

## Minutes of Meeting Maintenance & Reliability Subcommittee of the Ethylene Producers Committee

**DATE:** June 30, 2016

**LOCATION:** Neches River Wheelhouse, Port Neches, TX

**Minutes written by:** Dane DeRouen

### MEMBERS ATTENDING:

| In Person                  | By Phone |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Jorge Blanco, ARVOS        | N/A      |
| Dane DeRouen, BASF         |          |
| David Harrison, Eastman    |          |
| Shailendra Inamdar, Linde  |          |
| Alex Michinel, Indorama    |          |
| Dave Sankey, BASF          |          |
| Keith Wade, Zeeco          |          |
| John Weikel, BASF          |          |
| Guest: Sanjeev Kapur, APEX |          |

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:15 pm.

### 1. AGENDA

- a. Welcome & introductions
- b. Read anti-trust statement
- c. Review agenda
- d. Read and approve previous meeting minutes
- e. Update subcommittee membership
- f. Elect New Officers
- g. Review of 2016 EPC session, critique sheets & lessons learned
- h. Topics & themes for 2017 EPC session – brainstorming
- i. Discuss satellite meeting concept
- j. Schedule next meetings
- k. Adjourn

### 2. PROCEEDINGS

- a. Dane started the meeting with welcoming remarks, reading of the anti-trust statement, and review of the Meeting Agenda.
- b. The minutes of the March 17, 2016 meeting were reviewed and approved with no changes.

- c. The group reviewed the latest membership list.
- Jim McCarter from Flint Hills Resources (FHR) has left the subcommittee. Keith Wade said he will contact FHR seeking a replacement on the subcommittee.
  - John Weikel from BASF-Port Arthur has been added to the membership list.
  - Alex Michinel of Indorama, Westlake, LA, is new to the committee and will be added to the membership list.
  - It was suggested that Jorge Blanco contact Nova Chem for a new member to replace Dave Oulton, who retired.
- d. Election of new officers:
- Dane DeRouen agreed to serve as chairman one more year. It was noted that the goal is to have a 2-year rotation of this position, so this will be Dane's second year.
  - David Harrison expressed interest in vice chairman but needs to clear it with his management first. Jorge Blanco currently holds this position.
  - No one volunteered to be session chair (called Program Director in the subcommittee bylaws), but Dave Sankey said he would consider co-chair for the session, pending his manager's approval.
  - Shailendra Inamdar offered support as-needed for any unfilled position.
  - Efforts to fill open positions will continue via email and into the next meeting as required.
  - Paul Van Helmond will continue as the subcommittee Director, as defined by the bylaws, as the liaison to the main EPC committee.
- e. The 2016 EPC session was briefly discussed and critique sheets were available for review. Ideas for 2017 paper topics were discussed. It was decided to defer "lessons learned" from the 2016 session until the next meeting. This will be of particular interest for the in-coming session chair and co-chair.
- Only two comments were made in the critique sheets regarding future paper topics, with one having potential, which was industry reliability trends. Solomon's Al Poling made a presentation in 2013 on Reliability and Maintenance metrics. It should be considered whether an update on this topic, or something similar from Solomon, be appropriate for 2017. This topic will be added to this list for further discussion and development, with possible contact to Solomon.
  - One hold-over topic from last year discussed was the one from Michael Gyorffy of Kubota on the aged properties of their ANK400 anti-coking tube technology, but the group was also interested in the aluminum-containing alloys and how to weld them.
  - Possible environmental topics were brought up as well as the idea of a cooperative effort with the Environmental Subcommittee chaired by Walter Postula from Shell.

- Another topic/theme proposed was the impact on shale gas related feedstocks (light, gas feeds) on maintenance and reliability (M&R).
  - Sanjeev proposed that this question be posed to the subcommittee members and their respective M&R organizations to generate ideas for the session papers: What three things keep you up at night? i.e., what are the major items that concern M&R personnel in the ethylene plant? Specifics are to be encouraged. He also discussed the concept of how design choices and operating windows impact reliability. Dane said he would pose this question via email and forward responses to Sanjeev.
  - Shail suggested the topic of severe weather preparedness for hurricanes, snow storms, etc. One consideration could be whether or not design specifications adequately address this topic for new plants. What should such specifications cover? Case studies could be presented to demonstrate the importance of preparedness for plant reliability.
  - I&E reliability was brought up also, but there is a Process Controls subcommittee where such topics may be handled. This subject will be discussed further to see if there are anything of interest develops.
  - *Refer to the spreadsheet "2017 Maintenance & Reliability Session Topics 2016-07-08" for the brainstorming list of possible paper topics.*
- f. The concept of satellite meetings was discussed whereby subcommittee members in geographic regions would meet at host sites in their areas and call in to the main meeting site. This idea was proposed as a way of fostering face-to-face meetings among subcommittee members when it is not practical to travel long distance to the main meeting site. The group present was in favor of the concept, however implementation will require volunteers to host the satellite meetings.
- g. The next meeting was set for Wednesday, August 10. Alex Michinel tentatively offered to host at his site in Westlake, LA and will confirm. The alternate location is BASF-TOTAL Port Arthur.

Meeting adjourned about 8:00 pm