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**Industrial Gases Council (IGC)
Johan Ringhofer, 2012-2013 Chairman**

It is a pleasure for me to report on the activities of the Industrial Gases Council. As this is my first year as Chairman please allow me to introduce myself. Born in Austria I studied Mechanical Engineering in Mödling near Vienna. After three years as a Sales Engineer for food processing plants I joined Messer Austria’s Application Engineering Department in 1979 and assumed the leadership of the Technical Department in Austria in 1989. I was deeply involved in Messer’s expansion into the South Eastern European countries from the Czech Republic down to the Balkan States. In 1993 I was appointed as Technical Manager of Messer’s first joint venture in Hungary and after being promoted to General Manager of Messer Hungarogaz I also became the Regional Manager for South Eastern Europe. As a founder member and chairman of the Hungarian Industrial Gas Association I had the honour to host the EIGA Summer Session 2004 in Budapest. In 2009 I changed to my current position on Messer Group’s Management Board as Executive Vice President for Engineering and Production and also became Messer’s representative on the IGC.

In the past half year the Working Groups have continued to follow important legislative, technical and safety issues raised both by members of EIGA and by the other Regional Associations in the context of international harmonization. Exerting timely and professional influence at an early stage of new regulations helps our industry to keep any burden arising to a reasonable level. With a comprehensive and targetoriented work programme the Working Groups and Ad Hoc Groups have dealt with a great number of topics, resulting in many publications published or progressed in the last six months. Further details on the WG’s work can be read in this EIGAZette and the publications can be downloaded from the EIGA website.

IGC held two face to face meetings; one in the course of the Summer Session in Portugal and the second in the EIGA Office in Brussels in October 2011. During these meetings the current topics and pending issues were reviewed in detail and discussed and decisions were taken in order to shape a unique position for our industry on technical and safety standards as well as on existing and up-coming legislation.

In the October meeting the IGC continued its discussions on a special topic – the WG structure, the role and mission of the IGC and its relationship with EIGA’s other Councils. During these considerations we discussed not only the optimal structure for WGs and their missions, but also the organisation, distribution and responsibilities of the four Councils. There are quite concrete suggestions on the distribution of responsibilities and work between IGC and SAC: IGC should handle all technical and operational matters along the product lines (ASU, Compressed Gases, CO2, HYCO, ACE etc.) whilst SAC should lead several safety groups aligned by functional discipline (worker safety, process safety, product safety etc.). The role and integration of the MGC and the REC in this concept remains to be discussed further and agreed between the Councils. IGC will propose to the Board of Directors to work in more detail on this new orientation of the Councils and will set up an Ad Hoc Group to elaborate the final and detailed concept.

A further milestone in the International Harmonisation Process was reached during the IHC meeting in August. An agreement for allocation of costs for the automation of harmonisation project tracking and reporting of international harmonisation projects and administrative support to international harmonisation was signed by AIGA, CGA and EIGA. JIMGA will also join the agreement, which will support and facilitate the harmonisation process and management of the increasing number of harmonised publications.

The 2012 Workshop Organising Committee (WOC), headed by Michael Wilson, completed the organisation of the EIGA Winter Session 2012 programme with the final rehearsal of the presentations in Brussels.



I am convinced that the participants at the Winter Session 2012 will benefit from the expertise, know-how and experience of the internal and external expert speakers. You can find further information on this event in Michael's SAC report. Finally, I want to reflect on the work of our technical experts, who have contributed significant personal time to their work within the different Working Groups in addition to their jobs. It is their dedication and commitment to their work at EIGA which has delivered the achievements that take our industry forward in terms of safe and responsible operations. I thank all of them for their efforts and look forward to their continued contribution to EIGA's work. An additional key goal of this work will be to achieve effective knowledge transfer to the next generation in our member companies. We have to encourage our younger colleagues to participate in the Working Groups.

Last but not least I want to thank my predecessor Mark Begg for his outstanding work as IGC Chairman and the important results achieved by him. It will be a huge task for me to contribute as greatly to EIGA's work. Therefore I do hope he will in future be available and ready to assist at EIGA. At the same time I welcome the IGC Vice Chairman, Christoph Herrmann from the Linde Group and look forward to a successful cooperation.

Details from the IGC chairman: Mr Johan Ringhofer at Messer Group GmbH (Germany) Tel.: +49.2151.7811.411 Fax: +49.2151.7811.511 E-mail: johann.ringhofer@messergroup.com

Medical Gases Council (MGC) Carlos Sainz, 2011 Chairman

I must begin this second report in a way that no one would like to, and that is by regretfully informing you of the loss of one of our Medical Gas Council (MGC) members: a professional colleague and, above all, an extraordinary person. Marcus Lindroos died on 26 August following a fatal accident in the archipelago of Turku, Finland. As Chairman of MGC, and on behalf of all Council members, I wish to send our deepest condolences to his family and colleagues at AGA.

Following several months of preparation, the EIGA Workshop 2012 is here. The stream dedicated to Healthcare will cover topics such as Safe Delivery and Use of Medical Oxygen (clinical and user safety perspective); Management of Risk (training and assessment in the hospital and at home); Safe Methods of Supplying Oxygen and Transport of Oxygen.

