

**Ethylene Producers' Committee Meeting
Minutes – August 11, 2022**

Following are the minutes of the August 11, 2022 meeting of the Ethylene Producers' Committee (EPC) held at the DoubleTree Greenway Plaza.

Minutes prepared by Mark Whitney.

1. Attendance

Present – Richard Beleutz, Jake Berret, Jeff Elam, Sanjeev Kapur, Aivars Krumins, John Pena, Jennifer Port, Walter Postula, Richard Rolke, Micheal Smith, Jeremy Terro, Yong Wang, Mark Whitney

Not present – Daryl Bitting, Toby Darbonne, Jose de Barros, Bala Devakottai, Jeff Edwards, David Gent, Mark Schmidt, Michael Tallman, Tim Zygula

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 5]

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

2. Call To Order:

Jake Berret called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Mark Whitney 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 Micheal Smith

The safety presentation “Heat Management” appears in **Attachment A3**.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Mark Whitney sent out the final minutes of the June 16, 2022 meeting on August 3, 2022. A motion to approve was made by W. Postula and seconded by A. Krumins. All approved.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Bala Devakottai prepared the Treasurer's Report.

Notice that the June 16, 2022 EPC Dinner/meeting cost approximately \$2100 including ~\$600 for drinks. EPC will pay Omnipress soon ~\$9000.

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

6. Committee Chair Report

Jake Berret received an email from the F&PD asking about the EPC co-sponsoring a session at the 2023 meeting. There was some discussion about exactly what co-sponsoring would mean. Jake will contact F&PD and get clarifications and information.

The following information on the timeline for the 2023 EPC is provided courtesy of A. Krumins.

- June 20, 2022 – Call for abstracts opens
- October 6, 2022 – EPC/AICHE Houston site visit
- October 25, 2022 – Call for abstracts closes
- December 9, 2022 – Papers accepted or rejected
- January 6, 2023 – Draft schedule ready
- January 13, 2023 – Program goes live
- March ??, 2023 – Paper submission closes
- March 12-16, 2023 Spring Meeting – Houston, TX

7. Nominating Committee

New representatives from Indorama, Oxy, and Total are in the works.

There was some discussion of the possibility of inviting Sabic, as they are partners in an operating ethylene plant in Texas. It was pointed out that Sabic is not an operating company so they do not qualify as a potential member.

The former Texaco ethylene plant in Beaumont is now owned and operated by Motiva, which is now controlled by Aramco. A representative from there is a possibility.

8. 2023 Program and Co-Chair Report

See the Program Chair and Co-Chair Report **Attachment A5** by Micheal Smith.

Micheal Smith provided an update on the March 2023 EPC Conference.

- Critical dates were provided.
- Staying in contact with AIChE.
- Current Confex is based on 2022 EPC. This will be updated going forward.
- A visit to the Hilton Americas-Houston (conference site) with the AIChE is scheduled for October 6. Usual suspects will be present. Agenda should be available in early September. Will discuss conference space, speakers' dinner and networking lunch locations and possible EPC keynote speaker.
- Layouts based on abortive 2020 EPC were shown. These will be considered during visit.
- Potente was selected as 2020 Speakers' Dinner location. This is being pursued along with 2 alternatives.
- Irma's Southwest Grill has been site of networking lunches at past Houston EPC's. This is the preferred choice at this point.

Jake offered the possibility of a keynote speaker from Nova, talking about the circular economy. This would fit with an emerging theme in the ethylene business as well as Nova's direction.

The AIChE has confirmed that one day passes will be available for the EPC.

A question was asked about the "Plant Manager's Special". Apparently, this was a discount package allowing several people to visit the EPC. The AIChE will be questioned about this.

9. Subcommittee Reports

Safety – (Jake Berret)

Optimistic with 9 ideas of papers already on hand including NORM, maintenance and hot taps, popcorn polymer, flow induced vibration, hot relights, combustion, report on TPC explosion and crossover pipe safety. The wealth of good papers might make a joint session between safety and another committee such as Operations a viable option.

Environmental – (Richard Beleutz)

Have identified 5 potential papers (one likely double length) including US approach on regulating greenhouse gases, EMACT developments, fence line monitoring, calculating carbon intensity in products and a paper from U of Ghent. There was agreement that the focus of the subcommittee should be on monitoring and regulations rather than solutions. Solutions could be developed in a joint session with Technology.

Operations – (Richard Rolke)

No abstracts have been submitted yet, but there are numerous good ideas for papers. Next subcommittee meeting is in September.

Maintenance & Reliability – (Sanjeev Kapur)

See the Maintenance & Reliability subcommittee minutes from August 10

Attachment A6 by Sanjeev Kapur. This was provided after the main committee meeting.

