

## 24th DOE/NRC NUCLEAR AIR CLEANING AND TREATMENT CONFERENCE

### OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE & GREETINGS FROM SPONSORS

**FIRST:** It is my special privilege to call the Conference to order, and to bid you all welcome on behalf of the program committee and the several sponsors of this conference. One of the conference sponsors is the Harvard Air Cleaning Laboratory. I am Melvin First, I bring you Harvard's greetings and a hearty welcome. The other sponsors will greet you shortly. I would like to extend a special greeting to the many friends who have joined us from other countries. I know I speak for all of the US attendees as well as myself when I say how much we appreciate your active participation in these conferences over the many years that they have been held. The delegates from other countries continue to be a major factor in these conferences. Were it not for the fact that two of US government agencies are financial sponsors, I would think of this Conference as being a world conference because truly it does represent the world community in the technical areas covered by the conference. So once again, we welcome you and hope that you find your trip useful and pleasurable.

It's obvious that these conferences require a lot of hard work on the part of the entire Program Committee. Their duties don't cease at the beginning of the conference, because they all have been given assignments as session chairmen, and you will interact with them throughout the Conference. The Conference Committee members are listed in the Conference Program. Let me identify by name: Wendell Anderson, consultant. Ronald Bellamy, Region One, Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Werner Bergman, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, California. Richard Dorman, formerly with the Porton Downs military establishment in England, and currently a consultant. Ken Duvall, Department of Energy. Tetsuo Fukasawa, Hitachi in Japan. Jack Hayes, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Headquarters in Maryland. Robert Jubin, Oak Ridge National Laboratory. J Louis Kovach, NUCON International. Richard Lee, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Joseph Paul, Westinghouse Savannah River Company. Richard Porco, Ellis & Watts. Richard is the president of the International Society for Nuclear Air Treatment Technologies. Paul Sigli, consultant France. James Slawski, Department of Energy. Ray Weidler, Duke Power Company. Ray is the Chairman of the Committee on Nuclear Air and Gas Standards. Jeurgen Wilhelm, Germany, many years associated with KLK, and currently a consultant. And Roger Savadowski, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. One additional member of the program committee that I have not yet named is Humphrey Gilbert. Humphrey, because of physical disability, has been unable to be with us today. I'm sure this is the first Air Cleaning Conference he has missed since they started forty-five years ago. I know we all miss him as much as he misses not being here. We extend all our best wishes to him.

Now, for the other sponsors of the conference, I'm going to call on a representative from each of the organizations to send their own greetings and welcome to you. The first of these, from the US Department of Energy, is James Slawski, who is in DOE's Industrial Hygiene Office of Defense Programs. He is a certified industrial hygienist, with twenty-five years experience in occupational safety and health. He has been at the DOE for six years.

**SLAWSKI:** This is the first conference, that Humphrey Gilbert has missed, and the first conference I have attended. On behalf of DOE I welcome all of you. I look at this as an opportunity for all of us to figure out where we are and figure out what we have to do to try to do our jobs a little bit better and smarter in the future. We are working with CONAGT on standards for filters on the FC section in particular. We are trying to work our way to adopting for the Department that consensus standard. We are not sure we are there yet. We are working in that direction and we have discussions ongoing here at this Conference to help us go in that direction. Whatever we can do to get us to a state that satisfies DOE's needs for a consensus standard will be very beneficial. Again, welcome and thank you for attending.

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**FIRST:** I will next call on Dr. Richard Lee representing the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**LEE:** On behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, I welcome you to this Conference. We are very pleased that we have supported this Conference with the DOE and since its inception, and we hope we will do so in the future. Tomorrow Ronald Bellamy and I will give you a briefing on what is happening at the Commission with respect to domestic activities and international activities. I am from the Office of Research. Most of our research now focuses on the national arena, but I hope to give you a very brief report on what other programs we are tracking in the European and in the Pacific regions. I wish that you have a successful Conference and a pleasant stay at this city.

**FIRST:** The fourth sponsor is the International Society of Nuclear Air Treatment Technologies. To represent that organization we have Richard Porco, who is the president of ISNATT.

**PORCO:** Welcome you to the 24<sup>th</sup> Nuclear Air Cleaning and Treatment Conference on behalf of ISNATT. I also welcome you to the ISNATT Expo. I hope you will all take time to visit by the exhibits. They will be held in the foyer. I think you will find a lot of equipment on display there that will be topics of discussion at some of the technical sessions. I also want to thank all you who participated in the ISNATT short courses. Those interested in future short courses should stop by the booth for the ISNATT and ASME booths. I think it is very important to point out the work that ISNATT is doing to support the Nuclear Air Cleaning and Treatment Conferences. To in this endeavor I would encourage all to join ISNATT and get involved in promoting the Expo as well as the international exchange of technologies. This is the way to make this Conference a success and to make sure that we continue to have the type of support and the type of exchange that we have enjoyed during the course of the meetings.

**FIRST:** In addition to the many technical papers that are a hallmark of these Conferences, there are numerous highlights that I would like to call to your attention. Shortly, our keynote speaker will address a topic of special interest to specialists in nuclear air and gas cleaning technology. This will be followed by three very seminal papers concerning new directions for the nuclear industry, in general, and air and gas cleaning specialists in particular. Each will leave you with many new and important things to think about. I look forward to hearing the presentations. On Tuesday, we will have a working lunch with John Wagoner, Manager of the DOE's Richland Operations Office. He will talk about progress and challenges in cleaning up Hanford. Those intending to go on the Hanford tour starting Thursday afternoon will, I know, find this address a very special preparation for your visit. There will be an International Panel after the working lunch, and then our traditional Open-end Session. Those who have things you would like to present or questions you would like to ask the assembled group, please keep this session in mind. There will two panel sessions: one on testing of nuclear air cleaning systems that will include a newly-proposed AG1 code section on acceptance testing, plus a new standard tentatively referred to as N-511 on in-service testing. Both of these documents are nearing their final phase, and I am sure you will be interested in learning what they propose as well as having some input into the final document. The second panel session is concerned with the new AG1 code section on HEPA filters. This code section basically replaces the military specifications that we have been using for this purpose for many decades. Here also, I think you will want to hear about projected changes to the codes and how they will be brought about. I can promise you that these will be very interesting sessions.