Activity in WG-7 over the past months has focused primarily on drafting different position papers related to the *Qualified Person* (QP) role during the medical gas manufacturing process and the *Manufacturing of Medical Gases on Hospital Sites*. MGC has authorised the creation of an Ad Hoc Group (AHG) which will be responsible for drafting a position paper, on the subject of the QPs, and supporting publications highlighting the duties of these individuals during the manufacturing processes, QP qualifications and their role in good distribution practices. For the issue of onsite manufacture, the technical and communication duties have been separated with WG-7 focusing more on the technical issues and a new AHG to focus on communications and promotion of the issues and EIGA's position.

Mercedes Franco of Air Products has taken over the chair of WG-10 from Jan Strybol and its members are continuing with the promotion of the Good Homecare Practice awareness packages and publications in a number of national associations. They are also drafting a Technical Bulletin (TB) on *Handling and Cleaning of Soiled Medical Packages*. I would also like to welcome the new members of WG-10: Antonio Lima (Air Liquide) and Gernot Messics (Messer), who are replacing Ludovic Lefevre and Nick de Corte, respectively.

For more details please contact the MGC chairman (2012): Mr Matthias Thiele at Messer Group GmbH (Germany) Tel.: +49.6196.7760.175 Fax: +49.6196.7760.290 E-mail: matthias.thiele@messergroup.com

Regulatory Environment Council (REC) Olivier Imbault, 2011-2012 Chairman

In 2011, the priority of the Regulatory Environment Council was to complete the advocacy work on the post-2012 Emission Trading Scheme regulations. A few other upcoming directives and regulations were addressed by REC, such as the Energy Taxation Directive, the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Proposed Revision to the Seveso III Directive.

REC has secured the principle of equal treatment for externalized Hydrogen/HyCO production (Allocation Rules were adopted in April and associated guidelines have been published); prevented any possible distortion and abuse in the carbon dioxide merchant market (Monitoring and Reporting rules were adopted in December 2011) and launched a strong advocacy campaign requesting equal treatment on financial compensation for externalised Air Separation Units.

By the end of January 2012 (depending on the country), all Hydrogen and HyCO installations of the Industrial Gases sector should have certified and communicated their emission data to their respective national authorities according to methods compliant with the EU allocation rules and validated by each member state. The definitive allocation of free allowances by installation will only be known by mid 2012, after the calculation of the European correction factor. This factor will balance the requests of allowances with the global cap.

On State Aid for indirect emissions, REC met with officials from DG Competition, the Directorate responsible for drafting the guidelines in July. The risk of potential distortion between in-sourced and out-sourced ASUs was clearly understood by DG Competition. However, the draft guidelines circulating within the European commission has not yet taken into account the EIGA view. As I mentioned in EIGA Zette #38, the ETS directive provides that Member States may adopt financial measures in favour of the exposed industrial sectors in order to compensate any increase of electricity cost by power companies to recover the cost of carbon dioxide emission allowances but that the commission should publish guidelines to restrict State Aid. Thus, the commission and the Member States are both instrumental in the final decision.

Consequently, REC has implemented a joint advocacy approach with the National Associations (NAs) to work as a team to convince the European Commission and the Member States that externalised air gas production should be compensated the same as internalised production. To provide awareness and support for the NAs, REC has developed advocacy and communication packages and has supplemented this with net-meetings on the topic. The goal was to send the same EIGA message to all of the Member States. The first results of this common advocacy plan are positive. UK, France, Germany, and other Member States are now supporting the EIGA view. We hope the Commission will amend the guidelines (decision is due end of 2011 or early 2012) and, if not, that the Member States will take into account the principle of equality of treatment in their state aids.

For more information, contact Mr Olivier Imbault, REC chairman, at Air Liquide (France) Tel: +33.1.40.62.58.65 Fax: +33.1.40.62.56.43 E-mail: olivier.imbault@airliquide.com

Safety Advisory Council (SAC) Michael Wilson, 2012-2013 Chairman and 2012 Workshop Chairman

It is my pleasure to make my first report as Chairman of the Safety Advisory Council (SAC). The report contains information on many positive developments in safety for EIGA. However, consistent with most safety reports, I must also report on our continued dissatisfaction with the industry's safety performance.

Firstly, on behalf of all members of the SAC, I thank Hartmut Öhmen for his leadership of our group over the last two years and for steering us through the transition from Working Group (WG) to Council as part of the recent changes to the EIGA statutes.

A number of publications have been generated by SAC to provide technical and safety guidance for our members and other stakeholders. These include a number of Training Packages (for EIGA members only) on Recent Incidents in the Industrial and Medical Gases and Safety Information on the use of Cryogenic Nitrogen in Molecular Cooking and the Operation of Transportable Vacuum Insulated Containers for Industrial and Medical Gases.

Many of these publications are informed by lessons learnt from recent accidents and we trust these publications continue to support further improvement in our industry's safety performance. In particular I would like to highlight our work on the human factors behind our safety incidents – this is a fast developing area of safety management and it is essential we further understand this in the context of our industry.

This report has been written on the eve of our Workshop 2012 on Oxygen Safety. The organising committee have worked hard to put together an innovative and relevant workshop programme. We are running a training course on "Safety of Oxygen Systems" immediately prior to the workshop which has been developed and is being delivered by three of our most respected industry experts. Importantly, we are developing the course material in a format that will allow EIGA and its members to repeat this essential training on a regular basis for those in industry who would benefit. An innovation for EIGA is the format of the workshop. The opening plenary sessions will be followed by three parallel streams – Large Plants, Cylinder Plants and Healthcare – with presentations tailored to those areas of interest. We are confident this format will deliver a more focussed programme for the benefit of participants. The fact that the event was 'sold-out' in record time suggests we have chosen the right topic and format!

