

# SIA NEWS



NEWSLETTER OF THE SOLVENTS INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

## From the Chairman

The Christmas break seems a long time ago, and we now welcome the onset of lighter evenings as Spring approaches. Much has already taken place in global economies during the first couple of months in 2016, and likewise your Association continues an active course of projects.

Amongst the projects for 2016 is our latest safety film on the safe loading and transportation of solvents by road, which is scheduled for release in early 2017. We will also stage further SIA training courses, with the first in conjunction with ESIG in Rotterdam in April, and a second in Stratford-Upon-Avon in June.

ESIG has recently appointed Ms Alessandra Costigliola as Director General (DG), replacing the retiring Antoine Brossier. I know you will join me in offering belated thanks and gratitude to Antoine for his extended tenure as DG, and look forward to developing close collaboration with Alessandra.

We were delighted with the response to suggestions for projects received from the 'Post-It' board during the AGM. The suggestions were discussed, prioritised, and an output document has been produced with actions. We return to Stratford Manor for our golf day and AGM in October this year, and look forward to continued member input as to which subjects you wish your Association to focus upon.

The Spring Dinner event is almost upon us, and we are very pleased to have secured the Imperial War Museum, London. We look forward to welcoming you, and wish all our members a peaceful Easter break.



Chris Hall, SIA Chairman

## SIA AGM & Dinner 2015

**The 42nd SIA Annual General Meeting and Dinner was held in Stratford-Upon-Avon in October.**

Fifty delegates from SIA member companies attended the event, which included industry presentations from Dr. Rob Oades, Chair of ESIG, Phil Pease from the Industrial Packaging Association, and a representative from the UK Home Office counter-terrorism group.

In the afternoon sessions, Rob Oades updated delegates with the recent work of the European Solvents Industry Group and the SIA Technical Sub-Committee, inviting members to become more involved with the Association through a communication exercise designed to encourage suggestions from SIA members for new projects or areas of concern.

The suggestions received have resulted in some excellent potential projects for the SIA to progress in 2016 and beyond.

Phil Pease from the IPA discussed the challenges facing packaging suppliers, manufacturers and end-users through the introduction of WM2 / 3, which remain relevant to SIA members from all industry sectors.

A representative from the UK Home Office Counter-Terrorism group rounded off with a very topical and interesting presentation on the threat level to the UK from terrorism and how companies can increase vigilance to avert potential threats.

After-dinner entertainment was provided by 'The Bank Manager', Mr. David Kendall, and the customary charity raffle raised £505 in aid of Demelza Children's Hospice in Sittingbourne. Many thanks to Alcohols and Hayman for generously donating prizes on the night.

Congratulations to Vicky Challis of Haltermann Carless, who received the Gerald Soane Award in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the SIA Technical Sub-Committee in producing two new Guidance Notes in the past 12 months (GN 57 Confined Space Entry and GN 58 Hot Work).

Finally, well done to Peter Goody of Helm GB, who won the annual Golf Day prior to the AGM. Dates for the 2016 events can be found on page 4.



Phil Pease addresses delegates at the AGM

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## SIA Training Course takes European Tour!



Following successful events in Manchester, Leeds and London, the SIA Training Course, 'An Introduction to the Solvents Industry', was rolled out to our colleagues in the European Solvents Industry Group (ESIG) in April and September when courses were held at the Cefic offices in Brussels.

The course is suitable for anyone within the industry who would like to acquire a greater understanding of solvents, or for those who are new to the industry and would like to learn more. Participants included sales

representatives, product managers and office-based employees of ESIG members, which consist purely of large solvent manufacturers.

The course is designed to complement the work previously carried out by the SIA and ESIG in the production of solvents safety DVDs and accompanying guidelines, and to increase understanding of the importance of the industry to the global economy. It covers the history of solvents, explains the different types and applications, illustrates their safe handling and regulatory aspects, as well as an introduction to Product Stewardship.

The training is an integral part of any solvents education programme, and aligns with our commitments to Responsible Care and Product Stewardship.

A third ESIG-sponsored course will be held in Rotterdam on April 12th and the next UK-based event will take place on 30th June in Stratford-Upon-Avon.

To reserve places or for more information, please contact Andrew Norman, SIA General Secretary at [info@solvents.org.uk](mailto:info@solvents.org.uk)

## SIA Launches New Website

**2015 saw the launch of our brand new website, raising the profile of the Association and continuing the process of ongoing modernisation.**

The launch has resulted in a significant increase in visitors to the site and contact from solvents end-users.

Andrew Norman, SIA General Secretary, said, 'Modernisation of the website was required following our successful re-brand in 2014 and we feel that the new-look site is a much more appropriate platform for us to share our expertise with solvents users'.

Further development of the site content is planned for 2016 through the SIA Technical Sub-Committee to increase the amount of information available. The website can be viewed through the new domain [www.solvents.org.uk](http://www.solvents.org.uk)



## The SIA Welcomes Two New Members

The SIA is very pleased to announce the addition of two new members to the Association in 2015.



Cambridge-based **ROMIL Limited** brings the analytical grade solvents sector to the Association for the first time. Specialising in high-purity, bespoke solvent products ROMIL Limited has been established 32 years, with a business model which focuses on the specific needs and applications of the solvent end-user.

