

Ethylene Producers' Committee Meeting Minutes – October 15th, 2020

Following are the minutes of the October 15, 2020 meeting of the Ethylene Producers' Committee (EPC) held virtually.

Minutes prepared by Mark Schmidt.

1. Attendance

Present – Richard Beleutz, Jake Berret, Daryl Bitting, Toby Darbonne, Jose de Barros, Bala Devakottai, Jeff Edwards, Dan Euhus, David Gent, KJ Han, Sanjeev Kapur, Aivars Krumins, Ravi Lal, Alex Michinel, Jennifer Port, Walter Postula, Richard Rolke, Mark Schmidt, Micheal Smith, Michael Tallman, Yong Wang, Mark Whitney, and Tim Zygula

Not present – Jeff Elam, Jeff Nichols, John Zylks

The updated EPC member contact list appears in **Attachment A1**.

[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]

Members please check your information on the Contact Info sheet in Attachment A1 and send any/all updates to Mark Schmidt.

2. Call To Order:

Richard Beleutz called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. Mark Schmidt 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 an 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 A2**.

3. Five Minutes on Safety:

By David Gent

The safety presentation “Blue Light Safety” appears in **Attachment A3**.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Mark Schmidt sent out the “final” minutes of the September 10th meeting. Mike Tallman made a motion to approve and Richard Rolke seconded. All approved.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Bala Devakottai presented the current EPC finances.

The report is given in **Attachment A4**.

ACTION: Bala to send invoice to Aivars.

6. Nominating Committee

Nominating committee reported they had no activity since last meeting.

7. 2021 Conference Planning/Status

Rick reported on the status of the 2021 conference. AIChE is considering three options – On-site, Virtual, or a Hybrid combination. No decision until at least December, EPC will have status prior to 12/10 meeting. Some feedback from companies that if 2021 is held only virtual, they may opt out. The presentation is in **Attachment A5**.

The attendance numbers for each talk for 2020 were presented. Discussion was held about the best ways to lay out sessions. The data is in **Attachment A6**

8. Program Chair Report

Jake Berret provided the update. If not identified, Jake needs session Chair/ Co-chair names ASAP. Very few details for next year's conference. The timeline was presented. See **Attachment A7** for details.

ACTION: All committees to make sure Jake has session Chair/ Co-chair names.

8A. Program Co-Chair Report

No report was given. Not expecting to resolve duties until conference format is decided.

ACTION: If 2021 is virtual, how do we recognize speakers (both 2020 and 2021 conferences). Add to discussion for December's meeting.

9. Break

10. Subcommittee Reports

Safety – (Jake Berret) One session. Several potential abstracts.

Environmental – (Richard Beleutz) One session. Chair & Co-Chair determined, 4 abstracts.

Operations – (Richard Rolke) Searching for papers.

Maintenance & Reliability – (Sanjeev Kapur) Team session held, ideas for papers – Life Assessment, Failure Modes, and Crash Shutdowns – causes, prevention, recovery.

Technology & Fundamentals – (Michael Tallman) Three sessions focused on the following topics:

Fundamentals – 3 or 4 Abstracts, and 3 or 4 in preparation

Tutorial for Distillation – no abstracts, working ideas with Kister, 2 theory, rest troubleshooting.

Start Up / Commissioning Issues for Large Crackers (potential joint with operations committee) – 2 abstracts coming from Indorama, 2 additional expected.

Industry 4.0 – (Richard Rolke) No update.

Rotating Equipment – (Mike Tallman) – 2 or 3 abstracts available, others being worked on.

Feedstock – (Mark Whitney) Commitments from several companies, no abstracts in hand.

11. **Knowledge Management**

All 2020 papers and presentations and the learning modules have been uploaded to Omnipress.

The KM committee is looking for someone (a retiree) to help produce a tutorial on Butadiene Popcorn Polymer. And they are also looking for ideas for future tutorial topics.

12. **Old Business**

No old business discussed.

13. **New Business:**

No new business discussed.

14. **Review Action Items List**

Action item list with new actions.

See action item summary listed on the table at the end of this document.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be virtual, starting at 5:30 pm, December 10, 2020

ACTION: Poll members about ability/preference for meeting in person. When to reassemble, etc.

Future Meeting date: (virtual or in person at the Double Tree Hotel in Houston, TX, with social beginning at 5:30 pm.)

February 11, 2021

2021 EPC Conference:

Hilton Anatole - Dallas, TX

Conference April 18-22, 2021

Future conferences:

2022 San Antonio

2023 Houston

2024 New Orleans

15. Adjournment:

Richard Beleutz adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.

ACTIONS SUMMARY

ITEM	BY	WHEN
Provide comment to Aivars regarding EPC Timeline issued in December, fill in blanks (if known)	All	June 2020
Richard Rolke will follow-up with AIChE to get legal advice on how to deal with future requests from CSB or other parties outside of the EPC.	Richard Rolke	June 2020
Review the desire for sponsors at EPC reception for future conferences at the first committee meeting after the 2020 Conference. (Moot if virtual)	Richard Beleutz	December 2020
Jake to draft a response to AIChE with the agreed upon WI-Fi sponsor clauses. (Moot if virtual)	Jake Berret	December 2020
Bala will purchase a projector for the next meeting	Bala Devakottai	June 2020
Bala will continue the follow-up with aligning the EPC names and addresses on file at the bank and state	Bala Devakottai	June 2020
All members to provide Mike Tallman with a 2 nd responsible person for your company contact for the OmniBooks site	All	June 2020
Develop recommendation to reduce bank fees	Bala Devakottai	December 2020
Develop recommendation for 2021 dues	Bala Devakottai	December 2020
Press AIChE for 2021 siting decision	Rick Beleutz	December 2020
Send letter of appreciation for tutorials	Rick Beleutz	December 2020
Arrange for access to the EPC Omnipress site for Steve Coleman and Dane Grenoble	Michael Tallman	December 2020
Bala to send invoice to Aivars for 2020 dues.	Bala Devakottai	December 2020
If 2021 is virtual, how do we recognize speakers (both 2020 and 2021 conferences)	Richard Beleutz	December 2020
Poll members about ability/preference for meeting in person. When to reassemble, etc. Complete for December meeting. Should we also poll for February 2021	Richard Beleutz	December 2020