

Ethylene Producers' Committee Meeting
Minutes – October 29th, 2015
FINAL

Following are the minutes of the October 29, 2015 meeting of the Ethylene Producers' Committee (EPC) held at the Double Tree Hotel in Houston, TX.

Minutes prepared by Sasha Vragolic

1. Attendance

Present – Rick Beleutz, Jake Berret, Toby Darbonne, Bala Devakottai, Jeff Edwards, David Gent, Sanjeev Kapur, Aivars Krumins, Ravi Lal, Tom Pickett, Walter Postula, Richard Rolke, Mark Schmidt, Micheal Smith, Jonathan Sterne, Michael Tallman, Sasha Vragolic, Greg Yeo, and Tim Zygula.

Not present – Neil Amedee, Robert Nussbaum, Trobie Thompson, and Paul van Helmond.

The updated EPC member contact list appears in **Attachment 1**.

[The contact list also includes attendance records since 2008. The attendance records are utilized by the Nominating committee in accordance with Bylaw Article III, Section 6]

2. Call To Order:

Chairman Walter Postula called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Sasha Vragolic read the Antitrust Statement:

“No activity of the Committee shall involve the exchange, collection or dissemination of information among competitors for the purpose of bringing about or attempting to bring about any understanding or agreement, written or oral, formal or informal, express or implied, among competitors with regard to costs, prices or pricing methods, terms or conditions of sale, distribution, production quotas or other limitations, on either the timing, or volume of production, or sales, or allocation of territories or customers.”

The meeting agenda was published in advance and appears in **Attachment 2**.

3. Five Minutes on Safety:

Micheal Smith discussed the South Canyon Fire. The presentation appears as **Attachment 3**.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Sasha Vragolic sent the draft minutes of the September 24th meeting to all members. The draft minutes did not include the Program Vice-Chair's report. This report was added to the final minutes. The final minutes were published by Sasha on October 29th. Michael Tallman proposed to approve the minutes. The proposal was seconded by Aivars Kruminis and approved unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Tom Pickett presented the current EPC finances.

The only significant activity in the General Fund was the cost of the previous meeting. The balance is in line with the prior year's balance at the end of September. Therefore, we should have adequate capital to continue to fund the normal operations of this Committee. Tom mentioned that it looked like he should be able to recommend maintaining committee member dues for next year at the same rate used for this year but the more formal recommendation will be given at a future meeting.

A copy of the Treasurer's report is included in **Attachment 4**.

6. Nominating Committee

Aivars Kruminis introduced Gene Osborne to the committee as a potential member from Eastman Chemical Corporation. Aivars' slide is **Attachment 5** and Gene's resume is included as **Attachment 6**. Aivars Kruminis, Paul van Helmond, and Greg Yeo spoke with Gene and recommended him as a member to the committee. The EPC voted unanimously to approve Gene's membership. Walter Postula accepted an action item to contact Gene and welcome him to the Ethylene Producers' Committee. Since the meeting, Walter has sent the welcome e-mail to Gene and Sasha has added Gene on the distribution of the minutes and to the attendance list.

Trobie Thompson, EPC member from Sasol North America Inc., is retiring from the EPC. Paul will contact Sasol for a nomination for a potential replacement.

Neil Amedee, EPC member from Huntsman, has indicated that he may have to step down from the EPC. The Nominating Committee will need to contact Huntsman to see if they have an alternate potential candidate for EPC membership.

With these changes, Greg Yeo agreed to update the "Leadership" roster on the EPC website.

7. 2016 Program Chair Report

Tim Zygula presented the slides in **Attachment 7**. Tim agreed to send a reminder to all session chairs that the call for papers ends on November 2nd.

8. 2016 Program Vice-Chair Report

Jeff Edwards presented the slides in **Attachment 8**.

9. Subcommittee Reports

Safety – Jonathan Sterne reported.

The safety subcommittee has their session in great shape. They already have received 5 abstracts. Some of the authors have already completed the full paper and presentation.

Environmental – Walter Postula reported.

The subcommittee is planning to have 4 introductory presentations before the break and a Q&A session after the break. The subject will be regulations.

Operations – Richard Rolke reported.