Our accident performance provides reason to celebrate and commiserate. The number (138) and rate (1.79 per million hours worked) of Lost Time Injuries (LTI) in the four quarters to the end of September indicates that our member companies have worked hard to recover and improve from the disappointing results of 2010 and the quarterly trend suggests the full year result for 2011 may be better than the previous record in 2009. I hope to confirm this to you when we produce our annual report in the new year.

While we appreciate the improvement we must remember each of these accidents involved one of our employees being injured and hence each and every event is unacceptable. It is with much sadness that I report that two of our colleagues received fatal injuries in carrying out their work in 2011. We express our sincere condolences to their families. Each of these tragedies reminds us of the importance of EIGA's work and provides a further impetus to our efforts to support further improvements in safety.

I look forward to working with my industry peers in SAC over the next two years – I regard it a privilege to work alongside hard-working and dedicated professionals who all share a common goal to eliminate accidents from our industry.

For more information, contact Mr Michael Wilson, SAC chairman, at The Linde Group (UK) Tel: +44.1483.244.772 Fax: +44.1483.452.859 E-mail: michael.wilson@boc.com

Revision of EIGA Statutes and Internal Rules

At the AGM in Cascais on June 4, 2011, Members approved an amendment to the EIGA Internal Rules to remove the limit on the number of times the Cat 2/3 Representatives on SAC can be re-elected. Previously the SAC representatives could only be re-elected for one consecutive term, i.e. they could only serve 4 years in total and then had to stand down from the Council. SAC is now completely in line with the other Councils. The Cat. 2/3 representatives will still need to be re-nominated and re-elected every two years.

EIGA Council Member Changes

The start of 2012 will see a number of changes in the membership of our Councils.

For IGC: Johann Ringhofer of the Messer Group becomes IGC Chairman and Christoph Herrmann becomes Vice Chairman. Kalevi Korjala of Oy Woikoski and Colin Trundle of Yara were elected to be the new Cat2/3 Representatives on IGC for 2012/2013. Luciano Salvador, SOL and Terje Jørgensen, Yara leave IGC, both having served on IGC continuously since March 1998. Our sincere thanks go to them for their support of EIGA over these years.

For MGC: Carlos Sainz de los Terreros of Praxair is stepping down as MGC Chairman and will be succeeded by Matthias Thiele of Messer. The next Vice Chairman of MGC, Alain Combier, will be proposed to the Board in January. Dr Heinz Hoffmeyer of Westfalen and Stefania Mariani of SOL were elected to be the new Cat2/3 Representatives on MGC for 2012/2013. Guido Matucci of SOL leaves MGC.

For SAC: Mike Wilson of the Linde Group becomes SAC Chairman and Danilo Ritlop of the Messer Group becomes Vice Chairman. Vincenzo Camparada, SOL, Gulay Kutur, Linde Gaz Turkey and Alan Ross, Yara were elected to be the new Cat2/3 Representatives on SAC for 2012/2013. Oliver Bogdan of the Linde Group leaves SAC. Hartmut Öhmen will be replaced by Bernard Jumeau as the Air Liquide representative on SAC.

For REC: Filippo Annoni of SOL replaced Daniele Valtolina of SOL as Cat2/3 Representative. Colin Trundle will step down as Cat 2/3 Representative to REC, his replacement is to be advised. There will be an election for the Cat 2/3 Representatives for REC at the end of 2012.

Working Group Meetings

In 2011, EIGA Councils, Working Groups, Ad-hoc Groups and Task forces held 176 meetings, similar to the number held in 2010. 43% of the 2011 meetings were Net meetings or teleconferences and EIGA continues to upgrade our facilities to improve the efficiency of these "virtual" meetings.

EIGA Staff Matters

There are no changes with regard to EIGA staff but we were very pleased to mark two 20 year "anniversaries" with EIGA in 2011. Isabelle Rondeau, our Publications and Conference Coordinator, joined EIGA on July 1st, 1991 as an Assistant to the General Secretary. Patricia Vanderplasschen, our Administrative and Conference Co-ordinator, joined EIGA on July 16th, 1991, also as an Assistant to the General Secretary.

Honorary Membership

At the AGM in Cascais on June 4, 2011, Members approved the Board of Directors nomination of Dr Roberto Sestini as an Honorary Member of EIGA, in recognition of the extraordinary longevity of his personal commitment to EIGA.

Associate Membership

Also at the AGM, the Middle East Gases Association (MEGA) was accepted as an Associate Regional Association. MEGA has thirteen members composed of both global and regional companies and has established a Technical Committee and four working groups on Safety, Cylinders, Transport and Environment.

