

Minutes of Meeting: EPC Maintenance & Reliability Subcommittee

Minutes written by: Jorge Blanco

Meeting Date: September 18, 2014

Meeting Location: LyondellBasell Channelview, TX - Hosted by Mike Pelton

Members attending in person:

Jorge Blanco – ARVOS

Mike Pelton - LyondellBasell

David Nguyen - Sasol

Dave Sankey - BASF

Keith Wade – Zeeco

Members attending via telephone and web conference:

Dan Barnett – BD Energy

Eddie Carter - Ineos

Shailendra Inamdar - Linde

Trobie Thompson – Sasol

Meeting Started at 9:10 am

Antitrust statement: A slightly re-worded Antitrust Statement to match that which is used by the EPC was read to kick off the meeting.

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, 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.

Next Meeting Schedule

October 23, 2014 Sasol Westlake, LA

November 13, 2014 BASF Port Arthur, TX

Membership:

Alstom Power Energy Recovery GmbH was acquired by Triton and renamed ARVOS GmbH Schmidtsche Schack Division. The Subcommittee's Members' Directory will be amended to reflect the change.

Discussions:

Richard Rolke of the Operations S/C informed that they are taking a different direction and are planning a joint session with the Technology S/C on the topic of flares. Keith Wade has been in touch with Richard to offer support.

The list of TOPICS prepared during the August 7 meeting was amended during multiple calls following that meeting to reflect a narrower focus on the topics under consideration for the 2015 Conference.

Six topics are under consideration, with thoughts of adding at least an additional paper to item 1 and possibly an extended question and answer session on topics 1 and 4.

2015				
Item No.	Suggested Topics for 2015	Follow-up	Notes	Comments
1.00	Maintenance & Reliability efforts during pre-commissioning and commissioning of new cracking furnaces.	Mike Pelton	Exploring combination of paper (possibly 2) and panel discussion for this topic. Intent is to include input from ethylene producers, technology companies and service companies. Include engineering companies' guidelines for readiness to start-up following activities such as hydrotesting, line flush, chemical cleaning, steam blows, refractory dryout of new cracking furnaces and work provided by service companies.	Mike Pelton to coordinate with Paul van Helmond, Dave Sankey and Dane Derouen. He will also reach out to Lummus, Technip, KBR, and BEST or BSEN service providers. Shail Inamdar will follow-up with Paul as well.
2.00	Cracking Furnace fuels supply - design, operational and maintenance issues. Improvement potential.	Dan Barnett	Discussion of challenges and opportunities of fuel system design, operation and maintenance practices; and, potential for improvement in fuel supply upgrades and implementation of fuel flow uniformity check procedures.	Dan Barnett submitted draft of abstract
3.00	Cracking heater troubleshooting	Jorge Blanco	Brian Sullivan does not see an opportunity to present new information on the decoking topic. He suggested a discussion of number of typical operational problems for cracking heaters (i.e. short run length, controllability, short tube life, excessive firing, convection section fouling, emissions, burner fouling, coil bowing, etc) and explain their possible causes and how to troubleshoot and resolve them	Jorge to ask Brian to proceed and submit an abstract for review during the next meeting.
4.00	Furnace Maintenance Tutorial—advanced-	Trebie Thompson, Mike Pelton, Muhammad Imran	A furnace tutorial covering topics not previously presented, or expanding the details of select topics or areas. Consider also a combination tutorial (presentations only) with presentation of papers. Consider case studies on topics related to furnace issues and /or incidents. Communicate with Operations S/C to develop other topics if they are interested.	Still holding to this topic, but it seems we won't be able to go forward with it.
4.00	Maintenance practices in blancing coils for improved reliability	Dan Barnett	Consider joint presentation among vendors, technology companies and ethylene producers. Dan received positive feedback from LISEGA to support a paper. Discuss methodology, set-up, maintenance.	Barnett got positive feedback from Lisega. Dave Sankey will support this paper Shail to talk to Paul to see who Linde could provide. Contact Lummus for input.
5.00	SCR Maintenance	Jorge Blanco, Dan Barnett, Paul van Helmond, Mike Pelton	Make this a follow-up to the S/C earlier paper on the design and installation of SCR's. This paper should address experience with SCR's since installation, life, maintenance activity, degree of poisoning, chrome contamination, ammonia injection ... Contact catalyst suppliers to see what is new. Check with companies which have SCR's installed plus experience from Linde.	Shail to follow-up with Paul about Linde's commitment. Eddie to check in-house in Chocolate Bayou. Mike Pelton to contact reformer process engineer experience at LB. Mike will also contact catalyst supplier.
6.00	Convection Cleaning with auto equipment	Dan Barnett	S/C watched tube tech video and saw the merits of application. Dan Barnett will request copy of their presentation.	Dan will Follow-up and invite Tube Tech to make a presentation.

Other items discussed.

1. Jorge Blanco has volunteered to the Session Chair for the 2015 Conference, as noted in the last meeting Muhammad Imran agreed to be the Co-chair.
2. Key Dates:
 - a. November 14 abstract uploaded
 - b. December 5 reject or accept papers
 - c. April 10 Confex closes to uploading extended abstracts
 - d. Conference takes place April 26 thru 30 in Austin, TX.

Meeting Adjourned. 10:50 am