

Institute for Briquetting and Agglomeration



IBA Newsletter

Fall 2012

After a lengthy absence the return of the IBA newsletter has returned. With that we would like to make note and pass a word of thanks onto Mr. Bill Engelleitner for his long standing contributions to both the Institute of Briquetting and Agglomeration and the ever diligent authoring of this news letter.

The membership within the IBA continues to be strong boasting 120 current members. Additionally the Institutes web site, www.agglomeration.com also is enjoying significant growth in the number of visits. We should note that the Board of Directors along with others are currently working to again revise and update the web site itself with the intent that it become a go to source for those seeking technical information and or support in the art and science of Briquetting and Agglomeration.

Going forward the intent of this newsletter will be to keep technical professionals updated in regards to new opportunities for learning or expanding their capabilities.

Updates and notes from the Board of Directors meeting:

The date for the 2013 and site for the 33rd Biennial Technical Conference has been set. The city of San Francisco was unanimously agreed upon. Additional information including Conference and hotel costs will be updated at your IBA web site in the coming weeks.

The forthcoming 2013 IBA conference is seeking presentations on the subject of size enlargement, such as pelletizing, granulation, briquetting, compacting, tableting and extrusion, which describe the significant aspects of:

Research Fundamentals

Binders and Coatings

Equipment and Processes

Practical Applications

Environmental Benefits

- Research fundamentals include powder characterization, models for agglomeration mechanisms, analytical process control, and new agglomeration methods. Binders include new or natural synthetic binders, binder performance tests, as well as binders for specific products, such as fertilizers. Attracting significant interest in equipment design enhancements and process control, including monitoring methods and innovative agglomeration techniques. The conference is planning to include sessions focused on specific commercial and industrial applications. The industries are, but not limited to, chemical, food, minerals, pharmaceutical and new or novel activities that have become part of this wide world of size enlargement.

A brief discussion as to the use of social media such as LinkedIn was discussed. While the board members had varying degrees of both background and familiarity of such it was decided that we should seek input from you, the members of the organization as to the benefits the usage of such within the IBA may offer. Your thoughts and comments would greatly be appreciated as we make further efforts to meet your needs. These comments may be sent directly to Joe McHale at jmchale@bepex.com or Bob Hinkle at iba@agglomeration.org

Recent articles of interest

Powder and Bulk Engineering June 2012 issue: Ms. Rachel Smith provides some solid insight as to the scale up and process demands on wet, high shear agglomeration

Powder and Bulk Engineering September 2012 issue: Mr. James Davis has put together a sound technical article regarding the mixing of cohesive powders.

Trade Shows: As travel budgets grow ever more stringent trade show attendance has been further scrutinized. In the past these shows were a place where a wide range of expertise was available to discuss a variety of technical challenges. While the internet and periodic publication can certainly provide a level of support it is hard to match the information that can be obtained by attending such shows. The bi annual IBA conference certainly provides both direct contact with experts within the agglomeration industry and we encourage participation in such. So too industry specific trade shows such as the Coal Expo continue to be well attended.

Note from the Executive Director:

Hello Fellow IBA'ers:

This is my first "official" address to the membership since being appointed Executive Director and would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your confidence in me and I promise to do my best to help lead the organization to bigger and better things.

I mentioned "help lead" since I strongly believe that the organization is very gifted to have a board of directors that is genuinely interested in the well being of the organization and one that brings great knowledge in the field of agglomeration. The input from the board and from the membership is vital to the growth of this organization and I welcome any and all input so that I can do my job better.

The work in recent months has been directed to our 33rd Biennial Conference that will be held next year. If you have attended our conferences in the past you will recall the professionalism at the meeting yet a flair for the “lighter” side with many opportunities to mingle with peers, users, future customers and old friends that we all have accumulated over the years. It is a time of learning and sharing various aspects of our industry in a casual setting.

The next conference is being held in November of 2013 at the world famous Fisherman’s Wharf in beautiful San Francisco. We are still negotiating with the hotel but the one we have tentatively picked is close to the Bay and has fantastic views of the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz Island and other sites. There are plenty of things to do when we are not in sessions and the spouses and guests will have a great time taking in the sights and partaking in some of the best seafood and sourdough bread.

More information will be forthcoming as it develops but set aside some time in early November of next year to attend this conference. Check on our website for updates.

This is the time of the year when we start our search for papers to be presented at the conference. An official “Call for Papers” will be distributed within the next few weeks so please take this opportunity to “toot your horn” on the latest discoveries, advancements and case histories, which will become a permanent record in our proceedings. It is not too late to start getting your notes in order and to compose a paper for presentation.

You vendors out there please take note that we do have a Vendor’s Reception on Sunday night where various vendors display their wares and are available for discussion on many topics. It is an informal gathering of all attendees in a table top format where you are free to discuss with the vendors and to partake in Hors D'oeuvres and favorite refreshment while catching up with old and making new friends.

Know someone who would like to learn more about the field of agglomeration? We will also be running our Workshop, which is a half day instruction on various types of agglomeration equipment and applications.

So, you can see that there is a lot going on at the conference and we invite you to attend. More information will be coming to you as well as your reminder for membership dues.

Keep on briquetting those briquettes, balling those green balls, pelletizing those pellets, granulating those granules, extruding those extrudates or whatever your type of agglomeration involves.

Bob Hinkle

Executive Director

Institute for Briquetting and Agglomeration

Presidents Message

It's hard to imagine that a year has already passed since our last conference in New Orleans. Much has happened during that time including the selection of a new executive director, the addition of four new board members, and the continued planning for the 33rd biennial conference.

Bob Hinkle has seamlessly assumed the duties as our director and quickly relocated our organizations office. Contact information is as follows:

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Recently a number of new directors were voted to help lead our organization. Please join me in welcoming Mike White, Don Swatling, Rick Steele, and Francois Hanrot to the board. They are sure to bring new energy, ideas, and opportunities to the IBA. To help get to know them better we will be profiling each in future newsletter editions.

The upcoming 2013 San Francisco conference is our signature event. The key to making it a success is the sharing of information through the presentation of papers. If you have a novel idea to share with the group (or a challenge) please consider giving a paper. It's never too early to commit.

At this year's conference we will have the opportunity to visit the new R&D center of one of our member companies. This is the first time in recent history where we have been able to offer a trip such as this so watch for additional information in the future.

In closing I'd like to remind all that the IBA is an open organization. We encourage our members to network with each other and offer suggestions for making the IBA better. All comments are welcome.

Best Regards,

Chris Kozicki

IBA President