SLP Society of Loss Prevention Update
In the Process Industries
JUL 2010

SLP holds its 19th AGM

Hon. Secretary Ngiam Tong Yuen providing some information to the audience

We held our 19th AGM on June 30th at the Singapore Polytechnic Graduates' Guild. We were pleased to see a number of new faces at the meeting. This meeting was special because it marked the end of an era. Ong See Hee, a founding member of SLP was stepping down as President after he had served in this position for four years. He had served with distinction in every Exco since our founding. We are fortunate that he has agreed to be an Advisor.

Tay Cheng Pheng was Chairman for the meeting as See Hee was on a business trip. Cheng Pheng highlighted the main points of the Executive Committee's Annual Report for 2009/2010. SLP was becoming more recognized by regulatory authorities as a source of expertise on loss prevention and Workplace Safety and Health matters. For example, See Hee was appointed a member of the WSHC (Chemical Industries) Committee. A number of our Exco. members are members of advisory committees set up by MOM and SPRING Singapore. SLP also has a good working relationship with SCDF. He asked members present to encourage their colleagues to join SLP and swell our ranks.

Our Honorary Treasurer, Jacob Soh, reported on our finances. He had a happy story to tell because SLP had a surplus of nearly $ 10,000. This mainly arose from the training courses we had run -- LOPA and HAZOPS. Our long term investments were also doing satisfactorily in that they earned us a dividend well in excess of bank interest rates. They had also preserved their value.

Members were informed of the inaugural SLP Awards that we had made to final year Chemical Engineering students at Temasek and Ngee Ann Polytechnics. These $ 200 Book Prizes are to honor final year Chemical Engineering students at polytechnics who had done well in their safety and industrial health studies. The funding is from an award that SLP won from Schering Plough. The winners are Debbie Teo Jia Ling from Temasek and Ms Teh Cai Lin from Ngee Ann. It is our intention to expand this award to more polytechnics.

The most important piece of business at the AGM was the election of a new Executive Committee that would serve for 2 years from July 1, 2010 except our Honorary Treasurer who would serve one year only.

The new Executive Committee is as follows:

President:	Tay Cheng Pheng
Vice President:	Teng Chong Seng
Hon. Secretary:	Ngiam Tong Yuen
Hon. Treasurer:	Ivan Sin

Committee Members:

Gregory Poi	Jacob Soh
Lam Kit wing	Michael yan
Reginald Tan	Sam Tsen

Continue on Pg 2

Two new Honorary Auditors were also elected. They were Ngiam Bo Han and Dai V Nguyen. They will serve until the next AGM.

During the discussion session, Teng Chong Seng took the opportunity to pay a tribute to our Immediate Past President, Ong See Hee, for his sterling contributions to SLP and for his leadership. This was supported by all who were present.

The subject of our collaboration with IES to implement a 2-yr training program was brought up by Anthony Neo who wanted an assurance that this collaboration would not dilute our training efforts in process safety. Newly elected President Tay Cheng Pheng assured him that SLP's contribution would primarily be in process safety. Anthony also suggested that our training courses be pitched at the professional level since this would differentiate us from other service providers. This idea was supported.

A cheerful newly elected President Tay Cheng Pheng taking charge of the proceedings.

With the business of the meeting over, members present were treated to a dinner. This is a much appreciated SLP tradition.

By Ngiam Tong Yuen

President's Message

I am very honored to be elected President of SLP at our recent AGM. As mentioned at our AGM, See Hee had decided to step down after four years as President because of his extensive business travel. After some hesitation, I accepted the nomination to be President. My main reason for accepting the responsibility is my desire to contribute to the growth of SLP and to raise the standard of the practice and science of loss prevention in our process industries. For us, in this profession, there is no room for complacency. There are far too many reports of failures. To do this job properly, I would need the continuous support of our members and our Executive Committee. I am glad therefore that many of the "Old Guards" are still continuing to serve. See Hee has agreed to be an Advisor. We are thus fortunate that we can still call on his expertise.

