

1994 TAPPI Engineering Conference highlights growth and change

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The 1994 Engineering Conference held at the San Francisco Marriott, Sept. 18–22, presented over 130 papers and conducted over 90 meetings for 921 attendees. The traditional engineering career track program was expanded to include two mill operations tracks in the technical and planning areas of interest. The other tracks covered everything from recovery boilers to papermaking, corrosion, electrical, process, maintenance, and management. Included in the eight tracks were committee meetings, roundtables, informal presentations, new technology showcases, a trade fair, and the formal technical program.

Technical program highlights

In addition to the more than 130 technical presentations* there were several roundtable discussions designed for audience participation. The Maintenance Roundtable addressed the issues of digester inspection and repair. The Project Implementation Panel discussion highlighted contracts and partnering projects.

The Process Safety Management Roundtable presented 14 key points of OSHA's process safety management regulation 29 CFR 1910.119. The regulation specifically addresses hazardous chemicals and processes, also known as "covered" items. It requires employee participation and includes a specific timetable outlining what percentage of covered processes must be managed by given dates. (All chemicals and processes must be controlled by May 1997.) Included in the discussion were the following points of 29 CFR 1910.119: employee involvement, practical issues for process safety information (e.g., document control), process hazard analysis procedures, operating procedures, and training.

The Materials Handling and Industrial Engineering Roundtable outlined methods for improving productivity

Robert E. Page (left), Beloit Corp., presents Gregory L. Wedel with the 1994 Division Beloit Award honorarium.



and process flow in the workplace. The roundtable included information on spare parts inventory control, automated monorail systems, calculating time and manpower requirements for unloading cases to pallets, and scheduling power-intensive operations to minimize electrical and labor costs.

The panel on Paper Machine Performance Monitoring covered troubleshooting from the wet-end through the dryer section with each participant handling a section of the machine. Practical information about pulsation and vibration control, diagnostics for the forming section, press section monitoring, and troubleshooting the dryer section were among the topics actively discussed by all participants.

Awards

During the opening session the Division presented several awards. The 1994 Engineering Division Beloit Award, which includes a US\$ 5000 honorarium endowed by Beloit Corp., was presented to Gregory L. Wedel. Richard M. Ludwig received the 1994 Engineering Division Leadership and Ser-

*Copies of the 1993 and 1994 Engineering Conference Proceedings containing the technical presentations may be obtained from, TAPPI PRESS via TAPPI's Service Line 1-800-332-8686 (U.S.), 1-800-446-9421 (Canada) or 1-404-446-1400 (outside U.S. and Canada).

Conference Report

Richard M. Ludwig (left) receives the 1994 Engineering Division Leadership and Service Award honorarium from Malcolm C. "Mickey" Johnson, Rust Engineering Co.



William S. Butterfield, past committee chairman (right), presents the Corrosion and Materials Engineering Committee's Dennis Anliker Award to Arthur H. Tuthill.



vice Award, which included a US\$ 1000 honorarium provided by Rust Engineering. Wedel gave an interesting and applicable plenary lecture entitled "Responding to the Challenges with Change." For more information on Wedel and Ludwig please see the September 1994 issue of *Tappi Journal* (pp. 211-212).

John C. Rickard was honored as author of the Best Paper of the 1993 Engineering Conference for his paper entitled "The 2020 mill-utility requirements for market kraft pulp." This paper was published by TAPPI PRESS in the 1993 *Engineering Conference Proceedings** (p. 37).

Other awards presented during the conference included the Yankee Dryer Safety Subcommittee Recognition Award presented to James Bohstedt and Erik Danielsson. Robert H. Brueggemann was presented a TAPPI Certificate of Recognition for his 10 years' service as Suction Roll Subcommittee

chairman from William H. Stafford, TAPPI technical division administrator.



James Bohstedt (left) and Eric Danielsson received Yankee Dryer Safety Subcommittee Recognition Awards.



chairman by the Corrosion and Materials Engineering Committee (C&ME). The C&ME Committee's Dennis Anliker Award was presented to Arthur H. Tuthill.