EIGA Events

Summer Session 2011

The EIGA Summer Session 2011 was held from 2nd to 4th June 2011 in Cascais, Portugal and welcomed 96 delegates and their partners. The AGM included a number of special presentations. Mario Paterlini, CEO of the Sapio Group and Mike Huggon, The Linde Group's Regional Business Head for the UK and Africa, accepted the 2010 Environmental Awards. Mr Paterlini accepted the award on behalf of Sapio Produzione Idrogeno Ossigeno in Italy for their 'Soilution' project and Mr Huggon accepted the award on behalf of BOC Gases Ltd Morden, UK for their site environmental team's 'Rising to the Challenge' project. Further details of the Environmental Awards have been published in EIGA's Environmental Newsletter ENL 24. The Working Group Award 2010 was presented to Joachim Eiselt, of Air Liquide, and the Chairman of WG-9 (Classification, Labelling and Safety Data Sheets) who provided the AGM with a review of the group's work.

The winner of the 2010 Peter Jackson Award was Messer Italia, and Gennaro Parasileno summarised the safety initiatives that have been implemented by Messer Italia.

Full details of these presentations can be found in the AGM Minutes in Bulletin N° 41 on the Members Area of the EIGA website.

National Associations

The EIGA office's engagement with our National Industrial Gases Associations continues. As well as the annual National Associations meeting held in April 2012 and reported in EIGAZette 38, EIGA staff have attended a number of regional and national meetings. A Net meeting was held in conjunction with REC and the National Associations to support the industry position on Indirect Compensation under the European Union Emissions Trading System (EIGA Position Paper PP-35). Two further web meetings were held to discuss issues that have been raised on the National Associations Website Forum that was started in 2011.

International Harmonisation Council

We continue to work very closely with our colleagues in AIGA, CGA and JIMGA on harmonisation projects. The IHC met in Baltimore in August and approved the current process for assessing, selecting and creating harmonised documents. In 2011 a total of nine harmonisation projects were closed, i.e. all the associations have published their version of the same document. This brought the total number of projects closed in total to 35, out of a total of 69 publication projects that the IHC has supervised to date or that are still in preparation.

For your diaries:

EIGA National Associations' Meeting, 25th and 26th April 2012, Munich

EIGA Summer Session 2012, 31st May to 2nd June 2012, Portoroz, Slovenia

EIGA Symposium 2013, January 30th and 31st, 2013, Brussels "Safety and the Environment, Past, Present and Future"

E-mail EIGA office: info@eiga.eu

Publications

Please visit www.eiga.eu to download the following publications (new since the last issue of the EIGAZette):

IGC-MGC-SAC-REC Documents

- Doc 30:** Disposal of gases (WG-4)
- Doc 94:** Environmental Impacts of Air Separation Units (WG-5)
- Doc 100:** Hydrogen Cylinders and Transport Vessels (WG-2)
- Doc 109:** Environmental Impacts of Acetylene Plants (WG-5)
- Doc 113:** Environmental Impacts of Transportation of Gases (WG-5)
- Doc 117:** Environmental Impacts of Customer Installations (WG-5)
- Doc 122:** Environmental Impacts of Hydrogen Plants (WG-5)
- Doc 125:** Guide to the Supply of Gases for Use in Foods (WG-8)
- Doc 126:** Minimum Specifications for Food Gas Applications (WG-8)
- Doc 130:** Principles for the Safe Handling and Distribution of Highly Toxic Gases and Mixtures (WG-4)
- Doc 152:** Comparison of European, US & Japanese Pharmacopoeia Monographs for Medicinal Gases (WG-7)
- Doc 168:** Calculation Method for Analysis and Prevention of Overpressure during Refilling of Cryogenic Tanks with Rupture Disks (WG-6)
- Doc 169:** Classification, and Labelling Guide in accordance with EC Regulation 1272/2008 (CLP Regulation) (WG-9)

EIGA Office Publications (for EIGA members only)

- EIGA 919:** Guidelines for the Preparation of Safety Data Sheets (WG-9)
- EIGA 920:** Guidance for Qualifying Customers Purchasing Compressed Gases (WG-13)

Position Papers

- PP-35:** EU ETS Indirect Compensation Consultation (REC)
- PP-36:** Monitoring and Reporting of Greenhouse Gases - Integration of EIGA opinion on CO₂ transfer into new Regulation (REC)
- PP-37:** Certification by a Qualified Person and Batch Release (MGC / AHG M-2)
- PP-38:** Manufacturing of Medicinal Gases on Hospital Sites (WG-7)

Training Packages (for EIGA members only)

- TP 25:** Recent Incidents in the Industrial and Medical Gases Industry - SAC 126 (SAC)
- TP 26:** Recent Incidents in the Industrial and Medical Gases Industry - SAC 127 (SAC)

Safety Information

- Info 26:** Cryogenic Nitrogen in Molecular Cooking (SAC)
- Info 27:** Operation of Transportable Vacuum Insulated Containers for Industrial and Medical Gases (SAC)

Safety Alerts (for EIGA members only)

- SA 17:** Serious Incident - Upper Part of Valve broken and ejected on a Cryogenic Tank at a Customer Site (SAC)
- SA 18:** Increase in Thefts of Metal and Diesel from Gas Industry Sites (WG-13)

Environmental Newsletter

- ENL 24:** Environmental Awards 2010 (WG-5)

Technical Bulletin

- TB 1:** Impact of the Industrial Emissions Directive (WG-5)

Briefing Note (for EIGA members only)

- BN 12:** Use of Carbon Monoxide (CO) and Gas Mixtures with CO for the Treatment of Meat and Fish (WG-8)

Working Group News

Transport (WG-1)

Multilateral agreement (MLA) M237 has come into force. This allows DOT cylinders to be transported after intermediate storage to a final destination thus removing the requirement to transport DOT cylinders directly from the port of entry to the end user. This is the third time that EIGA has obtained the agreement of the Competent Authorities (CA) to allow this practice to continue; usually an MLA is only renewed once.