On behalf of SLP, I wish to put on record our appreciation and thanks to See Hee for his many years of dedicated and outstanding service to us. He was a Founding Member and had served in our Executive Committee from the founding until now.

SLP has in the past few years conducted a number ol conferences, seminars, roundtable discussions, technical talks, workshops and training sessions on process safety topics and loss prevention. My vision is to continue this good work in enhancing the process safety knowledge of our members and other like-minded individuals through the creation of these sharing and learning opportunities. At the same time, we will initiate more collaboration with professional bodies, such as the Institution of Engineers, in organizing joint safety training courses.

All of us must know about the rig explosion that took place onboard BP-Transocean Deepwater Horizon in April earlier this year. This accident had resulted in the deaths of 11 workers and had caused a massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. The lesson learned from this BP Deepwater Horizon Blowout incident is never to underestimate the importance of operational safety and the cost of safety lapses.

The challenge that lies before us is to promote SLP as a premier professional society for loss prevention in the oil, chemical and process industries in Singapore. The Executive Committee will continue to do its best to organize training programs and events for the benefit of our members and the public. I encourage our members to step forward to share their ideas on how we can all help make SLP a truly professional organization that raises process safety standards in Singapore. We also want to see more of our members representing SLP in various regulatory bodies and standards committees such as SPRING and the WSH council.

In closing, I would like to once again thank See Hee and members of the Executive Committee for sacrificing their personal time for SLP. Thank you all. Please stay safe and healthy!

Tay Cheng Pheng

As you know SLP has just held its AGM. For the historians among us, we are now 20 going on 21. Much has happened in the 20 years since we were founded by Professor Ching Chi Bun and a small group of persons who were interested in loss prevention in the process industries. Our Immediate Past President, Ong See Hee, was one of these hardy pioneers. He was in every Executive Committee since the beginning and has now stepped down after serving 4 years as President.

Our new President, Tay Cheng Pheng, is also a veteran, who has served many years in our Exco. He and his new Executive Committee will build on the solid foundation that has already been laid. As Cheng Pheng himself has said, he will need the support of our members in order to properly discharge his responsibilities. So members, we need you to willingly step up and contribute your energy and your vital knowledge of the science and practice of loss prevention. The saying that "many hands make light work" is so true.

The first meeting of the new Exco will be held on July 28. One important item for action is the co-option of members into our Exco. In this way, new blood will be introduced into the committee. SLP will be the better for it.

A book review by Sam Tsen on Geomembranes will provide for interesting reading about this important class of materials. Geomembranes are essential for preventing harmful substances in landfills to be leached into the water table.

As always, we will be pleased to receive articles of interest to the loss prevention community. Alternatively, you can provide us leads to important/interesting information on WSH and loss prevention matters. We will certainly follow-up and either publish them or give them a wider circulation.

Happy reading!

SLP and IES
to collaborate on training

SLP had worked with IES (Institution of Engineers, Singapore) in the past on organizing joint training courses. When we were invited again to co-organize some training courses, our Exco supported this proposal and appointed Ivan Sin and Ngiam Tong Yuen to be our representatives in this venture.

When Ivan and Tong Yuen met IES's representatives headed by Tan Kai Hong, the scope was broadened, from an ad hoc arrangement for a single course or two, into a program that would cover 2 years in the first instance. The working group came to this conclusion after studying the four strategies promulgated in WSH 2018.

These strategies are:

1) **Build strong capabilities**
2) **Implement an effective regulatory framework**
3) **Promote benefits of WSH and recognize best practices, and**
4) **Develop strong partnerships locally and internationally**

It is clear from this list that the greatest impact that SLP and IES can make to this national effort is to work on building capabilities, hence the training program.