The subcommittee has 6 papers for one session and 4 papers for a tutorial.

Maintenance – Walter Postula reported based on an update from Jorge Blanco.

The subcommittee is progressing well in preparing their session. They have 8 papers. Of those 8 papers, they have 3 abstracts in hand. They will vote on the program at their next meeting, on November 10th.

Technology & Fundamentals – Mike Tallman reported.

The subcommittee is currently considering 3 sessions:

- A) One session would be focused on Ethane Feed issues.
- B) The second session would be on Fundamentals. The subcommittee has 8 abstracts. They will have to vote to decide which 6 of the 8 will be presented in this session.
- C) The third session would be a panel discussion on Capital Cost Strategies for large projects. Sanjeev Kapur will chair that session.

Process Control – Sasha Vragolic reported.

The subcommittee is currently planning a panel discussion on maintenance of Advanced Process Control applications. The papers that were proposed will not materialize. The Environmental Subcommittee graciously shared an abstract on CFD modeling of the decoking operation. This paper will be added to the Process Control session.

Rotating Equipment – Mike Tallman reported.

The subcommittee plans to have two sessions. They have 4 abstracts in hand. If they don't get any more, they will have only one session but they expect to get enough for two sessions before the deadline.

Feedstock – Tom Pickett reported.

The subcommittee has 4 papers.

EPC Keynote – Walter Postula reported.

Walter is working with a potential speaker.

10. Break

11. Knowledge Management

A) Learning Modules – Sanjeev Kapur reported that the subcommittee is preparing a recommendation for the second learning module. Jonathan Sterne provided feedback from the Safety subcommittee to the Knowledge Management subcommittee on a list of topics for future modules.

12. Old Business:

A) Greg Yeo agreed to archive subcommittee bylaws on the EPC Google drive and post them on the EPC website.

13. New Business:

A) The AIChE has asked the EPC to review costs, particularly with respect to Audio/Visual services. The current and future Program Chair and Program Vice-Chair will work with AIChE to ensure that the extra features used are cost effective.

B) Special Topic Subcommittee – should we create a subcommittee to explore safe operating practices with respect to Brittle Fracture? The idea would be to model such a subcommittee after the subcommittee on Cold Box NOX. The representatives from Exxonmobil, Greg Yeo and Micheal Smith, will draft a potential charter for the committee to consider. Each EPC member needs to poll their organization for their willingness to disclose their practices as this sharing will be the key to the success of such a subcommittee.

C) Should the EPC co-sponsor a session on Effect of Global Economic Trends on U.S. Fuels and Petrochemicals Industries? Walter Postula presented a request

that he received. The request with the abstract is presented as **Attachment 9**. The committee voted to do so.

D) Access to the EPC paper database for individuals. The Knowledge Management Subcommittee will consider various models for providing access to the paper database to individuals and will provide the committee with a proposal at a future meeting.

14. Review Action Items List

See action item summary listed on last page of minutes.

15. Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be at 6:00 pm December 10, 2015 at the Double Tree Hotel in Houston, TX with social beginning at 5:30 pm.

16. Adjournment:

Chairman Walter Postula adjourned the meeting.

ACTIONS SUMMARY

ITEM	BY	WHEN
EPC Chairman to send welcome e-mail to new member, Gene Osborne.	Walter Postula	December 9, 2015
Contact Huntsman and Sasol for potential alternate EPC members.	Paul van Helmond	December 31, 2015
Update Leadership page on the EPC website.	Greg Yeo	April 10, 2016
Send a reminder to all session chairs that the call for papers ends on November 2 nd .	Tim Zygula	November 1, 2015
Archive subcommittee bylaws on the EPC Google drive and post them on the EPC website.	Greg Yeo	April 10, 2016
EPC Program Chair and Program Vice-Chair to work with AIChE on controlling conference costs.	Program Chair and Program Vice-Chair	On-going
Draft a potential charter for a Brittle Fracture subcommittee.	Greg Yeo and Micheal Smith	December 10, 2015
Poll organization for willingness to share practices associated with mitigating potential Brittle Fracture risk.	EPC	December 10, 2015
Develop a recommendation for providing access to the paper database to individuals.	Knowledge Management Subcommittee	February 4, 2016

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