amec.com
 or (610) 828-8100

Please provide name (spelling), number attending, company affiliation, phone and fax number and entrée selection.

Chair's Chat

Plant Tours – Firsthand Experience

By Scott Smith, P.E.

AIChE offers its members the incredible benefit of participation in plant tours. Although we often hear or read about technology related to chemical engineering, there is no substitute to experiencing it firsthand. Our tour last month of the Limerick Generating Station drove this point home.

After parking our cars in Exelon's lot, we headed down the stairs below one of the two 507 feet high cooling towers to Exelon's learning center. I have always seen the two cooling towers from a distance. Although 507 feet high sounds high, you really need to feel the shear massiveness of the structure by standing next to it.

Our tour started in the control simulator room where Exelon employees train for operation of Exelon's two nuclear reactors. The control simulator room is an exact replica of a portion of the actual control room. After an overview on safety and security considerations, we walked to the generating station. The importance of security at the facility was immediately evident through the presence of armed guards with semi-automatic guns at the entranceway to the facility.

Our tour guides were extremely knowledgeable engineers that clearly enjoyed their jobs. Many of us were

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Chair's Chat

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curious about disposal of the spent fuel. Our tour guides informed us that all of the spent fuel used by the facility was stored onsite. Not only was our question answered, Exelon's tour guides showed us the spent fuel stockpiled in pools of water surrounded by concrete.

At the end of the tour, each attendee had the opportunity to stand on top of one of Exelon's two reactors. Albeit thankfully separated by several feet of concrete, it was quite an empowering feeling. The tour of Exelon's Limerick Generating Station has created in me a lasting memory and curiosity about the future of nuclear energy in the United States.

The Limerick Generating Station is one of the last nuclear plants constructed in the United States. As the United States searches for energy with clean emissions, public support of new nuclear plants may be on the rise.

Plant tours remain my favorite activity at AIChE. From our October tour of a nuclear power plant, we will shift gears in November to tour AstraZeneca's Automated Compound Management Facility (ACMF) used to store and handle compounds during research and development of new drugs. Tours slated for early 2007 include a paper plant and candy factory. We will continue to work to expose our membership to a variety of operations that rely on chemical engineering.

Future AIChE- DVS Event

January 2007

CEO Lecture: The Union League – Philadelphia

Cost: \$50

February 22, 2007

Plant Tour: Candy Factory (Valentine's Day Theme)

Cost: \$20/\$10

March 2007

Plant Tour: Paper Manufacturer

Cost: \$20/\$10

April 19, 2007

Student Awards

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Bob Weingard of Exelon receiving AICHE's Award of Excellence for hosting tour from Scott Smith



Harry Weinberg, Lynn Johnson, and Elizabeth Johnson



The Coghlan family (Carolyn, David, Ross, and Deborah)

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