

40th ASEAN Glass Conference

The landmark 40th ASEAN Glass Conference was successfully staged last October in Thailand by the Glass Manufacturers Industry Club, The Federation of Thai Industries (GMFTI). The ASEAN Federation of Glass Manufacturers (AFGM) also used the occasion to announce Viwat Supatham as AFGM Chairman and the renewal of *Glass Worldwide* as exclusive official AFGM journal.

Adopting the theme 'A New Era of Collaboration', the 40th ASEAN Glass Conference took place for the first time in Hua Hin. A combination of technical and social events brought together approximately 360 attendees from 28 different countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle

East, North America and Oceania. Fifty attendees were first time participants.

With Thailand in a period of mourning for King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the organising committee followed guidelines from the Thai Government and Bureau of the Royal Household and amended the event programme accordingly to reflect the country's mood. Attendees dressed in black or white as appropriate mourning attire to express their condolences and observed a minute's silence in honour of the King of Thailand. "Our King passed away on 13 October, shocking all Thai

people with deepest sadness in the heart" lamented GMFTI Chairman and incoming AFGM Chairman, Viwat Supatham.

With appropriate tones, a golf tournament and cocktail reception took place before a grand conference opening that included a keynote speech from Chen Numchaisiri (Chairman of the Thai Federation of Thai Industries and Appointed Member of The National Legislative Assembly) and welcome addresses from Viwat Supatham, Worawit Suresarakorn (Organising Conference Chairman) and Chai Kung Fee (outgoing AFGM Chairman).>



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SPONSORS

Along with *Glass Worldwide*, sponsors of the 40th ASEAN Glass Conference included:

- **City tour:** BDF Industries, Changshu Jianhua Mould Technology and LWN Lufttechnik.
- **Conference kits and souvenirs:** Excelsius Global Services, Fosbel, Graphoidal, Group Rondot, OMCO, RHI, Sheppee International, The Siam Refractory Industry, Sonicam and Wieland.
- **Farewell party:** Advantech Industrial Technologies, Bangkok Industrial Gas, MOTIM Refractories, Saint-Gobain SEFPRO, Tata Chemicals and Vertech.
- **Golf tournament:** Antonini.
- **Grand tour:** Bottero, Emmeti and TIAMA.
- **Group photo session:** Heye International.
- **In-house activities:** Changshu Jinggong Mould, Changshu Weiheng Mould Manufacture and JLI vision.
- **Lunch and dinner events:** AGC Ceramics, Arkema, Dura Temp, GPS, HORN Glass Industries, Ihara Furnace, Kleenmold, Nihon Yamamura Glass, Olivotto, Parkinson-Spencer Refractories, Ramsey Products, Trirex International, ZIBO Asahi Glass Alumina Materials, ZIBO GT Industrial Ceramics and ZIPPE.
- **Opening attire:** Agr Bangkok.
- **Welcome cocktail party:** Bucher Emhart Glass, IRIS Inspection machines, MSK, SORG and XPAR Vision.



Representatives of the member nations with the keynote speaker, including (left to right): Nelson Hui Yuen Kin (Malaysia), Emmanuel Alcantara (Philippines), Viwat Supatham (Thailand), Chen Numchaisiri (keynote speaker), Chai Kung Fee (Malaysia), Henry Susanto (Indonesia), Nguyen Huy Thang (Vietnam) and Worawit Suresarakorn (Thailand).



AFGM dignitaries including Leslie Struys and Peter Javier, fondly described as 'the last of the Mohicans', having been closely associated with the AFGM since the organisation's creation in 1977.

"Over four decades, every year the ASEAN Glass Conference has offered all participants a great opportunity to strengthen business networking and collaboration in the industry. Particularly, this year the conference theme 'A New Era of Collaboration', or in short AEC, was chosen to further enhance our objectives" enthused Chai Kung Fee. "AEC is an acronym for the ASEAN Economy Community, which was established with the objective of ASEAN members being able to move forward quicker with co-operation and integration so that every ASEAN country can benefit and prosper together."

GLASS WORLDWIDE UNANIMOUSLY RE-ELECTED OFFICIAL AFGM JOURNAL

During the AFGM plenary session at the 40th ASEAN Glass Conference, the five member nations voted unanimously to reaffirm and extend *Glass Worldwide's* status as exclusive official journal of the AFGM.

