Adopting the theme ‘Go Green With Glass’, a combination of technical and social events brought together over 260 delegates from 23 countries, including visitors from China, Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Netherlands, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, UK, USA, Vietnam and of course, Malaysia.

“The Glass Manufacturers’ Association of Malaysia is now at a threshold, in that the organising committee has seen a changing of the guard; the committee that organised this conference was brand new” commented Leslie Struys, Chairman of the Glass Manufacturers’ Association of Malaysia (GMAM). “So this was a first time for them and they did a terrific job. The conference programme, organisation and attendance were all good.” Henry Susanto, Chairman of the AFGM agreed: “The organising committee did a good job and worked hard to ensure that the conference ran smoothly and was well organised.”

Following a golf tournament and cocktail reception, Henry Susanto and Chai Kung Fee, Organising Committee Chairman, presented welcome addresses at an opening ceremony. Keynote speeches followed from Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng and Senator Datuk Paul Low, a minister in the Malaysian Prime Minister’s department.

The ASEAN Glass Conference programme included several networking opportunities.
in charge of Governance and Integrity. The Senator was personally active with the GMAM and the AFGM when he previously worked for Malaysian Sheet Glass Sdn Bhd. Together with Leslie Struys (Malaya Glass), Nari Gidwani (JG Containers) and Liew Tack Wan (Kuala Lumpur Glass), he was part of the GMAM delegation that helped organise the ASEAN Glass Conference in 1977.

TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS
Adopting the ‘Go Green With Glass’ theme, AGC Ceramics and BDF sponsored a full day of technical presentations in Penang, including:

- ‘Initiative of energy saving of glass furnace’ – AGC Ceramics.
- ‘Hot bottom repairs: Global impact, performance case study and development for the Americas’ – Fosbel.
- ‘NOx emissions of glass melting furnaces – genesis and reduction measures’ – HORN Glass Industries.
- ‘Development of super lightweight one-way beer bottle’ – Nihon Yamamura Glass.
- ‘Refractory increase for efficiency; EX Series’ – Refratrade (SIGMA Group).
- ‘Heat recovery for glass melting furnaces’ – SORG.
- ‘NOx containment in glass furnace’ – Stara Glass.
- ‘How to analyse furnace performance for better energy utilisation’ – Thailand Center of Excellence for Glass.
- ‘ICG Annual Meeting 2015 – for the first time in ASEAN’ – Thailand Center of Excellence for Glass.
- ‘Go green with gob supervision’ – Tiama – MSC and SGCC.

Accompanying events included a ‘Heritage Night’ dinner at Khoo Kongsi, a Bora-Bora beach dinner party and a ferry tour excursion. The event closed with an AFGM Gala Dinner.

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The AFGM used the occasion to hold a plenary session for members, where it was confirmed that the 39th ASEAN Glass Conference would be staged in the Philippines in September or October 2015. “The last ASEAN Glass Conference in the Philippines was in 2010” commented Peter Javier, Secretary General of the Glass Manufacturers Association of the Philippines. “It’s a welcome development for it to return and we will be well prepared! We rely on the feedback we get from AFGM members and their suppliers and we always aim to improve the conferences.” Dates and location of the conference will be announced in a future issue of Glass Worldwide.

In recognition of its leading status in South East Asia, the committee also voted unanimously to reaffirm and extend Glass Worldwide’s status as exclusive official journal of the AFGM, even though the previous agreement was yet to expire.

Henry Susanto confirmed: “We had a good meeting, attended by all glass manufacturers. Everybody on the committee is very happy with Glass Worldwide and we decided to further extend the official partnership between our organisations. Glass Worldwide has been very supportive of the AFGM and is involved throughout our region. Every issue is very informative.”

Glass Worldwide was joint sponsor of the conference bags and souvenirs. Other sponsors included AGC Ceramics, CR, ANTONINI, BDF, Bottero, Bucher Emhart Glass, Dura Temp, Fives Stein, FiammaTec, Heye International, HORN, IRIS Inspection machines, Malaysia Convention and Exhibition Bureau, Malaysia Sheet Glass, MSK, Penang State Ministry for Tourism Development, Ramsey Products, Sibelco, SIGMA, SORG, Stara Glass, Tata Chemicals, Tiama – MSC and SGCC, Tourism Malaysia Penang, XPAR Vision and ZIPPE.

FURTHER INFORMATION:
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