The Competent Authorities have strongly indicated that they are unlikely to agree to another MLA on this subject after the current one expires on 1st June 2016, as there are now compliant cylinders available for these products. EIGA has attempted to seek a permanent solution within ADR, but so far this has not been successful, as it will involve the mutual recognition of TPED cylinders in the United States and of DOT cylinders within the ADR countries. The current MLA 237 only applies to DOT cylinders manufactured prior to January 2011.

Even though MLA 237 has been signed for a five year period, any Competent Authority may withdraw from the MLA at any time, and EIGA is convinced that this MLA will be withdrawn on or before 1st June 2016 therefore members should consider what impact this would have on their logistics and supply chain for DOT cylinders. A briefing note will be issued shortly by EIGA further explaining the situation.

ADR 2013

This will include the requirement for a periodic inspection, in P203, for closed cryogenic receptacles, in line with the requirement in the UN Model Regulations. The requirement for a periodic inspection existed prior to ADR 2011 and it will be reinstated in ADR 2013.

Periodic Inspection

The periodic inspection and test frequencies of pressure relief valves in accordance with 6.2.1.6.3 shall not exceed five years.

It is recognised that there are also issues with other parts of the ADR text concerning the requirements for periodic inspection these will require alignment and clarification and WG-1 will propose some suitably modified text.

ADR 2013 will also introduce the requirement to have the UN Number on a package a specified minimum size depending on the actual size of the package. This will have an impact on cylinder labels in particular and will require a transition period to allow the continued use of non conforming labels. EIGA will produce a briefing note to explain this further.

For more information please contact Mr David Teasdale, Chair of WG-1 at BOC Gases (UK) - Tel: +44 1709 842 156 - Fax: +44 1709 828 939 E-mail: david.teasdale@boc.com

Gas Cylinders and Pressure Vessels (WG-2)

General:

There is an increasing tendency that the gases industry, European and International standardisation groups and other parties would like to have EIGA positions on a number of cylinder and valve related items. WG-2 is covering this development by using the new tool of "Technical Bulletins". Reviews of existing documents do occupy a significant amount of time of the working group, and methods to optimise this process within WG-2 are being considered.

Progress with Publications

WG-2 have prepared a full revision of Safety information 16 and this has been sent to SAC for publication.

The following revised documents will be published shortly:

- Doc 124, *300 bar high strength seamless steel gas cylinder*
- Doc 36, *Catalogue of control marks on cylinders*
- Doc 61, *Safe use of gas cylinders in Marine service*
- TB new, *Lifetime of pre 1930 steel cylinders*
- TB new, *ASTM 175 test for Valve with Integrated Pressure Regulation*
- TB new, *Recommended method for the determination of Hydrocarbons in gas cylinders*
- TB new, *Use of Copper Beryllium Alloy for medical devices*

Future activities

There have been a number of requests for EIGA's interpretation of regulation(s) such as the handling of cylinders out of retest period at customer sites. WG-2 is in the process of producing guidance on these matters.

For more information, contact Dr Wolfgang Dörner, Chair of WG-2, at The Linde Group, (Germany) Tel: +49 89 7446 1304 Fax: +49 89 7446 2071 E-Mail: wolfgang.doerner@linde-gas.com

Process & Process Equipment (WG-3)

In the second half of 2011, WG-3 held three other meetings: two web meetings on June and July and on October a face-to-face meeting in Florida in connection with the annual Safety and Reliability of Industrial Gases, Equipments and Facilities Seminar organized by the Compressed Gas Association. The CGA Safety Seminar is a good occasion to meet colleagues from other companies and to learn from their experience in the operation of gas plants. At the end of the Seminar a joint meeting was held with the CGA Atmospheric Gas and Equipment Committee (AGEC) to coordinate the efforts for the harmonization process.

EIGA Publications

WG-3 has completed the first step for the revision of the EIGA documents Doc 65, *Safe Operation of Reboiler/Condenser in Air Separation Units*; Doc 144, *Safe Operation of Aluminium Packings for Oxygen Distillation* and Doc 147, *Safe Practices Guide for Air Separation Plant* by entering the proposed modifications in the CGA website. These three important documents are globally harmonized and the finalization of their revision will be managed by a Joint Working Groups with other IHC Associations.

During the joint meeting with AGECE in Tampa the revision of the harmonized publication Doc 146, *Perlite Management* has been finalized.

In 2012, WG-3 will start the procedure for revising the globally harmonized publication Doc 148, *Installation Guide for Centrifugal LOX Pumps* and Doc 132, *Unmanned Air Gas Plants* and to harmonize CGA P-31, *Tanker Loading Guide* that will be therefore added in the EIGA library.

For more information, contact Mr Andrea Mariotti, Chair of WG-3, at SOL SpA (Italy) - Tel: + 39.039.2396.361 Fax : +39.039.2396.377- E-mail: a.mariotti@sol.it

Special Gases (WG-4)

International harmonisation:

WG-4 continues to work on the development of internationally harmonised documents with members of the AIGA, CGA, and JIMGA.

