

Minutes
International Section
Water Quality Association
Aquatech Amsterdam Conference
1 November 2011
Amsterdam, Netherlands

Steve Verstrat (on behalf of Chairman Frank Brigano) called the meeting to order. He advised all present that this is a combined meeting of European Water Treatment Association (EWTA) and the International Section of the Water Quality Association. He then handed over to Mike Pickavance of EWTA to cover the portion of the agenda pertaining to EWTA.

Roll Call

The following were present:

Rick Andrew, Laura Moorman, Tarik Bellahcene, Darwin Watts, Brent Simmons, Kurt Peterson, Chevalier, R. Hague, Scelles, Duthilleux, Knut Sauerbier, Mickael Talarmain, Guiza Khier, Harvey Bowden, Tony Frost, Isabelle Vio, Julia Davidson, Keith H. Legge, Steve Versrat, Carl Jasper, Mike Pickavance, Luc Chantraine, Guy DeMol, Duane Dunk

WQA Staff present: Regu P. Regunathan (Staff Liason), Peter Censky , Tom Palkon, and Pauli Undesser.

Mike Pickavance, Carl Jasper, Tony Frost, and Luke Chantraine made power point presentations covering the following topics EWTA organizational details, Benefits of water softening, EWTA Activities, and Corrosion respectively. These presentations will be attached to this document and will be available at WQA web site.

WQA INTERNATIONAL SECTION MEETING

Steve Verstrat initiated the WQA International section meeting .

Approve Minutes of previous meeting

On a motion properly made, seconded, passed, the minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Approval of Agenda

On a motion properly made, seconded, and passed the agenda for the meeting was approved. Chair brought every one to recognize that this is a combined agenda incorporating the International Standards & Regulations Task Force meeting into the Section meeting.

International Membership

Regu P. Regunathan on behalf of Ms. Fotre presented the membership report. There is a significant increase in international section membership from 355 at the same time last year to 427 now. It was pointed out that the bulk of the increase was due to increased activity in China and India.

A breakdown of membership in different countries around the world was provided as well. Following Countries had higher than 10 members: China (64 now), India (62 now), Taiwan, Malaysia, Japan, Korea, Mexico, UK, Italy and Australia.

WQA India Task Force

Govind Bommi reported about the seventh task force meeting held in Mumbai, India on Aug 10, 2011. He informed the group that this task force has established a contact with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and several members of the task force actually serve as members of the BIS committee. Further efforts are underway to streamline the flow of information from the task force to BIS. He also described the activities of the three sub task forces looking at standards, education and communication activities in India. Each had made good progress and continues to be active in their respective area. More people are getting involved in the efforts of this sub group. All sub task groups were encouraged to continue their efforts further.

Another subtask force formed to look into the establishing the bye laws of the Indian Entity has made recommendations. In accordance with its acceptance by the members as a whole a new Chair will take charge at the next meeting. Next meeting of the task force will take place again in Mumbai on 24 Jan 2012. The International Section will be kept informed of the progress of this task force as they occur.

WQA Malaysia/ SE Asia Task Force

Tom Palkon on behalf of Mike Long reported that the second meeting of this task force took place in Jakarta Indonesia on 13 July 2011 with Mike long serving as the Chair. This task force included participants from members in many countries of the region, namely Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Thailand. While it was heartening to see such participation in this meeting, it requires monitoring in this region to determine how to proceed further here. Next meeting of the group is being contemplated to be held in Indonesia in conjunction with the Indo Water show there in July 2011.

Tom Palkon reported that WQA has general interest in initiating such task forces or some other type of meetings elsewhere in the future. One such meeting did take place in Japan with 19 people attending the meeting. Further such meetings are being planned in Korea and later in S. America.

Salinity Issues in USA

Pauli Undesser reported to the group that while salinity related issues have not been a focus in Europe, the regulators in California and elsewhere in SW USA have sought to limit the use of softeners due to their concerns about salinity discharges into surface or ground waters. The regulators in California have long required the use of efficiency rated softeners in their State. Recently there have been attempts to ban the use of softeners have been instituted in some communities. Pete Censky of WQA elaborated the details of the situation in both California and Arizona. He explained that the situation is under control, but the industry members need to introduce new technologies with lower salinity discharges to reduce future impacts on the industry.

Next meeting of the Section will be held during the WQA Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada during the week of 6 March 2012.

International Standards & Regulations Task Force Meeting

At this point the the task force meeting was started. Steve Verstrat, Chair, initiated the meeting. Following members were present: Tony Frost, Steve Verstrat, Knut Saurbrier, and Laura Moorman.

Steve Verstrat advised the task force members and observers of the WQA Antitrust Statement and referred them to that statement. On a motion properly made, seconded, and passed, the minutes from the last meeting were approved. On a motion properly made, seconded, and passed, the agenda for the meeting was approved.

International Registry of Standards & Regulations

Tom Palkon of WQA reported and pointed out that the registry is in place at the WQA Members only portion of the WQA web site. This was accomplished with help from several other members of the Task Force. Further efforts are underway to make them more easily accessible and usable. It is intended to have all the information readily available to interested members by simply pointing at the country in a worldwide map. Availability of such a feature will be announced when completed.

These files will be updated as new information becomes available from different sources. Members of this task force are urged to help keeping these up to date now and in the future.

Microbiological Standards

Regu P. Regunathan made two presentations to the group describing the development of microbiological standards in different countries around the world and the newly released World Health Organization's guidelines titled "Evaluating household water treatment options: health-based targets and performance specifications". Both of these presentations will be posted with the minutes at the WQA web site.

Asia/Australia

Taiwan –Working on adoption of Std 58. They appear to be nearly finished with it. Methodology issues are being raised again.

Japan – They have posted a note indicating changes in labelling requirements. These changes apply to efficiency information and minimum operating requirements for RO products.

Philippines –All six NSF DWTU standards have been adopted as Philippine National Standards. Mandatory compliance is required there. Test data reciprocity is still an issue for further discussions.

- **Americas**

- USA**

1. NSF draft standard for PPCP/EDC/Pharmaceuticals has been drafted without labelling these as aesthetic or health related substances and it is being reviewed for presentation to the Joint Committee. The microbial reduction by mechanical filtration for supplemental treatment of already treated water has been balloted again at NSF, and it now awaits approval by the Council of Public Health Consultants and subsequent validation.
2. A standard for testing Physical Water Treatment Devices for its scale reduction capability is near completion at IAPMO.
3. Lead Reduction Update - In addition to California and Vermont, a new US bill that has been signed in to law by the President defines Lead free as less than 0.25% Lead. Compliance time for this new law is in 2014.
4. California Bill 2515 – use of POE/POU for use in public supplies for arsenic reduction is being expanded to cover much larger small systems in California.
5. Environmental Labelling effort by WQA is proceeding with the help of a consultant in this field to first cover the Pour through Pitchers and later other products such as activated carbon and POU filters, etc.

Canada – CSA B483 – Nothing new.

Brazil: ?

- **Next Meeting**

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