



International exchange of experience on industry-connected accidents of the explosives industries

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## NEWSLETTER

7th Edition August 2001

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### **XIV Congress – Amsterdam – 29th May/1st June 2002**

Arrangements are now well in hand for the XIV Congress at the Novotel, Amsterdam. Readers will recall that SAFEX International have arranged a “Pre-Conference Training Event” on “Incident Investigation”. Basically, the objective is to help to improve the standards of accident/incident reporting and to “bench mark” the highest standard of incident investigation.

Calls for attendees to the Training Event have already gone out and acceptance will be given to the first 30 applicants. No charge will be made for this although attendees will be expected to pay for their own hotel bills.

The Kelvin Consultants, who are well known in this field, will be acting as instructors and tutors throughout the course.

Andy Begg of ICI Explosives and one of SAFEX International’s Governing Committee is effectively “running the show” in conjunction with Kelvin Consultants.

### **Meeting of the Governing Committee**

The Governing Committee met recently in Barcelona, Spain, with the objective of finalising the main points for the next Congress.

In the “Call for Papers”, contributions in the following specific topics were invited:

- Theme 1: Human Behavioural Factors in Safety**
- Theme 2: Inherent Safety, Risk Assessment, Basis of Safety.**
- Theme 3: Explosive Waste Management**
- Theme 4: Accident Reports**
- Theme 6: General Topics (possible future themes)**

Workshops will be held on the subject of the first three themes running concurrently. Some of you objected to this process at the Dublin Congress indicating that you would like to have attended more than one workshop. However, in the survey/questionnaire, which was collected from all members after the last Congress, it was clear that there was no possibility of expanding the length of the Congress for more than two days. Therefore, it is impossible to run workshops sequentially and they must be run concurrently (i.e. at the same time).

However, members should note that they are normally allowed two delegates per company and of course they will be able to split forces.

**XIV Congress – Amsterdam – 29th May/1st June 2002**

Photo 1

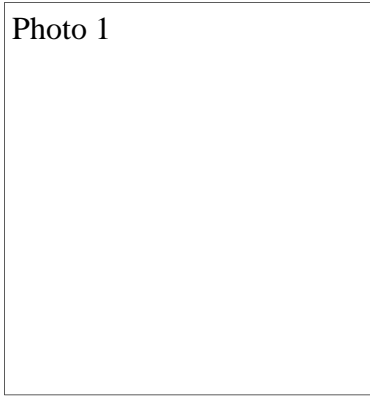


Photo 2



### **Training Event**

The pre-Congress training event is an innovation for SAFEX International, but is regarded by the Governing Committee as a mechanism for testing the market demand for such programmes.

If the demand is substantial then the Governing Committee will give consideration to holding training events between the Congresses and, in the spirit of internationalism, at locations outside of Europe.

If you have strong views on this please do not hesitate to let the Secretary General know them.

### **Publication of Proceedings of XIV Congress**

The Governing Committee has decided that the proceedings of the XIV Congress will be published in both book form and in CD form.

Authors are requested to submit their contributions in electronic format wherever possible.

This should not only hasten the process of publication, but it should also increase the quality of the work.

Photo 3



### **Membership**

SAFEX International currently has 85 paying members from 40 countries. However, the Governing Committee are anxious to continue to spread its influence and the safety message to all other companies, who are not members of SAFEX and who produce explosive products.

To that end, the Secretary General is giving a lecture at the ISEE Conference in Las Vegas in February 2002. In addition, SAFEX International will man a display stand at that event.

The ISEE Conference is attended by literally thousands of users of explosives, but explosives manufacturers from all over the world are also well represented. This is the reason for our special attendance at this most important conference.



## Some Highlights of the Social Programme

### Holland Discovery Tour

This begins at the **Aalsmeer Flower Auction**, the world's largest auction in flowers and plants. Throughout history, Holland has been known for its flowers and tulips. The tour includes a walk through the huge halls with an overview of the flowers waiting to be auctioned off in several auction halls. You can even try auctioning yourself.

The tour continues to the Hague to see the Royal Palace, the famous **Peace Palace** where the International High Court is based and the Government Buildings. This is followed by a visit to **Madurodam, Holland in miniature** which was built by the Maduro family in commemoration of their son.

### Outing for Partners

On Friday there will be a half-day sightseeing tour for partners. This will include a visit to the windmill village of **Zaanse Schans**, where most of the houses are made of wood and painted green, typical of the Zaan area. The houses are still inhabited by "normal" Dutch families. There will be an opportunity to visit a wooden shoe factory here. From there the tour continues through the countryside to **Edam**, a village that is world famous for its cheese.

### GALA DINNER

Very special arrangements have been made for the Gala Dinner with Cocktails to be held on the VOC Ship "**Amsterdam**", which was owned by the Dutch East Indies Company and this living history can provide an unusual and intriguing setting.

Next door is the **Scheepvaart Museum**, where guests will enjoy their Gala Dinner.

### Outing for Delegates and Partners

On Saturday, those guests who stay on will be able to enjoy a short cruise on the Amsterdam canals with a visit to a **diamond factory**, where you can admire the fascinating craftsmanship that made Amsterdam's diamonds famous all over the world. The tour continues to the **Rijksmuseum**, with its famous collection of old Dutch Masters like Rembrandt, Vermeer and Frans Hals.

Lunch will be served in the famous "**Lady Haesje Claes**" restaurant. Lady Haesje Claes was born in 1522 in a prosperous merchant family. She was the founder and patron of the Public Orphanage, which is now the home of the Amsterdam Historical Museum.

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\* **Floriade 2002** \*  
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\* It is hoped that during your stay in Amsterdam you will be able to visit \*  
\* the Floriade 2002. This is a world horticultural exhibition which takes \*  
\* place every 10 years and it has become the largest public event in \*  
\* the Netherlands. An area covering 50 hectares undergoes a \*  
\* complete transformation. Features include a panoramic hill that rises \*  
\* 40 metres above the flat countryside, and a magnificent floral valley \*  
\* containing one and a half million bulbs. \*  
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