Receiving Certificates of Appreciation at the 1994 Engineering Conference Officers' Reception and Dinner were outgoing chairmen: Jere W. Crouse, Division Awards Committee; Thomas A. Phelps, Division Membership Committee; Romain A. Slabbert, Division Conference Planning Committee; David F. Bowers, Corrosion and Materials Engineering Committee; Paul J. McCann, Maintenance and Mechanical Engineering Committee; Thomas F. Murphy, Process Control Committee; Frank J. Sutman, Water Removal Committee; and Richard P. Veres, Electrical Engineering Committee.

This year's recipients of the Engineering Division scholarship were Brian Wesley Johnson, Western Michigan Univer-

Division Chairman W.B.A. "Sandy" Sharp (right) gives Process Control, Electrical, and Information Division Chairman Michael D. Wallace a hand launching the new division.



sity, and Dinesh Alex Mathew, North Carolina State University. Johnson and Mathew received US\$ 3000 for the 1994–1995 academic year.

Committee activities

The Water Removal Committee celebrated their 25th Anniversary with a "Then and Now" presentation by Chairman Frank J. Sutman. Over the years since 1969 the committee has accumulated 579+ years of service. Sutman concluded the presentation by handing out unique Team Effort Certificates to each individual present representing 15, 20, and 25 years of service. All team members' names appear on each certificate.

The Process Control, Electrical Engineering, and Millwide Control and Information Committees together achieved divi-

sion status this year and were given the official blessing of the parent Engineering Division during the conference. The first conference of the Process Control, Electrical and Information Division will be March 12–15, 1995, in Orlando, FL.

Gala event

The California Hornblower was filled to capacity with about 870 attendees gathered for the fun cruise of San Francisco Bay featuring music, dancing, food and drink, and a wonderful view of the city by night including its laser light show. Several suppliers contributed funds to host this event for the attendees. The suppliers were recognized at the conference for their generosity.

1995 conference celebrates 50 years

Next year Engineering celebrates its 50th year, having been founded at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee, WI, in 1946. The Engineering Division Council is planning a special celebration to mark the 50th year with a few mementos from the past. Look for another exciting, active conference in Dallas, TX, Sept. 11–14, at Loews Anatole in 1995. Anyone interested in presenting a paper at this conference should contact: Douglas A. Rounds, Beloit Corp., One St. Lawrence Ave., Beloit, WI 53511-6270, telephone: (608) 364–7692; fax: (608) 364–7013. For more information about the 1995 conference, please contact TAPPI headquarters: TAPPI, Technology Park/Atlanta, P.O. Box 105113, Atlanta, GA 30348-5113, telephone: 1–800–332–8686 (U.S.); 1–800–446–9431 (Canada) or 1–404–446–1400 (outside U.S. and Canada). Or call TAPPI's fax-on-demand line INSTA-FAX 1–404–446–1400 ext. fax. 

Keeping up with the Joneses

Husband and wife team Andy and Patty Jones of ABB took first-place honors at the 12th Annual Paper Chase in San Francisco with respective times of 16:25 and 19:44 for the 5K engineering race which raised money for endowed scholarships at 10 pulp and paper schools. Second-place honors went to Frank Sutman of Betz Paperchem at 16:55 and Nancy Robinson at 22:20. Crossing the finish line in third place was Jim McLaren of *Pulp and Paper* magazine at 17:14 and Martha Foley at 24:08. The funds raised from the race pushed three more endowed scholarships over the US\$ 10,000 mark: Miami of Ohio, the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, and Western Michigan University. The 13th Annual Paper Chase is scheduled for the 1995 Engineering Conference to be held in Dallas, TX (the site of the first Paper Chase). Please contact Scott Robertson at BE&K, telephone : (205) 972–6000, for more information.

12th Annual Paper Chase participants

