



The Institute For Briquetting and Agglomeration

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IBA WEBSITE: www.agglomeration.org

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THE POWDER SHOW

The biennial event in Rosemont, IL—a major exhibition with workshops and conference—was held May 8-11. As it concerns agglomeration tutorials and workshops, there was one on powder compaction fundamentals, by Dr. Virendra Puri and two on size enlargement by agglomeration, Optimization and Trouble-shooting, by Dr. Wolfgang Pietsch.

The show directory listing exhibitors by category has a two-page entry under "Particle Enlargers & Formers", with such sub-categories pelletizers, tableting and laboratory equipment.

As always, companies whose members belong to IBA are well represented.

Powder & Bulk Solids Conference/Exhibition Southeast has in the meantime been announced for May 9-10, 2007 in Atlanta, GA. (www.SoutheastPowderShow.com)

COAL AGG PREP CONFERENCE/EXHIBITION

This annual event in Lexington, KY was also held in early May. With a growing list of exhibitors and expanded conference scope, it was described in the Preview Coal Age issue as featuring a two-day mercury symposium discussing the increased interest in this important sector for the coal mining and power industry. IBA member Bill Kalb was listed in the program about the October 2006 International Coal Preparation Congress in China. He is the U.S. representative on the International Organizing Committee for this event.

OF TABLETS AND CAPSULES IN PHARMACEUTICALS

The April and May issues of "Tablets and Capsules" (CSC Publishing) contains a wealth of information pertaining to agglomeration. The "Tables & Capsules Conference & Expo" is announced for October 9-12, 2006 at Edison, NJ, with a four-day program of seminars by leaders in the field. Topics include tablet press instrumentation, tablet production problem solving, powder agglomeration and segregation, tablet formulations and excipients. For information, refer to www.tabletscapsules.com.

The April issue further features the continuing series by John A. McCarty on excipients, an article on tablet coating by 4 Emerson Resources authors and a news item on the now available IPEc/PQG GMP Guide for Pharmaceutical Excipients (ISO 9001), available from www.ipecamericas.org/mcart/index.cgi

The May issue of T&C also had a supplement Desktop Reference on "Capsules and Filling".

IBA IN THE NEWS

The April issue of P & BE carried the news item of the newly elected IBA officers, Dr. Brian Young, Thomas Barnett and Bruce Moechinig. Thanks, Powder & Bulk Engineering!

P&BE also announced, that a new member of the magazine's editorial advisory board has joined. Well known to the IBA, it is John W. Carson of Jenike & Johanson.

DICTIONARY

A revised and expanded ASTM Dictionary of Engineering Science and Technology, the 10th edition, has been issued, containing 29,000 standard definitions. At \$135.00, the 670 page book looks like a good bargain. For more information: www.astm.org, or fax 610-832-9555.

COAL ASH DISPOSAL

The National Academies RESEARCH COUNCIL has issued a report urging increased disposal of coal ash as backfill in underground mines, rather than surface impoundment, provided the ash is disposed while avoiding adverse health and environmental effects. This would involve monitoring the mine sites and examining the chemical ingredients of the ash, the pH level and considering any potential water flow in the mines. At present about 30% of ash residues are used to make cement, wallboard and other products, but most of the remainder is disposed on land.

COAL AGE, APRIL 06

Feature article, pp. 53-54, by authors T. Gaalaas and C. Randall of Pace Global Energy Services: "Update on Petroleum Coke: A window of Opportunity?" The case is made, that considerable increase of petcoke production capacity is expected between 2006 and 2010, approximately 35 million mtpy. Generators experiencing high prices and tight delivery for coal are at least considering lower priced petcoke as alternatives or supplements to coal and gas.

VANITY FAIR AND COAL?

Who would think the IBA Newsletter would mention Vanity Fair, the publication, and coal, plus environmentalists in the same sentence? Well, we did and so did Coal Age's Editor-in-Chief, Steve Fiscor. He usually writes concise, interesting and at times very frank, even provocative editorials. In the recent issue he refers to Vanity Fair's May edition, the so called Green Issue (green as in environmental and the color of the front cover). His point is that environmentalists, such as several writers of this VF issue had "softened their stance" and found several good points of coal as fuel, placing more emphasis on automobile emissions. Quoting Al Gore's article in VF (yes, that Al Gore), who states "We can use the Earth's plentiful coal resources without heating the planet."

Music to the ears of coal miners and prep plant operators.

We love interesting editorials, regardless of position. And why not, coal stood at the beginning of large-scale agglomeration history (briquetting mostly).

