

## Ethylene Producers' Committee Meeting Minutes – October 10<sup>th</sup> 2019

Following are the minutes of the October 10, 2019 meeting of the Ethylene Producers' Committee (EPC) held at the Double Tree Hotel in Houston, TX.

Minutes prepared by Richard Beleutz.

### 1. Attendance

Present – Rick Beleutz, , Bala Devakottai, Jeff Edwards, Jeff Elam, David Gent, Sanjeev Kapur, Aivars Kruminis, Ravi Lal, Jeff Nichols, Jennifer Port, Walter Postula, Richard Rolke, Mark Schmidt, and Micheal Smith

Not present – Jake Berret, Daryl Bitting, Toby Darbonne, Tom Pickett, Michael Tallman, Tim Zygula, and Mark Whitney

The updated EPC member contact list appears in **Attachment 1**.

*[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]*

### 2. Call To Order:

Richard Rolke called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Richard Beleutz 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 2**.

### 3. Five Minutes on Safety:

Sorry blanked out on this one (probably a good future safety moment). I know that the Agenda says Bala and he was not prepared. Thought that Jeff led a discussion around new-age engineers.

**Help???**

### 4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Rick Beleutz sent the “final” minutes of the Aug 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Richard Rolke made a motion to approve and Walter Postula seconded. All approved meeting minutes with amendments. See **Attachment 3** for the final minutes.

## 5. Treasurer’s Report:

Bala Devakottai presented the current EPC finances. The report is given in **Attachment 4**.

Observations;

- In error, the CD was closed and a cheque issued by the bank.
- Bank fees totaled over \$200 since June 1, 2019.

Action: Bala to investigate why the CD was closed and deposit the cheque into the chequing account.

Action: Bala to investigate the amount and origin of the bank fees being assessed.

## 6. Nominating Committee

Aviars Krumins led discussion for the Nominating Committee.

One new member was interviewed and recommended by the committee.

- Kyeong Jo “KJ” Han from LACC (LOTTE Corp and Westlake)

The EPC attending members voted unanimously in favor for KJ Han to join the EPC Main Committee.

Action was taken for Richard Rolke to send a welcome email with invitation to the next EPC meeting. Completed.

Further inquiry regarding EPC membership with for the following companies (and corresponding members responsible for follow-up) is on-going. Indorama (M. Tallman), Shintech (A. Krumins), Formosa (S. Kapur), Huntsman (S. Kapur) and Oxy (B. Devakottai).

See **Attachment 5** for KJ Han’s experience summary.

## 7. Program Chair Report

Mark Schmidt reviewed key dates as part of the Program Chair report.

- Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Abstracts will close
- Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> - All papers submitted or rejected

## Highlights

- Key note address will provide by Dow's Tim Bowen with the focus on Plastics Circularity Issues and Dow's Response.
- New session room layout drawings were provided.

## Session Status

- 12 sessions are loaded into Confex
- 5 Abstracts

Action for all Subcommittees – Have presenter's upload Abstracts into Confex.  
Action for Conference Chair – Send out session break times.

See **Attachment 6** for details.

## 8. Program Co-Chair Report

Jake Berret was not present and no report was provided.

### Update

- Check was provide to secure Potente restaurant for the Speakers' Dinner.

## 9. Committee Chair Report

Richard Rolke secured Tim Bowen from Dow for the key note address that will be after lunch on Monday.

## 10. Subcommittee Reports

**Safety** – One full session with 7. A second joint session with Operations will focus on commissioning. Safety has 3 papers for this session.

**Environmental** –One full session with papers and authors identified. A second short session consisting of a panel discussion around Flare System Challenges and Technical Options was considered and rejected due to limited ethylene producers commitment and no available session time in 2020.

**Operations** – 4-5 papers

**Maintenance** – Working on review and acceptance of paper topics.

**Technology & Fundamentals** – Three sessions focused on the following topics;  
Fundamentals -3 abstracts in with 3 more to come  
Tutorial for Acetylene Hydrogenation (6-7 papers)  
Future of Ethylene – Papers and panel session tied to Keynote address.

Action: Provide questions on Sli.do to help shape the Future of ethylene session.

**Big Data** – 2-3 Abstracts in.

**Rotating Equipment** – Papers will be set at the next meeting.

**Feedstock** – 4 potential papers.

#### 11. **Knowledge Management**

Sanjeev Kapur informed the group that Steve Coleman completed the Ethylene Decomposition tutorial slides and will work with Ralph King on the voice over. Dane Grenoble is in the queue to complete a tutorial

#### 12. **Old Business**

Micheal Smith - The NOx Subcommittee met on October 9<sup>th</sup> at Exxon Baytown. There was good representation and operational discussion from EPC companies. Results will be presented by Dane Grenoble at the 2020 Conference. There is interested for a 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting around analytics.

Action: Micheal will develop a charter for review by the committee.

Aivars Krumins – Presented the time line for representation on the EPC since its inception.

Action: Send Aivars the 2000-2003 EPC participation page on the conference notes.

See **Attachment 7** for details.

Richard Rolke – The Nominating Subcommittee will draft a proposed change to the Bylaws to include the governance of subcommittees; including the forming and disbanding.

The future of the Process Control Subcommittee will be reviewed after the 2020 conference.

#### 13. **New Business:**

EEPC requested that the EPC consider sponsoring a representative to attend the EEPC annual meeting. EPC companies that have plants in Europe send representatives to the EEPC annual meeting.

It was decided that the EPC would not sponsor a representative to attend.

#### 14. **Review Action Items List**

Action item list was reviewed and updated with new actions.

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

**15. Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be at 6:00 pm December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Double Tree Hotel in Houston, TX with social beginning at 5:30 pm.

Future meetings:  
January 30, 2020

**2020 EPC Conference:**  
Hilton Americas – Houston, TX  
Conference March 29 – April 2, 2020

Future conferences:  
2021 Dallas  
2022 San Antonio  
2023 Houston  
2024 New Orleans

**16. Adjournment:**

Richard Rolke adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.

**ACTIONS SUMMARY**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>BY</b>	<b>WHEN</b>
Provide the Program Chair with Session Information; Title, Chair, and Co-Chair.	All	ASAP
Have presenter's upload Abstracts into Confex	All	ASAP
Send Aivars the 2000-2003 EPC participation page on the conference notes.	All	Dec 2019
Can Confex notify if a paper is moved to a session	Mark Schmidt	Dec 2019
Investigate why the CD was closed and deposit the cheque into the chequing account.	Bala Devakottai	Dec 2019
Investigate the amount and origin of the bank fees being assessed	Bala Devakottai	Dec 2019
Provide questions on Sli.do to help shape the Future of ethylene session.	All	March 2020
Develop a charter for a second meeting on NOx around analytics for review by the committee	Micheal Smith	March 2020
The Nominating Committee will draft a proposal on how to start and sunset a Subcommittee	Nominating Committee	June 2020