A document currently undergoing harmonisation is the revised EIGA document Doc 30, *Disposal of Gases* which includes an additional method of disposal for ethylene oxide, specifically the absorption of ethylene oxide in a counter-flow scrubber and the subsequent hydration to ethylene glycol. The working group is currently reviewing the extensive comments received from AIGA

and CGA via a series of net-meetings prior to arranging a joint AIGA/CGA/EIGA net-meeting to address outstanding issues.

WG-4 is also developing an EIGA version of the AIGA/JIMGA developed code of practice *Safe Handling of Electronic Specialty Gases*. EIGA comments on the document have been sent to AIGA/JIMGA and it is envisaged that a joint net-meeting will be arranged to finalise a harmonised version of the document.

Comments from CGA have also been received on the EIGA document *The Safe Preparation of Gas Mixtures*. The working group will undertake a full review of the current document and the comments received prior to arranging a joint meeting with CGA.

Publications and revisions

EIGA document Doc 139, *Safe Preparation of Compressed Oxidant-Fuel Gas Mixtures in Cylinders* requires a minor update to take account of changes detailed in ISO 10156: 2010 *Gases and Gas Mixtures – Determination of Fire Potential and Oxidising Ability for the Selection of Cylinder Valve Outlets* following correspondence with BAM. The revision will be agreed at the next WG-4 meeting.

New work items

The working group are currently developing plans for two new documents. *Safety Distances from Toxic Gas Transportable Receptacle Installations*: this will detail the requirements for gas companies and their customers with respect to defined safety distances for the storage and use of toxic gas transportable receptacles in order to protect the surroundings from accidental gas releases, involving the risks from toxicity and from thermal radiation and overpressure if the toxic gas is flammable. This work item, with an EIGA lead, will enable the preparation of a globally harmonised document.

The second proposal is *Transfilling of Toxic Liquefied Gases*. The objective is to create a globally harmonised document, with an EIGA lead, providing guidelines for the safe filling and withdrawal of toxic liquefied gases under pressure from transportable receptacles at gas company and customer sites.

International Standardisation – ISO Standards

ISO TC58 Working Group 7 has initiated a new work item on the 'properties of gases'; representatives from EIGA WG-4 will attend the first meeting to be held at AFNOR, Paris in January 2012.

For more information, contact Mr Kevin Cleaver, Chair of WG-4, at BOC Gases (UK) Tel: + 44.1483.244.308 Fax+ 44.1483.45.07.41 E-mail: kevin.cleaver@boc.com

Environment (WG-5)

Environmental Incidents

Prevention of environmental incidents is of increasing importance to EIGA members. Although we are a clean industry relative to some there are still simple steps we can take to eliminate these incidents and guard against the possible consequences.

EIGA member companies should have a system of reporting environmental incidents within their own companies, according to the guidelines set out in Environmental Newsletter ENL 08. In addition all incidents should be investigated and corrective actions put in place so as to have continual improvement as part of a good environmental management system. Any environmental incidents that are relevant to Gas Company activities should be reported though to EIGA/SAC so that lessons can be learnt for the whole industry.

Legislation

EIGA is still working to correct recent opinion by the Commissions Packaging Committee that cylinders are packaging as defined in the Packaging Directive (96/62) (Reference EIGA PP 19).

The Commission has now revised the *Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive* which is now called the *Industrial Emissions Directive IED (Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control) (Recast))*. IED does not apply to air gas and packaged gases filling plant. WG-5 will shortly publish a Technical Bulletin on the changes.

Documents in progress

WG-5 is revising Doc112, *Environmental Impact of Nitrous Oxide Plant* and the publications on *Environmental Auditing* (Doc135) and *Decommissioning* (Doc 137).

WG-5 is drafting a document on the impacts of smaller hydrogen plants to get a simpler permitting process under the IED (IPPC) Directive following 'generally binding rules'.

New Documents ready for publication

Environmental newsletters on Noise, Waste, and Energy are ready for publication.

New documents published

A new document on a common/harmonised methodology for *Product Carbon Footprinting* (Doc 167) has been published.

WG-5 has also published a document on the *Management of Waste Composite Cylinders* (Doc 166).

If you need any more information, or would like to make any comments, please contact your WG-5 representative, the WG-5 Chairman or the EIGA office. WG-5 typically meets 3-4 times per year and has reduced our carbon footprint by adopting the virtual meeting guidelines.

For more information, contact Mr Stephen Bradley, Chair of WG-5, at Air Products Plc (UK). / Tel: + 44 1932 249 992 Fax: + 44 1932 258 529 E-mail: bradlesc@airproducts.com

Cryogenic Vessel Standards (WG-6)

EIGA WG-6 prepared a document on *Positive Displacement HP Cryogenic Pumps*. This document has been proposed for global harmonization and the final comments are under discussion.

The harmonized document *Calculation for the Prevention of Overfilling of Cryogenic tanks* has now been published.

EIGA WG-6 is revising Doc 07 concerning the metering of cryogenic liquids and is considering the corresponding EU Directive which is being implemented. This document is expected to be completed for June 2012.

Finally, EIGA WG-6 is revising Doc 115, *Storage of Cryogenic Air Gases at Users' Premises*.

