

37th ASEAN Glass Conference

The annual ASEAN Glass Conference was successfully staged last September in Bali by the Indonesian Glass Manufacturers' Association. The ASEAN Federation of Glass Manufacturers used the occasion to announce the continuation of Glass Worldwide's status as exclusive official journal of the AFGM.

Staged for the ninth time in Indonesia and for the fifth time in Bali, the conference adopted the theme 'Efficiency for Survival', a combination of technical and social events bringing together approximately 275 attendees from 19 different countries.

Following a golf tournament and cocktail reception, Henry Susanto, AFGM Chairman and Harris Hendraka, Organising Committee Chairman, delivered welcome addresses at an opening ceremony. A keynote speech focusing on Indonesia's economic outlook and the effect of the ASEAN free trade block for ASEAN countries was presented by Lin Che Wei, President Director of Danareksa Securities, Indonesia's biggest state-owned investment banking company, former CEO of the Sampoerna Foundation and a special assistant to the country's Finance Minister.

"With an Asian free trade block starting in 2015, it was particularly useful to gain the opinion of an economic analyst because it's going to have a major impact on our economy" commented Harris Hendraka, who is also Operations

Director and Vice Chairman of PT Kemasindo Ampuh, a leading Indonesian manufacturer of tableware.

TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS

At the start of the technical session, Jane Muncke, Managing Director of the Food Packaging Forum, presented 'Healthy Food Packaging, Healthy Children: Glass v Plastics'. "I heard from a lot of people that found her paper impressive" said Harris Hendraka. "It was a priority to provide good papers to give stakeholders in this industry information about efficiency that they need to survive. It was an impressive programme."

Adopting the 'Efficiency for Survival' theme, other papers included:

- 'The development of a non-destructive inspection method for AZS fused cast refractory and the results performance of the inspected blocks used in glass' by AGC Ceramics.
- 'Advanced oxy-fuel applications enhance furnace melting efficiency' by Air Products.
- 'Efficiency improvement' by BDF Industries.
- 'BoX' by Bottero Glass Technologies.
- 'Glass furnace regenerator performance and optimisation for energy savings' by Saint-Gobain SEFPRO.
- 'Single container water hammer tester' by Toyo Glass.
- 'Billions to gain' by XPAR Vision.

"We had many enquiries to present papers and selected the best – they had to be informative and contain useful technical information for delegates" said Henry Susanto, who is Chief of Production at Jakarta-based PT The First National Glassware. "We also tried to bring a variety of

topics from people with different glass backgrounds."

OFFICIAL JOURNAL STATUS

The AFGM used the occasion to hold a plenary session for members, where it was decided that the 38th ASEAN Glass Conference will be staged in Malaysia in 2014. In recognition of its leading status in South East Asia, the committee also voted unanimously for *Glass Worldwide* to continue as exclusive official journal of the AFGM. Henry Susanto confirmed: "The committee is very happy with the relationship and during the meeting, we agreed to extend the official partnership between *Glass Worldwide* and our organisation. We hope we can work together for a long time."

Accompanying events included a Bali cultural night at Taman Bhagawan, a Balinese cultural tour, a beach dinner party and an island day tour of Bali Hai Nusa Lembongan Pontoon. The event closed with an AFGM gala dinner.

Glass Worldwide was joint sponsor of the conference bags, shirts and souvenirs. Other event sponsors included Air Products, >



Henry Susanto's welcome address in Bali.



Enjoying a cultural dinner in Bali, Leslie Struys and Nelson Hui Yuen Kin of the Glass Manufacturers' Association of Malaysia, organiser of next year's ASEAN Glass Conference.



AFGM committee members at the conference opening ceremony.

Asahi Glass Ceramics, Antonini, BDF, Bottero, Eclipse, Electroglass, Emhart Glass, Fives Stein, Flammatec, futronic, Heye International, Horn Glass Industries, IRIS Inspection Machines, Jeffer Engineering and Technology, Lattimer, MSK, Olivotto Glass Technologies, Parkinson-Spencer Refractories, PT Perdoni Chemicals Trading, RHI, Saint-Gobain SEFPRO, San Miguel, Sheppee International, SORG, Stara Glass, TATA Chemicals Magadi, TIAMA Inspection Worldwide (MSC&SGCC), Toyo Glass, Vertech, XPAR Vision and ZIPPE.

Expressing his overall satisfaction with the event, Henry Susanto summarised: "I am honestly very proud of the attendance and believe one of the reasons is because of the support from *Glass Worldwide* by publicising our event. I would just like to thank the participants for this

year's conference. It was great and I personally feel like we are a family in glass – we get together once a year to discuss business and enjoy friendship, while reminiscing and sharing the knowledge since we last met. Personally, I'm very pleased with the organising committee and the event organiser."

Representatives of suppliers attending from outside Asia were also quick to praise the event. "It was very useful" commented Gregory Lecat, Sales Director of the Asian and Middle East regions for HEYE International. "It's an occasion to meet people from many different industries and also talk about the latest developments in glass, such as new technology to improve efficiency and quality in the glass plant." Bernd-Holger Zippe, President and CEO of ZIPPE Industrieanlagen, has attended every AFGM conference since 1986 and confirmed: "You get a close contact to the guys in the region – that is the strongest benefit of these events."

"I think in general it was nice for all the people from the glass industry to get together and share information such as country reports and fuel and raw material prices" added Harris Hendraka. "I saw a lot of people coming from Europe and America and it's a blessing really. It was a really good event."



Jane Muncke's presentation was well received.

FOCUS ON MALAYSIA

Looking ahead to the 38th ASEAN Glass Conference, Nelson Hui Yuen Kin, Secretary General of the Glass Manufacturers' Association of Malaysia, said: "We are very much looking forward to hosting the event in Malaysia. It will be a warm welcome and like a family reunion."

"We are very proud for the conference to be returning to Malaysia" concluded Leslie Struys, Chairman of the Glass Manufacturers' Association of Malaysia and a founding member of the AFGM who has the distinction of having attended all 37 AFGM conferences. "We are confident of an event worthy of the occasion and one that will continue the success from Bali."

Dates and location of the 38th ASEAN Glass Conference will be announced in a future issue of *Glass Worldwide*. ■



The conference programme included several valuable networking opportunities.



Harris Hendraka (right) makes a presentation to keynote speaker Lin Che Wei.

FURTHER INFORMATION:
web: www.afgm2013.com