Founder and Managing Director Dr. Robert Lenk said, 'By joining the SIA we hope to bring our expertise of high purity solvents to a wider audience and in turn benefit from the solvent-related services and expertise that the Association has to offer. We were pleased with the positive feedback from a number of our staff who attended the course 'An Introduction to the Solvents Industry' and saw how we fitted in to the overall solvents sector'.

Founded in 1976, **Whyte Chemicals Limited** is a well-established European chemical distributor, joining the SIA last July.

Managing Director Melvyn Whyte said, 'Whyte Chemicals Limited is consolidating its long established position supplying commodities and solvents to our clients as part of an extensive portfolio tailored to the industries we serve'.

'As a downstream user in our two manufacturing plants in UK as well as a distributor, we have a unique insight and hope that working with the SIA will allow us to contribute, as well as seek guidance and support in this dynamic and highly regulated area of business activity'.

Both companies are already actively involved with the SIA Technical Sub-Committee and we look forward to sharing our experiences and in turn reach a broader spectrum of solvent-users through our new members.



*'By joining the SIA we hope to bring our expertise of high-purity solvents to a wider audience' - Dr. Robert Lenk, Romil Limited*

*'We hope that working with the SIA will allow us to contribute, as well as seek guidance' - Melvyn Whyte, Whyte Chemicals*

## Banner Chemicals Wins HS&E Award for SIA Collaboration

SIA member Banner Chemicals has recently been awarded the Health, Safety & Environment Award from Chemicals Northwest for their special initiative in ensuring safer packaging practices along the supply chain.

The initiative focuses on close collaboration with the Solvent Industry Association's Technical Sub-Committee, and is a result of the production of SIA Guidance Note 56 to ensure all businesses using solvents have access to Best Practice information with examples of commonly used solvents in different drum sizes.

David Dalton, Group Compliance Director for Banner Chemicals and SIA Technical Sub-Committee member, said, 'We are all ambassadors for the chemical industry and take Health and Safety very seriously - it is our responsibility to share our expertise where we can and we work extensively with the SIA and other organisations to do that'.

Congratulations to all SIA member companies involved with the production of the Guidance Note. Guidance Note 56—Percentage Fill of Packages is available for free download via the SIA website [www.solvents.org.uk/guidance notes](http://www.solvents.org.uk/guidance%20notes)

*'We are all ambassadors for the Chemical Industry and take Health & Safety very seriously' - David Dalton, Group Compliance Director, Banner Chemicals*





**Solvents  
Industry  
Association**  
CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS,  
COMMON RESPONSIBILITY

The Solvents Industry Association is a trade association which represents the UK solvents industry, promoting the safe and responsible use of this vital group of products.

Solvents are present in almost all manufacturing processes and are estimated to be in use by more than half a million companies in Europe.

The SIA strives to deliver high quality technical support to our members through the work of our Technical Sub-Committee, and the production of Guidance Notes for solvents handling and use.

If you wish to become a member of the SIA, please contact Andrew Norman, General Secretary at [info@solvents.org.uk](mailto:info@solvents.org.uk)

### Stories for SIA News releases

If you have a story or item you wish to share for future issues of SIA News or for our website, please contact Andrew Norman, SIA General Secretary at [info@solvents.org.uk](mailto:info@solvents.org.uk)

Tel. 07758 118675

We would welcome your feedback and comments.

## Dates for the Diary 2016

### Social events

- SIA Spring Dinner—Imperial War Museum, London, Thursday 17th March
- SIA Golf Day 2016 — Welcombe Golf Club, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Tuesday 18th October
- SIA AGM & Dinner 2016 — Stratford Manor Hotel, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Wednesday 19th October

### Technical Sub-Committee Meetings

- Tuesday 23rd February 2016 — Brenntag UK, Daresbury
- Thursday 16th June—Haltermann Carless, Harwich
- Wednesday 28th September—Suttons Tankers, Widnes
- Thursday 8th December—Caldic UK, Chesterfield

### Executive Committee Meetings

- Thursday 17th March— Sasol Petroleum, London
- Thursday 7th July — Banner Chemicals, Runcorn
- Thursday 8th September—Hayman Group, Witham
- Wednesday 19th October— Stratford Manor, Stratford-Upon-Avon
- Wednesday 7th December— Helm GB, Solihull

## SIA Spring Dinner and AGM dates announced



### Spring Dinner 2016 Imperial War Museum, London

Following the success of the 2015 Annual Spring Dinner, held at the Swan at Shakespeare's Globe, the 2016 event is to be held at the Imperial War Museum, London on Thursday 17th March.

### AGM & Dinner 2016 Stratford Manor Hotel, Stratford-Upon-Avon

The 2016 AGM & Dinner returns to Stratford Manor on Wednesday 19th October, preceded by the annual golf day at the Welcombe Golf Club on the 18th.

Members interested in attending, or for more details contact Andrew Norman, General Secretary  
[info@solvents.org.uk](mailto:info@solvents.org.uk)

**Visit our website at [www.solvents.org.uk](http://www.solvents.org.uk)**