ISO Standards

The ISO Technical Committee formed to develop cryogenic vessel standards has now completed all the necessary standards. Standards which are available are the ones concerning materials, operational requirements and the design standards for small and large transportable vessels. This ISO Technical Committee is very important to EIGA members, as the growing emphasis on developing national legislation is based upon the UN Model Regulations, in creating global standards for our industry for use in both transport and static storages. The next meetings of this ISO TC and the corresponding WGs will take place in June 2012. The main difficulty at this stage is to open the revision of the existing ISO standards formally which requires active participation from experts of at least five different countries.

CEN Standards

The next CEN TC268 meeting will take place during the same week of the ISO/TC 220 meeting. The main discussions will be on the follow-up of the Safety Alert SA-15, *Recommendations for the Prevention of Brittle Failure of the Outer Jacket of Vacuum Insulated Cryogenic Storage Tanks*.

As much participation from EIGA members is encouraged in these important ISO and CEN standardisation committees.

For more information, contact Mr Hervé Barthélémy, chair of WG-6, at Air Liquide (France) Tel: +33 1 40 62 55 01 Fax +33 1 40 62 57 95 E-Mail hervé.barthelemy@airliquide.com

Medicinal Gases (WG-7)

On site manufacturing of medicinal gases:

The European Directive on Medicinal Products for Human Use, (2001/83 EC) requires manufacturers and suppliers of medicinal products to conform to requirements established to ensure patient safety.

This Directive, which requires medicinal products to be manufactured under Good Manufacturing Practice, (GMP) and supplied under a Marketing Authorisation (MA), only applies to medicinal products that are 'placed on the market'. However, medicinal products manufactured by the hospital 'on-site' and used solely by the hospital, are not covered by the European legislation.

Some medicinal gases like oxygen 93% and medical air are manufactured on hospital sites and distributed to patients via a medical gas pipeline system but these are not covered by the present European legislation. It is considered that this could lead to hospital patients being exposed to higher risks due to the difference in the quality control requirements for on-site manufacture and licenced product.

To address these potential issues EIGA proposes that a regulation is developed to ensure GMP principles are also followed for on-site manufacture of medicinal gases for distribution by a hospital pipeline system to ensure that patients' safety is not jeopardised.

Qualified Person:

An Ad Hoc Group has been established in order to work on the critical subject on Qualified Person for the release of the medicinal gases at the manufacturing site.

For more information, contact Mrs Stefania Mariani, Chair of WG-7, at SOL SpA (Italy) Tel: +39.039.239.63.90 Fax: +39.039.239.63.71 e-mail: s.mariani@sol.it

Food Gases (WG-8)

A new chairman of WG-8 (Philippe Girardon, AL) was appointed in July 2011 to take over from Klaus Krininger. We would like to express our appreciation to Klaus for his leadership of WG-8 for the past three years.

European Directives and legislation news:

The proposed revision of the Seveso Directive suggested lowering the threshold level for carbon dioxide storage tanks. The proposal would have meant that any storage of above twenty tonnes would have become classified as a lower tier Seveso site. The proposal was rejected, but EIGA shall continue to monitor the work on the directive. EFSA (European Food Safety Association) contacted EIGA, asking for the re-evaluation of CO₂ (E290), and to submit an inventory of the available information. In the same time there is an on-going re-evaluation phase for the gases listed as food-additives, until 2018.

Documents being updated and to be published:

Carbon Monoxide in Modified Atmosphere Packaging of Meat and Fish has been discussed again by the WG-8 who prepared a Briefing Note that has now been published.

Updates to documents Doc 125, *Guide to the Supply of Food Gases for Use in Food* and Doc 126, *Minimum Specifications for Food Gas Applications* have been reviewed by WG-8 and have been published.

Microbiological Quality of Gases Technical Bulletin, after last minute modification, this is in the loop for approval again by WG-7 and WG-8 and will be sent for IGC and MGC for approval.

Works in progress:

The AHG 8.1 *On-Site Freezing and Chilling Cryogenic Installation* design draft will be distributed to WG-8 for comment shortly. The document will be checked for alignment with existing EIGA documents to ensure consistency.

The AHG 8.2 *Design and Operation of Generators for Food Gases* was delayed with no meeting during the last six months.

Other points:

A question was raised to EIGA about the possibility of dioxins in LIN. Following an investigation, calculations and evaluation by WG-8 it was demonstrated that this is not possible.

As the part of global harmonisation, WG-8 will be looking at developing a work item request for a globally harmonised document for best practices for carbon dioxide. This will include all aspects and will need detailed evaluation prior to submission for harmonisation.

For more information, contact Mr Philippe Girardon, Chair of WG-8, at Air Liquide (France) - Tel: +33.1.39.07.69.68 Fax+33.1.39.07.65.53 E-mail: Philippe.girardon@airliquide.com

Classification, Labelling, SDS (WG-9)

A corrigendum to the EIGA document Doc 169, *Classification and Labelling Guide*, was published in August 2011.

As expected, with REACH registrations, new substance data and SDS are available on the ECHA webpage and also via the safety data sheets (SDS) of suppliers. SDS are being constantly updated in the supply chains.

WG-9 are monitoring changes and will update the classification and labelling tables in the guide should new classification information become available. Additionally Doc 919, *Guidance on the Compilation of Safety Data Sheets*, will also be subject to revision as appropriate.

WG-9 in cooperation with AHG REACH continues to work on a harmonized structure of the extended safety data sheet (eSDS) and the content of the main SDS structure. The first available extended SDS for registered substances with exposure scenarios shows the various structure and content, which does not suggest a smooth harmonisation process.

