

REVIEW



6th International Congress and Workshop Tank, Container, Silo, Tank Car Cleaning and Logistics Management 20. - 21. March 2009 in Hamburg/Germany

Ways out of the crisis. Go for your chances.

Roughly 70 interested attendees from Germany, Spain, Estonia, France, Poland, the Netherlands and Switzerland met in Hamburg's Empire Riverside Hotel on March 20th and 21st to work on and discuss central concerns of the industry.

Qualified speakers, the concentration on few focal points, the workshop offerings and sufficient time for discussions and exchange of ideas made the congress a thoroughly successful event .

The Topics:

- Ways out of the crisis - which future chances arise for logistics and tank cleaning?
- Relevance of tank cleaning for the supply chain
- Introduction to current processes of BASF tank cleaning
- GHS-Globally Harmonised System
- Hazard evaluation in tank cleaning
- Cleaning certificates – ECD, HQCC – blessing or curse?



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In bright sunshine and with a beautiful view on the harbour **Hans-Dieter Philipowski**, Managing Director of **ACT-INTERNATIONAL** and host of the International Congress, welcomed the guests, some of which had made a long journey to Hamburg.

During the presentations, simultaneous translation to English

was provided for guests from Spain, Estonia, France, Poland and the Netherlands.

In his opening presentation Philipowski gave a survey of the European tank cleaning industry, its chances and risks facing the concepts of Responsible Care and Sustainable Development.

The relevance of tank cleaning for the supply chain was the topic of **Dr. Gerd Fischer**, Manager Railroad Logistics Unit at **BASF**. He explained the responsibility of loaders from the chemical industry, which - following the Responsible Care Policy - extends from the logistician all the way to the client. Fischer also outlined the product-related flow of information within the supply chain and the specific demand for information of the tank cleaning stations.



A diversified program with current topics.

Hans Martin Braun, Manager of the **BASF** Tank Car Cleaning Station, delivered an insight into their current cleaning processes. Very descriptive he presented how the flow and provision of information as well as the order and container management at BASF are organised and which efforts are taken in order to protect and monitor the

employees regarding damages caused to their health. Braun closed his presentation with a first glimpse on GHS and its effects on BASF and his work.

Subsequently, the focus topic **GHS** (Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals) was deepened by **Prof. Dr. Herbert F. Bender**, Head of Dangerous Substances Management Unit at **BASF**. Bender revealed impressively that GHS has far more implications and consequences than only a change of symbols. There will be partially significant consequences for material safety data sheets, the labelling and storage of dangerous goods, operating instructions etc. Bender made it very clear that, if you do not thoroughly deal with the new legislation as of 20.1.2009 as a tank cleaner, you run the risk of losing your facility authorisation or to counteract the air quality control regulations.

Dr. Christian Felten, Manager Main Department Health Protection in the Field of Prevention of



BGF (Employer's Liability Insurance Association), pointed out the importance, necessity and - last but not least - legal requirement for the creation of a hazard evaluation system in tank cleaning facilities. His presentation was lightened up by extreme „photographic evidence“ of careless and perilous situations from workaday life.

The curse or blessing of cleaning certificates for the industry was the subject for **Frank Sieck**, Board Member of **ENFIT**. He gave information about available documents in the market and the various concepts of documenting the cleaning process and the grade of cleanliness, e. g. for tanker trucks as opposed to railroad tank cars. ENFIT developed the HQCC (High Quality Cleaning Certificate), which not only states the cleaning procedures applied but also includes proof of tank cleanliness by listing quickly to achieve test values based on the Drinking Water Ordinance.

6th International Congress and Workshop

Tank, Container, Silo, Tank Car Cleaning and Logistics Management

After Lunch the participants were invited to different expert workshops prepared and led by the speakers. Depending on the individual focus of interest, everyone was free to decide which workshop to attend:

- Transport Container and Logistics Management**
 Communication between producer, logistician, tank cleaner
 Dr. Gerd Fischer, BASF SE
- GHS-Globally Harmonised System**
 Effects on transport, cleaning, employees and environment protection
 Hans Martin Braun, Prof. Dr. Herbert F. Bender, BASF SE
- Hazard Evaluation in Tank Cleaning**
 How can the hazard evaluation assessment be put into practice?
 Dr. Christian Felten, BGF (Employer's Liability Insurance Association)
- Cleaning Certificates – ECD, HQCC – Blessing or Curse?**
 What is a cleaning certificate meant for and what not? Quality standards for transports of chemicals and foodstuff
 Frank Sieck, ENFIT

Workshop to the plenum. This gave everyone an insight into the workshops he or she did not attend. The audience made good use of the pos-



Vertiefung der Themen in Workshops.

sibility to ask questions and discuss the various points.

The congress ended with a delicious buffet lunch and bright sunshine. Hans-Dieter Philipowski expressed his gratitude for the active and engaged participation and saw the guests off in their well deserved weekend.

Hazard Evaluation Yesterday



We did it all right, didn't we?



For two hours the different topics were thoroughly and lively discussed and dealt with between participants and speakers. Everyone had enough time to ask questions, give comments and take home valuable knowledge for his or her own work.

The remainder of the first day was reserved for expert discussions, the casual exchange of ideas and establishment of useful contacts.

On the second congress day the speakers presented an abstract and the results of their respec-



GHS

Gefahrstoff-Paragrafen 2013

Folie 15

Our conclusion: The International Congress in its new form was a complete success. We thank the speakers who contributed with enjoyment and lots of dedication and we thank the very interested attendees without whose active participation the congress could not have succeeded.

See you next year!

Your Team of ACT-INTERNATIONAL, Hamburg