

More than 300 attendees from 25 different countries attended the 43rd ASEAN Glass Conference in Cebu.



43rd ASEAN Glass Conference

With *Glass Worldwide* as official journal, leading personalities from South East Asia's regional glass communities came together in October to meet their peers and international suppliers at the annual ASEAN Glass Conference in Cebu, the Philippines.

Hosted by the Glass Manufacturers' Association of the Philippines (GMAPI) for the twelfth time since its launch in 1977 and for the fifth time in Cebu, the conference adopted the theme 'Glass: Inspiring New Frontiers of Development'. A combination of technical and social events attracted over 300 attendees from 25 different countries in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, North America and Oceania.

Following a golf tournament and cocktail reception, Thai Tran Quoc, AFGM Chairman and Emmanuel R

Alcantara, Chairman of GMAPI and Glass Business Manager at San Miguel Yamamura Packaging Corp, addressed delegates at a welcome ceremony. Detailing positive market conditions in the different glass sectors in the Philippines, Mr Alcantara described San Miguel's withdrawal from the plastic bottled water business as part of efforts to reduce the company's impact on the environment. "We sacrificed this lucrative business to support the call for sustainability. With this gesture, we hope to generate more commitment from the business communities in the Philippines and ASEAN. GMAPI wants to convert the momentum of sustainability into accelerated growth for the glass industry. This conference calls to everyone to collaborate to enhance the value of our products and service to society in general

and stakeholders in the glass industry in particular."

"The theme for this year's conference highlights the continuing role of glass in progress and development and at the same time, poses a challenge and call to the glass industry about the role we play in future development, innovations and in creating new frontiers for glass to lead" added Conference Chairman, Gilbert Alvarez, before keynote presentations from James Sayson and Nuna Almanzor.



Keynote speaker Nuna Almanzor (centre) with dignitaries from GMAPI and fellow AFGM member associations.

Technical presentations

With Nolan Ricardo as Chairman of the technical sessions, industry experts delivered a full day of presentations.

On behalf of Ametek Land, Neil Simpson presented 'Beyond the Visible: Industry 3.91', describing how the company's five year development of a Near Infrared Borescope (NIR-B) offers advanced levels of understanding of the glass furnace operation. Case studies demonstrated the potential to use data to further develop furnace controls to meet the needs of industry 4.0 and optimisation of the furnace process.

Presenting 'Refractory and engineering technologies on glass melting furnaces', Shinji Yamamura, General Manager of Glass Engineering Center at AGC Ceramics, introduced some elementary technologies about refractories, engineering and operational support to glass manufacturers looking to reduce fuel consumption without worsening glass defects and furnace campaign life.

Lars Biennek, Head of Technology at HORN Glass Industries, examined electric melting technologies. With the all-electric furnace (AEF) based on the cold top technology having been successfully applied for decades, Mr Biennek explained the potential for increased applications and a wider role for the glass industry to reduce its CO₂ emissions.

Discussing various options, Hotwork International CEO, Benjamin Koster, presented a detailed overview of proven technologies to end users for the repair of regenerators (partial and full), with and without production loss.

PaneraTech's industry standard in furnace life optimisation, SmartMelter, was outlined by Fred Aker, VP of Sales and Marketing, with the radar-based solution's ability to improve decisions regarding furnace condition and maintenance without compromising the safety of the furnace. Case studies were presented showing uses at multiple stages of furnace campaigns to make cost saving operational decisions.

Victor Kurniawan, Senior Expert in Oxy-Fuel Combustion described how Praxair, a member of the Linde Group, has developed the OPTIMELT heat recovery technology for glass furnaces. Recovering waste heat in flue gas from oxy-fuel glass furnaces, attendees were informed how the OPTIMELT Thermochemical Regenerator (TCR) system is expected to reduce NG consumption by about 50% versus recuperative furnaces, 30% versus air-regenerative furnaces and 20% versus oxy-fuel furnaces.



Emmanuel R Alcantara, Chairman of GMAPI and Glass Business Manager at San Miguel Yamamura Packaging Corp, addresses delegates at a welcome ceremony.

Romain Pioch, Sales Area Manager at Tiamo, presented 'Smart Factory Traceability', describing how the development of the company's strategy in the fields of inspection, monitoring, traceability, service and intelligence led to its smart factory concept called 'YOUiverse' and the hot and cold end opportunities for collected data to be sent into intelligent supervision systems to be analysed with the results displayed on a single platform.

Industry 4.0 was the topic covered by Ulas Topal, CEO at Vertech', looking at how the evolution of technology is only a starting point and the key challenge being how to use it in the best possible way. The Vertech SIL system was presented as a solution for analysing the past, in order to predict the future.

XPAR Vision CEO, Paul Schreuders ▶



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A series of technical presentations adopted the theme 'Glass: Inspiring New Frontiers of Development'.



Thai Tran Quoc, AFGM Chairman, welcomed delegates from 25 different countries.



Ahead of the 44th ASEAN Glass Conference to be staged in Thailand in 2020, representatives of GMFTI member companies were in Cebu alongside GMAPI colleagues.

presented the company's ambition to assist the global glass container industry to make its bottles and jars lighter and stronger, produced with zero defects at higher speeds. With a strong focus on the glass forming process to realise this ambition, Mr Schreuders described hot end sensors and a blank robot for the purpose of swabbing blanks neck rings, as well as executing other functions at the blank side.

As official journal, adaptations of these presentations will be exclusively published in 2020 issues of *Glass Worldwide*, as well as being added to the AFGM online library of articles at www.glassworldwide.co.uk.



The opening ceremony in Cebu.

Sponsors

In addition to *Glass Worldwide*, sponsors of the 43rd ASEAN Glass Conference included:

AGC Ceramics, Agr, Ametek Land, Antonini, BASF, BDF, Bottero, FS Elliott, Bucher Emhart Glass, Colorobbia, Dura Temp, Electroglass, Emmeti (EMS), Ferro, FIC, Fives, Flammatec, Fosbel, futronic, Glass Service, Graphoidal, Heat Applications India, Heye, HORN, Hotwork International, IRIS, Jianhua Mould, Lattimer, LWN, Nationwide Distributors, Nihon Yamamura Glass, OMS, Parkinson-Spencer Refractories, Ramsey Products, Ruitai Technology, Saint-Gobain, Sheppee, SORG, Strutz, TATA Chemicals, TCT Alliance International, Tiama, Tropical Timber Products, Vertech', Zecchetti, Zibo AGC Alumina Materials, Zibo GT New Materials Group and ZIPPE.



Networking

In addition to the technical programme, attendees benefitted from Business Connect sessions, as well as a social programme aimed at strengthening business networking and collaboration. Highlights of accompanying events included Fellowship Nights at the Oakridge Pavilion and the Tent-Mandani, a city tour and an excursion to the Cebu

Safari and Adventure Park. The conference closed with a gala farewell dinner.

Organisers

GMAPI is a member of the ASEAN Federation of Glass Manufacturers (AFGM), now in its 42nd year as a regional industry association composed of glass manufacturers in South East Asia. Fellow member associations include the Indonesian Glass Manufacturers Association, Glass Manufacturers Association of Malaysia, Glass Manufacturers Industry Club, The Federation of Thai Industries and Vietnam Glass Association.

The 44th ASEAN Glass Conference will be hosted in Thailand in 2020 by the Glass Manufacturers Industry Club, The Federation of Thai Industries (GMFTI). Dates and location will be announced in a future issue of *Glass Worldwide*. ●

Further information:

web: www.aseanglass.org