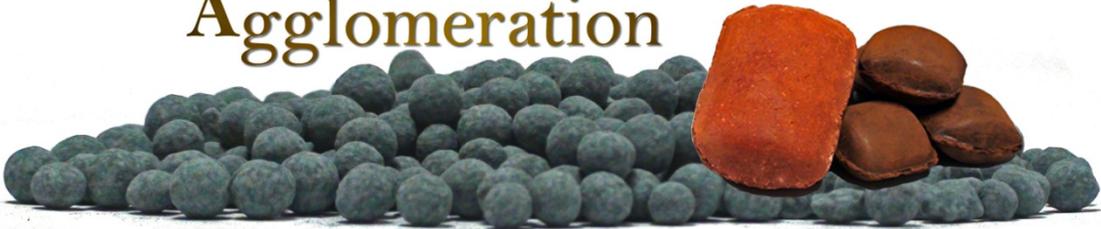


Institute for Briquetting and Agglomeration



IBA Newsletter Summer 2016

The IBA held its 34rd biannual conference last fall in Scottsdale, Arizona in October. The conference was considered by all attendees as a success. Things were done a little differently this year. Instead of a standalone workshop, an introductory session on agglomeration was incorporated into the standard paper sessions. As in the past, there was a good variety of papers, both on agglomeration applications and topics related to agglomeration.



A bonus of holding the conference in the Phoenix was the ability to schedule Vendors' night outdoors without fear of rain. The setting was perfect for the various vendors to show their wares while allowing everyone to enjoy the great weather.



As is typical, succession takes place at the conference. The torch was passed to Jim Torok as he assumes the role of President for the next biennium. Joe McHale relinquished the position of Second Vice President, Don Swatling was nominated and approved for this position. Don moved up to First Vice President. Frank Rafter was nominated and confirmed as Second Vice President. Finally, long-time member Richard Horsfield resigned from the board. We thank Richard for his many years of service to the IBA and the board.

As time flies, the next conference is quickly approaching. As of this writing, only about 14 months remain before the next conference. The prevailing thinking right now is "Go East, young man" and cities along the right coast are being considered. Please check the IBA website for updates on the next conference. Although the time, date and place are yet to be set, but it is never too early to start thinking about papers. The goal for this and every conference is for at least 20 presentations and it would be great to reopen the workshop. Remember, no topic should be overlooked. While the primary focus of the IBA relates to size enlargement technologies



(pelletizing, granulation, briquetting, compacting, tableting, extrusion) any related topics are welcome. The success of any agglomeration system is dependent on other technologies, so introduction or further details on these processes are welcome. Never forget that something that seems old to you might be new to others.

A quick check of the IBA bylaws reveals the following: "It's (IBA) objective shall be to diffuse knowledge of the briquetting, agglomeration, pelletizing, and extrusion art and practices, and of shaping, forming, or cubing of bulk materials; to encourage education in those arts; and to promote study and research of problems relating to them; and to the advance and mutual interests of its membership." More members and more presentations fits right in!

With the changes earlier discussed, the makeup of the Board is:

James Torok, Harsco Metals (Current IBA President)
Don Swatling, Clorox (Current IBA First Vice President)
Frank Rafter Buhler Aeroglide (Current IBA Second Vice President)
Bob Hinkle, Mars Mineral (Current IBA Executive Director)
Thomas Barnett, K.R. Komarek, Inc.
Pascal Hervieu, Euragglo, S.A.
Michael White, Bepex International
Richard Komarek, K.R. Komarek, Inc.
Chris Kozicki, Feeco Int'l / Sahut-Conreur
Nick Slater Freund - Vector
Richard Steele, JC Steele
Dr. Brian Young, EnviroSAFE Intl. Pty. Ltd
Dr. Darrell Taulbee University of Kentucky
Joe McHale, Bepex International
Michael Buvalla, Harsco Metals

The IBA conference is certainly unique in that it puts so much experience in one place at one time.

Dues/Web link

Membership in the IBA is renewable annually. The annual fee is US\$100 for individuals or \$150 for consultants. Yearly dues should be received by the end of January. A variety of payments options are available and appear on the website (<http://agglomeration.org/about-the-iba/join/pay-dues/>) If you are interested in putting a link to your website on the IBA website, email us today at iba@agglomeration.org. Cost is \$100 per year.

Upcoming Events

MineExpo 2016 September 26-28, 2016 Las Vegas, NV

<http://www.minexpo.com>

Powder and Bulk Solids-India October 13-15 Mumbai, India

<http://www.powderbulksolidsindia.com>

Upcoming Events (continued)

Powder and Bulk Solids (PBS) Montréal – November 30-December 1, Montreal, QC

<http://www.admmontreal.com/en/pbs>

Fertilizer Latino Americano 2017 January 25-27, 2017 Buenos Aires, Argentina

<http://www.argusmedia.com/events/argus-events/americas/fla/home>

The Iron & Steel Technology Conference and Exposition, May 8-11, 2017, Nashville, TN

<https://www.aist.org/conference-expositions/aistech>

Powtech Nuremberg September 26-28 2017 Nuremberg, Germany

<https://www.powtech.de/en>

Institute of Briquetting and Agglomeration biannual conference, Fall, 2017

<http://agglomeration.org/conference/>

Spotlight on New Board Member



The IBA is pleased to announce its newest board member, Michael Buvalla. Michael is the Site Manager at Harsco Metals briquetting facility in Braddock, PA, located inside the United States Steel Corporation (USS) Mon Valley Works Edgar Thomson Plant, where he has held that position for the last 14 years. He is responsible for all aspects of the operation including the budget, capital, quality, customer relations and safety.

