

First BHDT LDPE Conference a real success

The first BHDT LDPE Conference 2010, held on June 7 & 8 in Kapfenberg, Austria was the second real success after the BHDT UREA Conference in May. The location of the event was once more unique: A more than 800 year old medieval castle in the middle of Kapfenberg, overlooking the city of Kapfenberg with its famous industries like Böhler Steelworks and the valley of the river Mürz.



BHDT well known for delivering High pressure equipment of superior design and extraordinary reliability to LDPE plants worldwide, held this conference for the inauguration of BHDT Service as new member of the BHDT family. BHDT Service is the result of BHDT's decision to intensify its services business and to provide more added value to contractors and operating companies. BHDT Service can offer the right support to increase equipment safety and reliability during the complete lifetime of an High Pressure equipment plant.

The program established by BHDT Service included several interesting presentations from licensors, contractors, suppliers and BHDT executives. In addition to the numerous presentations, a workshop tour with live demonstrations and exceptional afternoon activities did assure a valuable seminar to all participants. The conference was attended by more than thirty engineers and managers from various companies.



Mr. Peter Mandl, Business Unit Manager of BHDT opened the conference with a short explanation why BHDT decided to start up the new company BHDT Service: Being close to customers and providing assistance and services to customers whenever required, creates a win-win situation for both parties. With the information gained, BHDT is able to optimize its products exactly to the customer needs and LDPE producers are able to improve the safety and reliability of their High pressure equipments.

After the introduction Mr. Mandl continued with the presentation of the company BHDT and the new family member BHDT Service. BHDT main business are LDPE, Fertilizer and HP pumps and BHDT is currently strengthening its position in Oil & Energy as well as Services. Started in 1958 the company has established a world market leader position in several businesses like LDPE and UREA.

Mr. Manfred Pözl head of the High pressure systems department presented the extended scope of engineering services offered and supplied by BHDT Service. He therefore focussed on the actual and most recent challenges on the engineering sector and described how BHDT Service can manage to meet those challenges with its technical and human engineering capacities.

Mr. Dieter Littmann, Senior Technology Manager of BASSELL licensing gave a very interesting presentation on the Trends & Developments of Polyethylene plants from the licensors point of view. He introduced the company BASSELL in general and the LDPE licensing business of BASSELL in detail and concluded with the technical developments of the future and the global capacity expectations on the LDPE market.

Mr. Werner Bilina, the Senior Group Expert for the Polyolefin process of Borealis introduced the necessary considerations concerning Plant availability of world-scale single train plants. We were presented the management and technical tools with which to guarantee high plant availability.

After the Coffee break Mr. Armin Krabiell from the steel supplier Deutsche Edelstahlwerke presented the latest Developments in the production of HP-materials. Mr. Krabiell briefly presented the company DEW and continued with the explanation of the most recent HP tube manufacturing process. The presentation concluded with the last years trends and future developments concerning HP & HP-tube materials.

Then it was time for lunch, which was served in one of the castles rooms where the authentic medieval atmosphere is still present.

After lunch Mr. Wilfried Eichlseder from the Chair of Mechanical Engineering from the University of Leoben explained and analyzed the General Fatigue behaviour of heat treated steels such as the material to be used for the HP equipment manufacturing.



The final presentation of the first conference day was held by Mr. Franz Trieb the department manager of the High pressure pump department. The presentation of Mr. Trieb covered the Trends & Developments of High pressure Injection pumps and Valve test stations for LDPE plants focussing on the advantages of the corresponding BHDT equipment and the capabilities for project specific realizations of clients requests.



The first day has been finished with a tour to the south of Styria where we visited a famous vineyard and had a tour through the impressive vineyard cellar. The tour was topped off with a wine tasting and a traditional dinner.

The next day started with a presentation of Mr. Michael Simml of BHDT Service elaborating the Added Value of BHDT Service. For example when a LDPE producer involves BHDT Service for the supply, engineering and installation of the

critical High pressure piping job, one will achieve a single point of responsibility for the complete scope, considerable less time will be needed to realize the project and a maximum of safety and reliability will be gained due to BHDT's high quality standard and LDPE know-how and experience.

The final presentation of the conference was given by Mr. Gerhard Walth head of the Quality assurance department. Mr. Walth explained the different types of NDT testing available at BHDT and briefly described the realization of these testing methods. Furthermore he presented BHDT's possibilities to perform in house fatigue testing of high pressure equipment.

After these presentations a Workshop tour followed including several demonstrations. A good impression could be gained of BHDT's capabilities in drilling high pressure pipelines and producing all kind of high valves and fittings. The impressive available raw material stock enables BHDT to provide a very quick response to emergency situations.



Both, the second day and the first LDPE conference were closed by a lunch in a traditional Austrian restaurant located high on the mountain sides overlooking the beautiful surroundings of Kapfenberg.



The first BHDT LDPE Conference can be considered as a real success. The presentations were very interesting, the program was very attractive and the warm Austrian hospitality and atmosphere assured an unforgettable experience.