The 2-yr training program will provide continuity and a clearly enunciated objective. The working group has chosen the tagline as, "Towards Zero Incidents". The program will be inaugurated via a seminar where the keynote speaker will be the President of IES, Ho Siong Hin, who is also the Commissioner for WSH. He will be supported by leaders from industry associations such as those from construction, marine and chemical industries. These industry leaders will set the tone for the rest of the training program.

A 2-yr program will be published at the inaugural seminar. Training courses will be conducted at regular intervals. Topics such as Designing Safety In, Safety is Free or Estimating the True Cost of an Accident, Building a Safety Culture in your Company, Incident Investigation — Going for the Root Cause, Working in Confined Spaces, Eliminating Accidents from Working at Heights, HAZOPS Leaders course, LOPA, Making your contractor a Partner in Safety and so on may be included. Course instructors will be from industry so that the subjects will be presented from a practitionerís point of view.

At present our own Exco. and the IES Council have accepted the program in principle and the working group is working on the execution plan.

Watch out for more announcements on this!

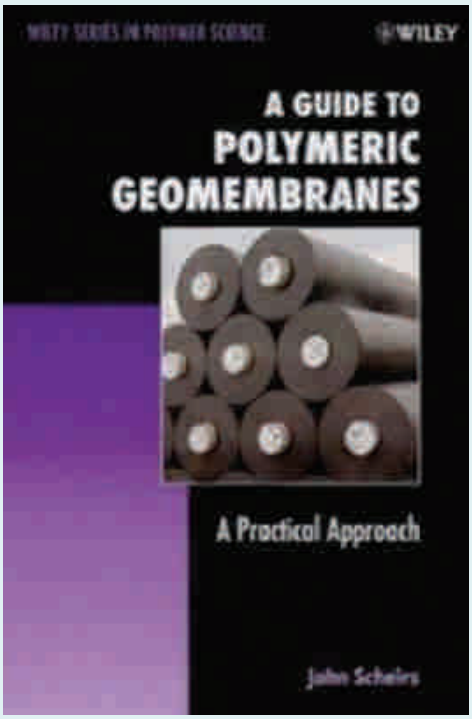
By Ngiam Tong Yuen

Book Review

A Guide to Polymeric Geomembranes - A Practical Approach

ISBN-10: 0-470-51920-7

by John SCHEIRS



This is an interesting book for readers who want to learn about polymeric geomembranes from a practical angle. This 572-page book is divided into 19 chapters with information ranging from manufacturing, physical and chemical properties, testing methods and applications. Chapter 2 covers the manufacturing methods.

Following this, in Chapters 3 to 11, the author provides detailed information on HDPE, LDPE, fPP, CSPE, PVC, EIA, EPDM, bituminous and specialty liner membranes. Each type has one chapter dedicated to it. The information includes the advantages and disadvantages of each type. Furthermore, there is a useful discussion on the various brands that are available.

Chapter 12 deals with information on performance properties, stress cracking, puncture resistance, ply adhesion, tear, permeability and UV resistance.

Chapters 13 to 16 are on testing, chemical resistance, failure modes, and applications.

Chapter 17 is on welding of geomembranes. There are photos of welding equipment including a wedge welder that is used in this region. The useful data include welding parameters such as temperature and speed for different thicknesses. There is a discussion of welding defects and this is illustrated by photographs. There are also pictures showing heat distortion, burn through, delamination of an extrusion fillet weld and a "good textbook double wedge weld".

Geomembrane Weld Testing Methods are discussed in Chapter 18. This covered parameters and standards for peel and shear test equipment. The failure mode for each material type is also discussed. A non-destructive leak location method is described. This is based on the same principle as that for doing an electrical leak location survey. The information in Chapter 13 is a useful pre-requisite for Chapter 18.

Chapter 19 discusses the factors to be considered for geomembrane installation — design considerations, preparation, penetration, geotextile cushioning, protection, thermal expansion and wrinkles.

This is definitely a book for practitioners.

Shear Test Equipment

Reviewed by: Sam TSEN