

**Ethylene Producers' Committee Meeting
Minutes – October 13, 2022**

Following are the minutes of the October 13, 2022 meeting of the Ethylene Producers' Committee (EPC) held at the DoubleTree Greenway Plaza.

Minutes prepared by Daryl Bitting.

1. Attendance

Present – Daryl Bitting, Jennifer Port, Walter Postula, Jeff Edwards, Jeff Elam, Jose de Barros, Jeremy Terro, John Pena, Yong Wang, Michael Tallman, Sanjeev Kapur, Aivars Krumins, Bala Devakottai, Mark Whitney, Micheal Smith

Not present – Richard Beleutz, Jake Berret, Richard Rolke, Toby Darbonne, David Gent, Mark Schmidt, 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:

Mark Whitney 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:

Presentation on the health benefits of exercise by Mike Tallman appears in **Attachment A3**.

Safety moment – very important to set time aside for health through physical activity and exercise. Even at work, walk during lunch, take the stairs, cycle to work, walk to a colleague instead of phone. Cycling to work in Houston is not recommended.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Mark Whitney sent out the final minutes of the August 11, 2022 meeting on October 4, 2022. A motion to approve was made by Sanjeev Kapur and seconded by Aivars Krumins. All approved.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Bala Devakottai prepared the Treasurer's Report and reviewed the statement. Year over year is basically the same.

Omnipress fee of \$8267 was paid from the knowledge management fund.

Bala made arrangements with the hotel to better separate the safety and technology teams meeting area for more effective simultaneous meetings. The change was much better.

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

6. Committee Chair Report

EPC has agreed to co-sponsor a session with F&PD at the Spring 2023 meeting. EPC will not be required to contribute content, and the session is moving forward.

7. Nominating Committee

Aivars reviewed Sasha Vragolic as a member. EPC director from 2011 to 2019. Currently Ventures Engineer with Motiva, with ethylene experience with Motiva, FHR and Huntsman. Nominating committee of Mark Schmidt, Tim Zygula and Richard Beleutz recommend Sasha for membership on the committee. The vote was unanimously approved

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.

- Abstracts will be closing on October 25.
- The plan this year is to follow the CDC guidelines, with the added requirement for proof of vaccination or negative. Checks will be spot checks, not 100% audit
- One day meeting registration will be provided as an option this year for registration.

- Manager Special is under consideration by AIChE to assign different people to different days as a lower cost option to the one day registration.
- Wifi is expected to be part of base offering. Wifi sponsorship will be offered, but there no takers in San Antonio.
- Reception sponsorship will be offered, but there no takers in San Antonio.
- Spot recordings will be done for significant events, such as Keynote Speakers. No EPC sessions are targeted at this time
- Pre-recording will be considered, but strongly discouraged to promote face to face.
- Warp speed will be the AV support
- Sunday night EPC Reception will overlap with AIChE. Same start time of 5 pm, run through 6 :30
- Planning to have 10 sessions in 2023 compared to 11 in 2022.
 - Several areas are without any abstracts, but all areas are actively progressing abstracts offline.
 - Maintenance wants to move from Tuesday or Wednesday.
 - Sanjiv suggested fundamentals on Thursday.
 - Technology fundamentals has been done on Thursday for years past.
- EPC Keynote has been done on Mondays in the past with two short sessions following. Expect a proposal for the EPC Keynote at the next meeting.

Co-chair report – Daryl Bitting

- Vic & Anthony's was presented as the venue for the Speakers Dinner.
- Committee agreed to “not to exceed” budget for the Speakers Dinner of \$17.5K
 - Motion made/accepted
- The Rustic was presented as the preferred venue for the networking lunch.
- Consider vegetarian option for speakers dinner and networking lunch

9. Subcommittee Reports

Safety – (Micheal Smith)

Safety has 6 abstracts in the high bucket

- Two are NORM related, working to make sure they cover different topics
- One furnace safety topic
- Hot tap on high pressure ethylene
- Steam flow – high vibrations
- Hot tapping best practices

Environmental & Sustainability – (Walter Postula)

Consider updating the name to environmental and sustainability to reflect the times. Currently have five solid submissions.

- US approach to regulating GHG emissions.
- Update on EMACT
- Fence line monitoring compared to refinery
- Recent research in Ghent

- Update on how emissions are calculated.

Operations – (Richard Rolke)

Currently have three papers in Confex, but don't have all six locked down yet

- Autorefrigeration
- Thermal imaging of coils
- Startup simulator
- Possible paper on a caustic event.

Maintenance & Reliability – (Sanjeev Kapur)

Currently have four abstracts in hand, and three more coming.

- Couple on TLEs
- Convection Section
- Radiant coil

Technology & Fundamentals – (Mike Tallman)

Currently expecting 3 sessions.

- Fundamentals has five abstracts in hand, and three more coming.
- Plenty paper options for circular economy session.
- Third session will be a caustic tutorial. Two commitments so far, and one in the works.
- Overall, abstracts are lagging somewhat. There is a lot of interest from people to present on circular economy
- Expect to send potential excess papers to other committees.

Industry 4.0 – (Richard Rolke)

Three abstracts submitted and 5 more under development.

- The session looks to soon be full.

Rotating Equipment –

One abstract in hand, one coming from fundamentals.

- Monday morning might have a shorter session, which matches the expected content.

Feedstock – (Mark Whitney)

Also known as Contaminants and Impurities.

- Considering a panel session to discuss sulfiding agents if they don't have enough papers

10. Knowledge Management

No update other than:

- Attorney from McDermott has reviewed the EPC contract. EEPC and EPC will be able to exchange information if the changes are approved by EEPC.

- Sanjeev will schedule a Teams meeting for others to join his in-person meeting with EPC. October 25, 11AM teams meeting.

11. Old Business

- Revised agreement with EPC will be circulated to the officers in the knowledge management committee regarding EPC attendance and collaboration

12. New Business:

- Consider using AIChE as the physical address for EPC for purposes of contracts and legal matters.
 - This would need to be added to the contract.
- Jennifer Port will step down from the committee as of Oct 13.
- Michael Smith sent Memo of understanding with AIChE to Jake, Mark and Walter for review.
 - Requires a review/signature every 3 years
 - Jake will be the approver.
- Daryl will send a final sponsor list from last year to the committee for comment
 - Sponsors that have changed contact information or name change
 - Potential new sponsors

13. Review Action Items List

- Jake to welcome Sasha Vragolic to the committee
- Committee approved a not to exceed budget \$17.5K for Speakers Dinner
- Send list of 2022 sponsors to committee.

Next Meeting:

The Committee meetings are 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:

Mark Whitney adjourned the meeting.

ACTIONS SUMMARY

ITEM	BY	WHEN
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 EEPC 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 EEPC agreement review and contact Sanjeev Kapur if help can be arranged	Aivars Kruminis Rick Beleutz	October 2022
Conduct annual audit of books	Jake Berret Bala Devakotti	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 Grenoble	Directors & Subcommittees	October 2022
EPC volunteer for EEPC 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 EEPC on a presentation on corrosion under insulation.	Walter Postula	October, 2022
Welcome Sasha Vragolic to the committee	Jake Berret	December, 2022
Send List of 2022 sponsors to committee	Daryl Biting	Completed