Technology & Fundamentals – (Aivars Krumins)

Planning on three sessions:

- Fundamentals
 - Chair: Jack Buehler
 - Co-chair: Bob Krinock
- Circular Economy/Decarbonization
 - Chair: Jose deBarros
 - Co-Chair: Bob Charlton
- Caustic System (title to be finalized) Tutorial
 - Chair: Bala Devakottai
 - Co-Chair: Muhammad Imran

Industry 4.0 – (Richard Rolke)

This moving forward with chair and co-chair named.

Rotating Equipment – No report

Contaminants and Impurities – (Mark Whitney)

Lots of paper idea left over from last year and more coming in.

Also – It was pointed out that there are individuals who were never on the main committee who have done outstanding work for the EPC over the years. An example of this is Dane Grenoble. It would be nice if the subcommittees could forward the names of such people to be recognized. The idea was floated to invite them to the Speakers' Dinner and recognize them during the Keynote Speech.

10. Knowledge Management

Walter Postula reported that update to the bylaws and officer roles have been posted on the website.

11. Old Business

Aivars Krumins has offered to have a lawyer review the contract between EPC and EEPC regarding sharing information. Rick Beleutz offered to supply legal help if needed.

12. New Business:

EEPC Collaboration (BD popcorn best practices, major incidents, CUI, NOx 2023): It was explained that the European Ethylene Producers Conference is starting groups to generate presentations on these four topics and are hoping to have members of the EPC participate. The hope is that products of a joint venture can be shared between the EPC and the EEPC with less hassle. Walter will work to confirm the details of this such as exactly who would be participating and how they would have to be connected to the EPC. Sivakumar Nayarajan has indicated an interest in the BD popcorn best practices, Jake expressed an interest in the major incidents report and Sanjeev claimed NOx 2023.

Richard Rolke asked if anyone is seeing interest in the EPA placing butadiene on the TSCA list. Apparently, this holds the potential for much stricter guidelines for butadiene and is already happening in the Netherlands.

A general question was asked to find out if anyone is talking about burning high hydrogen fuels in furnaces. Since this seems to be a coming thing, this might be ideal for a tutorial.

13. Review Action Items List

Next Meeting:

The Committee meetings are October 13, December 8, and January 26.

2023 EPC Conference:

Conference: March 12-16, 2023, Houston, TX.

Future conferences:

2024	New Orleans (March 24-28)
2025	Dallas, TX (April 6-10)
2026	TBD
2027	TBD
2028	Dallas, TX (April 2-6)

14. Adjournment:

Jake Berret adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

ACTIONS SUMMARY

ITEM	BY	WHEN
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Align EPC names and addresses on file at the bank and state.	Bala Devakottai Jake Berret Rick Beleutz	October 2022
Follow-up with Sasol regarding EPC membership.	Rick Beleutz	On Hold
Determine if EPC video on popcorn polymer safety could be made available to EPC	Walter Postula	See old business
Bala Devakottai to transfer \$50k to KM savings	Bala Devakottai	October 2022
Inquire with AIChE if they can assist with routing of membership payments	Bala Devakottai	October 2022
Seek internal legal assistance can be provided for EPC agreement review and contact Sanjeev Kapur if help can be arranged	Aivars Krumin Rick Beleutz	October 2022
Conduct annual audit of books	Jake Berret Bala Devakottai	October, 2022
Forward communication on 2021-2022 Committee credit card expenses that require both Chair and Treasurer "signature" (those >\$1000)	Mark Schmidt Bala Devakottai	October 2022
Send welcome note to John Pena and inform him of upcoming meetings	Jake Berret	Completed
Follow-up with Motiva, Total, Oxy and Indorama regarding EPC membership.	Nominating Committee	October, 2022
Provide subcommittee member lists to Walter Postula	ALL	October, 2022
Post updated Bylaws on website	Walter Postula	Completed
Approach AIChE on reinstatement of one-day passes for 2023 conference	Micheal Smith	Completed
Directors to reach out within their organization for potential new members to Rotating Equipment subcommittee.	ALL	October 2022
Make recommendations for people deserving special rewards at 2023 EPC such as Dane Grenobe	Directors & Subcommittees	October 2022
EPC volunteer for EPC cooperation to be clarified	Walter Postula	October, 2022
Contact F&PD to get details of potential co-sponsoring of session	Jake Berret	October, 2022
Determine what was the "Plant Manager's Special" offered at previous EPC's and if AIChE is planning on offering it in 2023.	Micheal Smith	October, 2022
Forward the names of persons interested in working with the EPC on a presentation on corrosion under insulation.	Walter Postula	October, 2022