"I would like to congratulate *Glass Worldwide* for being re-elected by the committee as the exclusive official journal of the AFGM. We really appreciate and look forward to the kind of quality support, value added services and co-operation that has been given so far from *Glass Worldwide*" commented outgoing AFGM Chairman, Chai Kung Fee.

Reflecting *Glass Worldwide's* leading status in South East Asia, AFGM Chairman Viwat Supatham, agreed: "*Glass Worldwide* is considered our family. I believe that *Glass Worldwide's* services and support for the AFGM Conference and our members in previous years has consistently proved this. That's why *Glass Worldwide* has been chosen again as our exclusive official journal."

Member associations of the AFGM include:

Indonesia: Indonesia Glass Manufacturers Association (Chairman: Henry Susanto).

Malaysia: Glass Manufacturers Association of Malaysia (Chairman: Chai Kung Fee).

Philippines: Glass Manufacturers' Association of the Philippines (Chairman: Emmanuel Alcantara).

Thailand: Glass Manufacturers Industry Club, The Federation of Thai Industries (Chairman: Viwat Supatham).

Vietnam: Vietnam Glass Association – Manufacturers sector (Chairman: Ho Quynh Hung; Honorary Chairman: Thai Tran Quoc).



Glass Worldwide, a sponsor of the 40th ASEAN Glass Conference, was unanimously re-elected official AFGM journal by the five member nations.



The programme included several networking opportunities.



Nine technical papers took the theme 'A New Era of Collaboration'.

TECHNICAL SESSION

Adopting the AEC theme and chaired by Surasak Wannaparhun, Vice President of Quality and Research Development at Thai Glass Industries, a full day of technical presentations followed, including:

- Innovative concepts for cullet treatment plants (Advantech Industrial Technologies).
- Earth saving (AGC).
- Full oxy-fuel glass furnace conversions in Asia (Air Products and Chemicals).
- ONM – An all new combustion system technology for forehearth and distributors (Glass Service srl).
- Auto swabbing improves overall efficiency (Graphoidal).
- Advanced inspection systems for the glass industry (JLI vision).
- Application of dynamic binarisation logic to inspection machine (Nihon Yamamura Glass).
- Industry 4.0: A real challenge for glass manufacturers (Vertech).
- Container glass forming in 2020/2025: The dark factory (XPAR Vision).

Presentations can be downloaded at <http://aseanglass.org/technical-paper>.

Held parallel to the conference, 'Business Connection' meeting rooms offered delegates the opportunity to learn more about the activities of leading suppliers such as AGC Ceramics, Bottero, Emmeti, Excelsius Global Services, GPS, HORN Glass Industries, IRIS Inspection machines, LWN Lufttechnik, MSK, Olivotto, RHI Refractories, TIAMA, Trirex, XPAR Vision and ZIPPE.

AFGM CHAIRMAN AND 2017 CONFERENCE ANNOUNCED

The AFGM used the occasion to hold a plenary session for members, where it was confirmed that the 41st ASEAN Glass Conference would be staged in Vietnam in September or October 2017. Further information will follow in a future issue of *Glass Worldwide* when available.

Also during the plenary session, Viwat Supatham was voted in as AFGM Chairman for 2017/18, succeeding Chai Kung Fee. "At present, the AFGM consists of five member nations, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. As per our policy, the chairmanship is elected every two years by the members and I am pleased to introduce our new elected AFGM Chairman, Viwat Supatham. I hope everyone will continue to give their full support to Khun Viwat in executing his heavy roles and responsibility" said Mr Chai, Executive Chairman of Glasco. "I have had the privilege of being AFGM Chairman for the past two years, receiving all kinds of support and encouragement from members and our associates. I would like to say thank you to everyone as without your support, it would not have been an easy task to accomplish my role."

Mr Viwat, General Manager of Siam Glass Industry Co Ltd, told *Glass Worldwide*: "It is an honour for me to be appointed AFGM Chairman for the next two years by our member countries. As AEC is on full track now, I believe we must stay stronger together in our collaboration, not only among members but all the glass people and friends around the world as one big family."

"The AFGM Conference was purposely designed to differentiate from any other glass conference in the world; at no other glass meeting can you talk on the poolside nor during a party" Mr Viwat added. "The four days we stay together annually for the last 40 years is incomparable when building such strong relationships."

Worawit Suresarakorn, Plant Manager of Siam Fiberglass Co Ltd, was elected AFGM General Secretary for the same period, succeeding Nelson Hui Yuen Kin. ■

FURTHER INFORMATION:
web: www.aseanglass.org