LISAM

Next update for the EIGA GCM (Gas Classification Module LISAM) is expected for Q2 2012. It is planned to provide enhanced information in specific sections of the EIGA SDS following newly available safety recommendations for substances.

Completion and corrections especially regarding new languages are on-going. LISAM provides direct support in special cases for users to implement such corrections.

WG-9 has started work already on the next upgrade to LISAM, which shall be version 9.2.

Version 9.2 will provide an enriched phrases database and more detailed subheadings in specific sections.

The task of EIGA WG-9 is now to evaluate the new REACH information from the revised SDS received from various suppliers as well as new information provided by ECHA in a harmonized upgraded form into revised EIGA-SDSs.

The support of EIGA National associations will be requested again for the translation of the new EIGA phrases.

Regulations

The 3rd Adaption to Technical Progress, (ATP) to the CLP regulations, which is in draft, will not have effects regarding gases.

For more information, contact Mr Joachim Eiselt, Chair of WG-9, at Air Liquide Deutschland (Germany) - Tel.: +49.2151.379.9162 Fax: + 49.2151.379.9278 E-mail: joachim.eiselt@airliquide.com

Homecare (WG-10)

The work item in progress on handling and cleaning externally soiled medicinal gas has been completed and also reviewed by WG-2 and WG-7 and is awaiting approval prior to publication.

The existing document Doc 128, *Design and Operation of Vehicles Used in Medical Oxygen Homecare Deliveries* has been reviewed following a number of incidents involving vehicles used for home oxygen delivery. The purpose was to ensure that the potential causes of those incidents are sufficiently covered in the existing EIGA document.

The campaign on Good Homecare Practice continues to be presented to the national gas and homecare associations.

For more information, contact Mrs Mercedes Franco, Chair of WG-10, at Carbueros Metalicos (E) - Tel.: +34.91.657.95.06 Fax: +34.91.657.95.66 Email: francom2@airproducts.com

Hydrogen Energy (WG-11)

In 2011 significant progress has been made towards the development of the standards framework for hydrogen, with the release of three key draft international standards relative to hydrogen refueling infrastructure:

- hydrogen refuelling interface – ISO/DIS 17268
- hydrogen fuel quality – ISO/DIS 14687
- hydrogen refueling station safety and lay-out requirements – ISO/DIS 20100.

WG-11 members have, in particular, actively contributed to the development of the fueling station standard, by leading the work on the topics of safety distances and hydrogen dispensing.

The document detailing requirements for underground storage of hydrogen that WG-11 has been developing has been finalised for IGC approval prior to publication. This is an attractive solution for reducing the footprint of hydrogen fuelling stations. Furthermore, EIGA has contributed to the revision of CGA G-5.4 covering hydrogen piping at user location, a CGA led harmonization project.

For more information, contact Mr Frédéric Barth, Chairman of WG-11, at Air Liquide (F) - Tel.: +33.1.39.07.69.95 Fax: +33.1.39.07.62.64 Email: frederic.barth@airliquide.com

Acetylene (WG-12)

In the documents production area, the *Acetylene Code of Practice* (Doc 123) has been finished during 2011. Currently WG-12 is working on the Doc 26, *Permissible Charge/Filling Conditions for Acetylene Cylinders* and in the preparation of two Training Packages based on incidents involving acetylene, one focused on production plants and one on customer usage. These documents are planned to be issued in 2012.

WG-12 has been also working in the preparation of the workload for coming years based on the existing documents and a gap analysis to detect missing documents that may be required by the industry for several reasons (i.e. provide more specific information in some parts of the acetylene process or keep some valuable information available to avoid the possibility to be lost). As part of this process, several task forces are involved in the definition of the scope of new documents related to different aspects involved in acetylene handling as per example the calcium carbide handling or more detailed information about acetylene generators.

Following the feedback received from National Gas Associations and some findings in documents where the statements or the industry practices may have different approaches, we are trying to increase the participation in EN-ISO committees and being more proactive during the preparation phase of EN-ISO standards.

For more information, contact Mr Ramon Castella, Chair of WG-12, at Carbueros Metalicos, (Spain) -Tel.: +34.93.290.09.05 fax +34.93.290.26.09 - Email: castella.r@carbueros.com

Security (WG-13)

With the lack of European Union Security legislation specific to our activities WG-13 have been working to produce three documents that fill this void. These documents are titled: *Site Security, Transport Security* and *Customer Qualification*.

These documents are based on CGA documents that have been in place for a number of years and used successfully to increase the security of operational sites and transportation activities. The purpose of the third document is to reduce the possibility of certain products being supplied to customers who may allow them to be used for criminal purposes. The Customer Qualification document has recently been issued and the other two documents have been completed by the working group and are now moving through the approval process. It is anticipated these two documents should be published early in 2012.

WG-13 have continued to closely follow the European Commission work on Chemical, Biological, Nuclear and Radiological (C.B.R.N) Security to establish what the implications are likely to be for our Industry. This work has not yet reached a stage where any conclusion or meaningful advice can be given to EIGA members.

It has become apparent that the theft of metals (pipes, cables, etc) and diesel fuel from our sites has increased recently. WG-13 has produced a Security Alert SA 18/12, *Increase in Thefts of Metal and Diesel from Gas industry sites*, published early January 2012.

For more information, contact info@eiga.eu

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