

Newsletter

What's new?

AshTech 2006:

As you probably know AshTech 2006 will be held at the Hippodrome Theatre in Birmingham on May 15 to 17 2006. So far we have over 70 papers from a wide variety of sources.

However, we still have some time slots available and the deadline for submitting abstracts has been extended until 1 January 2006.

The power industry has given a great deal of support to the conference with most opting for Gold sponsorship.

However, we still have options for sponsors for the conference dinner, internet café, lanyards, etc and exhibition space. These are excellent opportunities to get your name known to the delegates from around the world.

Online registration and hotel bookings are available through the dedicated web site on;

www.ashtech2006.org

Environment Agency and Waste Issue

While there has not been a meeting over this issue with the EA since March 2005, this issue still continues to be important.

The recent publication of the EU Draft Thematic Strategy for Waste gives an indication of the direction this is going, however, the definition of a by-product still appears to have strings attached – that material would have to comply with some as yet undefined environmental criteria. The final document publication has been delayed until the end of December – we await this with interest...

Probably of more interest is the ECJ court case on Pig Manure. This clearly states that the manure, when sold as a fertiliser is a by-product and not a waste! We believe this case fully supports the power industry legal argument that PFA and FBA are NOT wastes but products sold for beneficial use.

Standardisation work

As if standardisation is not complex enough, another BSI committee has been formed to look at the test methods for the implementation of the 'Dangerous Substances Directive'. This directive will require harmonised materials, such as PFA, to have an annex on Dangerous Substances. Apparently this is in addition to the much publicised REACH requirements for chemicals.

In addition, BS8500 is currently being revised. One aim is to simplify the document, give more information about 100

year design criteria and sort out some anomalies found in the existing version. This new version is unlikely to get published until December 2006!

UKQAA and Research

There is a release of new research funding from DTI available currently and many universities are vying for a part of it. However, as with all civil service documents, the forms are very bureaucratic to complete and there are some unacceptable terms and conditions being proposed. Many projects are currently being considered that range from Stabilisation of Wastes using PFA and other by-products to a revision of CIRIA Early Age Thermal Cracking in Concrete document.

Where have we been?



In the last few months we have attended The Autoclaved Aerated Concrete conference at Kingston University, the ECOBA conference in Brussels and been to Hargould, SEMEX and DCE exhibitions at various locations around the country. In general these have been successful for the UKQAA,

judging by the numbers of enquiries and brochure packs used.

Affiliate Membership

The first major change in membership options has taken place. We now have a category of membership called affiliate membership. This is designed for companies who have a connection with the ash industry, but do not wish to receive the comprehensive information sent to full and associate members. Examples would be hauliers, grouting contractors, formulators, equipment suppliers, etc.

For full details about affiliate membership and a application form, see our web site at www.ukqaa.org.uk.



*Finally I would wish you
all a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year*

If you have any suggestions, comments, queries, etc about the work of the UKQAA please contact us as follows:

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