Michael has worked in the steel industry for most of his 38-year career. In 1978, at 18 years old, he started working for USS at the Edgar Thomson Plant as a laborer and machine operator. In 1985, he completed an Associate's degree in Computer Aided Architectural Drafting and Design from Triangle Institute of Technology. That led to a drafting position at Sargent and Lundy in Chicago, Illinois for a few years.

Returning to the Pittsburgh area in 1987, he went back to work at the Edgar Thomson Plant for a contractor in the slab grinding business where he was in charge of the shipping and conditioning of slabs from USS.

In 1993, he joined National Recovery System as an operator for the on-site briquetting facility at the Edgar Thomson Plant at USS in Braddock, Pa. He has worked at the briquetting facility for the last 23 years.

Michael has been involved in start-ups all over the country and overseas including Bellary, India; Ashland, Kentucky; Ecorse, Michigan; and Slovakia.

Michael and his wife, Coleen have been married for 35 years and have two grown children.

Other News

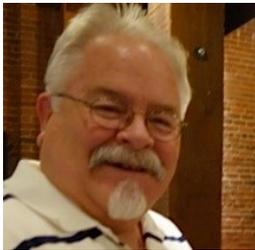
Board Member Brian Young has written an article entitled "Agglomeration and Briquetting Developments" which appears in the January 2016 edition of **Powder and Bulk Engineering**. Check it out at <http://www.e-digitaleditions.com/i/623533-pbe0116>. Great job and congratulations Brian.

Reminder – Yearly Dues

Membership in the IBA is renewable annually. The annual fee is US\$100 for individuals or \$150 for Consultants. If you wish to pay by check, please use the attached form. Renewing members can use this form to indicate any changes. Online payments can be made on the IBA website:

<http://agglomeration.org/about-the-iba/join/pay-dues/>

Note from the Executive Director:



Hello fellow IBAers.

We are coming off a very good meeting in Scottsdale, AZ that had plenty of opportunities to interact with other attendees and to find out about new applications and discoveries in the field of agglomeration.

Our speakers covered a wide array of topics and we were all given the essentials of agglomeration during a tutorial session, given by contributors who are considered top personnel in each category.

As we look forward to our next conference we ask that you consider several possibilities that can benefit you personally as well as your company.

Consider this: Renew your membership in the IBA. It is only \$100.00 U.S. per calendar year and keeps you in the loop for discussions on agglomeration applications from our members as well as by this newsletter. If you need a membership form please drop a note to iba@agglomeration.org. The paperwork that you fill out will keep your contact information up to date so you don't miss any important messages.

Consider this: Purchase a link to our web site. A minimal cost of \$100.00 U.S. will give you visibility for a full year on our web site where a visitor to the IBA web site can simply click your company name to have direct connection with your site. What better way to make your company known than by listing on a web site that is dedicated to agglomeration? Ask for the link form at iba@agglomeration.org.

Consider this: Present a paper at our next conference that is to be held in the latter part of 2017. You have a whole year to put it together, be it a unique application, a binder study, an equipment evaluation or new developments. Your paper will be presented in front of an audience eager to hear it and will be published in our official proceedings that will be available for generations to come. A great opportunity for you and your company.

Consider this: Attend the next conference that will be held next year, most likely on the East coast of the USA. The final hotel selection and dates will be chosen very soon so that you can allot time in your calendar for next year. Whether it is the historic location of Washington, DC or

the white sand beaches of Florida it will be a time to get together to renew acquaintances and to meet new ones in the spirit of agglomeration.

Hope you do some serious considerations of the above opportunities and do your part to keep the IBA moving forward. Join, Purchase, Present and Attend.

Bob Hinkle
Executive Director

Presidents Message



Our Conference this past November, at the FireSky Resort and Spa in Scottsdale, AZ was a major success and was well attended. A big thank you to Darrell Taulbee, past President and Bob Hinkle, Executive Director for their organization and set up of a great conference with great location and accommodations. We had 60 attendees, 13 guests, 6 countries represented, 13 technical papers as well as a tutorial on the various forms of agglomeration. We also had nine vendors presenting their products at vendor night. This success will lead to a better conference in 2017.

Being a member of the IBA since 1979 has been a very rewarding experience. My boss and the owner of National Briquette Corporation, at the time, A.C. Miller was very committed to the IBA. He had several of us in the company join and be active, because he knew that the benefits and knowledge gained through the association with the IBA would make his company stronger. Becoming the President of the IBA is the pinnacle and I am very honored to serve our many accomplished members and experts in their fields, for the next two years. I thank Tom Barnett of K.R. Komarek for his guidance and encouragement to become a board member.

There are a few things that I would like to accomplish going forward. One of which is to grow the IBA membership. I would encourage our members to reach out to your co-workers and customers and associates to join the IBA; it only makes us stronger and increases our knowledge base. I would also like to encourage our members to become active by giving papers at our future conferences. Share your experiences and knowledge. Our 2017 Conference will be here before you know it. Our next conference will be in the fall of 2017 and will be somewhere on the East Coast. Details will be made available as soon as possible.

We welcome new members, be it students wanting to learn, academia, equipment manufacturers, binder suppliers to actual production facilities. Come learn and share you knowledge. You will find that you will learn as much as you share, if not more.

Please continue to visit the IBA website, www.agglomeration.org to get information on all types of agglomeration and industry news as well as our 2017 Conference.

Please feel free to contact me, or any of the Board members, with any questions or concerns.