CALENDAR

- Pharmaceutical Tablet Technology, July 11-13, St. Charles, MO at Natoli Engineering, www.natoli.com, fax 636-926-8910 (Dave Natoli, of Natoli Engineering is a member of the IBA)
- Tablet Production for Operators and Supervisors, July 24-26, Center for Professional Advancement, New Brunswick, NJ, www.cfpa.com
- 18th International Activated Carbon Conference and Courses, October 19-20, Pittsburgh, PA, www.pacslab.com, 800-367-2587, or email: Henrypacs@aol.com
- 46th Canadian Conference on Coal, Victoria BC, September 9-12, www.coal.ca
- Coal: Meeting World Energy Needs, Kingsport, TN, September 11-12, www.easterncoalcouncil.org
- 20th Western Fuels Symposium, Denver, CO, October 24-26, email: dwalters@undeerc.org

President's Message

Our Board meeting on May 8, 2006, was very productive. Two key items on the agenda were the 2007 Biennial Conference and a proposed Workshop/Educational session. Our next conference is to be held in Savannah, Georgia between Sunday October 21 and Wednesday, October 24, 2007. Executive Director Tom Feldkamp visited Savannah prior to the Board meeting and following discussions and viewing at various hotel chains, recommended that the 2007 Biennial Conference be held at the Hotel Hilton as it appears to meet all our needs at an attractive tariff. The Board has accepted his recommendation. Our plans will now advance accordingly to promote and prepare for a successful and rewarding conference. As members, you can help promote the Biennial Conference amongst your business colleagues. Please encourage them and other interested persons and companies to attend the Conference and to give serious consideration to submitting a paper to the Conference.

The Board positively ratified the concept of an "IBA Workshop". Board member Bruce Moechnig, ADM Animal Nutrition and Feed Technology, was appointed chairperson of a Workshop committee comprising Dr Tom Marrero, Bob Hinkle, Richard Komarek and Brian Young (ex officio). An outline for the Workshop is now under review by the committee. The Workshop is proposed for the afternoon of Sunday, October 21, 2007 at the Hilton Hotel in Savannah. The Conference will begin on the same afternoon with Registration.

Briquetting and agglomeration technology continues to be challenging in a wide range of industrial and commercial applications. From virgin resources to recycling and reusing residues, agglomeration finds a significant role in adding value to a feedstock or material. A critical factor to the commercial success of briquetting is the use of a cost-effective binder. Finding an inexpensive binder to suit the prospective application of the briquettes or agglomerates can be a difficult, albeit an exciting challenge. The range of binders is enormous – just consult the literature of the last two decades! However, exploring the waste streams of industrial and agricultural processes affords further pursuit, not only for producing binders but also for generating agglomerated products, as the world aims to reduce environmental, ecological and greenhouse gas impacts. The future for briquetting still appears bright!

Continue pursuing the IBA goal of growing the membership, enjoy and reap the rewards of high performance in your projects, and until next time, best wishes for success in your varied roles.

20 June 2006

IBA UPDATE

Tom Feldkamp, Executive Director

2007 CONFERENCE IN SAVANNAH, October 21-24

Brian has already noted in his President's Message that the 2007 Conference will be held in Savannah, GA at the Hilton Savannah DeSoto, www.desotohilton.com. If you would like to get general feel for this historic city, go to www.savannahvisit.com. Savannah is served by the Hilton Head/Savannah International Airport, which is just 20 minutes from the Hilton. More details will follow in future newsletters and mailings.

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IBA "WORKSHOP"

This will be the first conference where an educational course on the fundamental aspects of agglomeration will be taught and discussed. This 1/2 day session will precede the conference. Further details will be forthcoming, however, it will be helpful if you could complete the attached questionnaire/survey and return it to Tom Feldkamp.

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WEBSITE

In March of 2006 we had 256 visitors to the IBA website, www.agglomeration.org and 210 visitors in April. We are constantly updating the website. Isn't it time that your company consider a link on the site? The cost is \$100 per year (currently May 1, 2006 through April 30, 2007). If interested, please contact Tom Feldkamp.

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IBA LOGO

It has been suggested that the IBA logo (shield) be changed to something more identifiable with agglomeration. Your suggestions are welcome.

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BILL ENGELLEITNER

Bill did not mention in his recap of upcoming conferences, etc., that he has an article, "Binders for Size Enlargement: An Update" in the June issue of Powder & Bulk Eng. Bill, of course, has been a longtime member of the IBA and an agglomeration advisor to PBE.

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LAST NEWSLETTER

It has been quite a while since we sent out a Data Form. We would like to update our records, especially email addresses as this is the last Newsletter that will be mailed. The next newsletter will be emailed. With postage increasing, this would be a big savings for our organization. If your email address has changed within the last few years, it is important to contact us either by email or fax so that the next newsletter will reach you.

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PROCEEDINGS

All members and all attendees were sent a copy of the 2005 IBA Proceedings, Volume 29 on CD. Extra copies are available for \$50 (\$35 for IBA members). If a book is preferred there is a limited amount for sale for \$60 (\$42 for IBA members).

MEET YOUR MEMBERS

Our most recent addition to the Board of Directors is Darrell Taulbee, University of Kentucky, Center for Applied Energy. This is the last Board member to be profiled (see Page 7). Our next newsletter will continue on with some of the presenters from our last conference along with other supportive IBA members

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DUES

If you have not paid your 2005-2006 dues, please do so. If you need an invoice, we can email it to you. Individual -\$100, Company -\$200, Consultant – \$150. You can check your mailing label to see if your dues are current. If it says “5/6” you are paid.

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EARLY CALL FOR PAPERS

Yes, this is early to call for Papers, but it would be helpful at this time if our members or someone you may know, would notify us if there is any interest in presenting a Paper.