

# CEMENT PERFORMANCE REVIEW

QUARTER 4 2007

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CASTLE CEMENT	2
SUWANNEE CEMENT	2
AUSTRALIA	2
CONFERENCE PAPERS	3
IEEE MIAMI	3
ARTICLES	3
GATWICK PROGRAMME	4

## 2008 GATWICK TRAINING

Once again **CPI** will be holding its annual training course at Gatwick, close to London, during the first week of June 2008. The title of the course has been changed this year to "Optimisation of Cement Manufacturing Operations", reflecting the feedback from the multi-national participants of the 2007 course. The course content has been developed to reflect the new course title and this year it will be a four day event. This will allow more time for in depth discussion of all aspects of the course material and the experiences of participants and presenters alike

New course exercises have been developed for the 2008 event, which will allow the participants to test their understanding of the course content and work with the **CPI** trainers to solve the challenges of the course.

The target audience for the course is those with a basic understanding of the cement manufacturing process and who are looking to learn about the key factors and methods of producing optimal performance on their respective plants.

Often manufacturers invest in new equipment on their cement plants without investing in their most valuable asset—their employees; **CPI** would strongly recommend this course to anyone who is looking to get the most out of process engineers, production managers, quality and engineering managers along with any other positions that have the ability to influence the optimisation of the process of cement manufacture.

The location of the course has been chosen as it is close to the **CPI** offices in the UK and therefore **CPI** can maximize the number of different trainers on the course and therefore maximize the subjects and knowledge transfer for the participants. As usual the course presenters will be available throughout the week for individual sessions with the presenters to discuss specific issues on their own plants.

The course programme is presented on the last page of this newsletter; booking is through the **CPI** website by using the links below. We look forward to seeing many of you at Gatwick in June.



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2007**

<http://www.cementperformance.com/>

<http://www.cementperformance.com/gatwick/index.html>

<http://www.cementperformance.com/gatwick/schedule.html>

<http://www.cementperformance.com/gatwick/booking.html>

## CASTLE CEMENT—UK

CPI has recently completed two training sessions at the Ketton plant of Castle Cement. The sessions were designed between CPI and the plant operations team to give a mix of theoretical and practical aspects of kiln operations.

Each session lasted three days and was presented by a CPI process

engineer and one of the CPI expert kiln burners, and included the usual mix of classroom training, discussion and exercises to test the understanding of the material.

Some of the comments received by CPI from the participants were:

- “..the presenters were

informative, patient and willing to answer questions”

- “..knowledge gained and myths expelled”
- “..very well presented, all information relevant”
- “..all presenters clear, approachable and knowledgeable”

## SUWANNEE AMERICAN CEMENT

In the month of April, CPI Principal Engineer Alan Lorimer will be spending a week at the Suwannee American Cement plant in Florida, to deliver two, two-day long training modules on Control Room Operations.

As with all of the CPI

training packages it has been tailored to the plant requirements, and will cover not just cement technology but the issues faced by those in the control room in operating the raw mill and kilns. Explanations of pyro-processing phenomena will be provided along with methods to avoid or

correct kiln and cooler upsets.

The sessions will be in small groups of operators and plant operatives and will allow the participants to openly discuss with Alan how they operate the kiln and any issues specific to the plant.

## AUSTRALIA TRAINING

As this newsletter was being prepared, three of CPI's Associates were en-route to Australia to present two one-week long training courses.

The first course is a basic Cement Technology Course and the second is

a Cement Optimisation Course, similar in content to the course to be run at Gatwick later this year.

The courses will be attended by a significant part of the Australasian industry, with

participants from Blue Circle Southern Cement, Adelaide Brighton Cement, Sunstate Cement and in addition Golden Bay Cement from New Zealand.

## CONFERENCE PAPERS

Since the start of the year **CPI** has once again been active in its participation in Cement Industry conferences.

In February **CPI** attended the Global Fuels Conference in London, where Mark Mutter presented a paper on the "Practical Aspects of Alternative Fuel

usage". The main focus of the paper is the human aspects of both achieving success in fuels trials and in using several different fuels at the same time. The presentation can be found on the **CPI** website and the paper will soon be published in Global Fuels Magazine.

Mark also attended the European Cement Conference which was hosted in Moscow, where he presented a paper on Variability Reduction and won third prize for his presentation.

## ARTICLES

As you will see from this newsletter, **CPI** has started the year with many different training courses—from the short modules to the one-week long complete cement technology courses. This is not to say that **CPI** is not also focusing on its other services of plant optimisation and troubleshooting, projects and environmental

improvement.

However, many of **CPI's** clients have approached the company this year with the view that they should be providing their employees with the knowledge and capabilities to run the plants at the optimum level and in many cases, if this can be achieved then capital investment

can be avoided. Furthermore the capital invested in training is significantly less than in plant, and often the payback is much greater. If you would like to know more about **CPI's** approach to training, see Peter Dover's recent article from World Cement, called "Training that Performs", on the **CPI** website.

## IEEE MIAMI

Once again **CPI** will be attending the IEEE conference, which this year is being held in Miami on the 18th to 22nd of May.

The company will be represented by a mix of

Managers and Engineers who will be willing to discuss any of the **CPI** services with you.

It will also be a great opportunity for existing customers and former colleagues to catch up

with each other.

This year **CPI** will be on stand 619—we look forward to seeing you in Miami.

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## GATWICK TRAINING COURSE PROGRAMME

9:00 – 9:30	Introduction to Key Objectives and Group Introduction
9:30 – 10:30	Customer Perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Maintaining the competitive edge in the market place</li> </ul>
10:30 – 10:45	BREAK
10:45 – 12:30	Optimising raw materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Raw materials - quarrying and crushing</li> <li>· From raw materials to kiln feed – grinding theory and raw milling systems review</li> </ul>
12.30 – 13.30	LUNCH
13.30 – 15.30	Optimising raw materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· From raw materials to kiln feed – mill system control and optimisation, blending systems</li> <li>· Chemistry and quality control aspects</li> </ul>
15.30 – 15.45	BREAK
15.45 – 17:00	Day 1 Group Activity and Summary

8.30 – 9:00	Day 1 Feedback & Review of Key Points
9.00 – 10.30	Kiln Operation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>·Kiln / cooler systems and optimisation</li> </ul>
10.30 – 10.45	BREAK
10.45 – 12.30	Kiln Operation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>·Flames and firing</li> <li>·Chemistry in the kiln</li> </ul>
12.30 – 13.30	LUNCH
13.30 – 14.15	Kiln Operations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Optimisation of kiln systems</li> </ul>
14.15 – 15.30	Alternative fuels and Raw Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>·Identifying potential materials</li> <li>·Impact upon process and quality</li> </ul>
15:30 – 15.45	BREAK
15.45 – 17.00	Day 2 Group Activity and Summary

8:30 – 9:00	Day 2 Feedback & Review of Key Points
9:00 – 10:30	Cement Milling Operation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Grinding theory, cement milling systems review, cement mill control</li> </ul>
10:30 – 10:45	BREAK
10:45 – 11:30	Cement Milling Operation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Mill testing and optimisation</li> </ul>
11:30 – 12:30	Quality aspects of cement milling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>·Key quality control parameters</li> </ul>
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH
13:30 – 14.15	Process Variability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Predictive methods to reduce variability and the cost of process variability</li> </ul>
14.15 – 15.30	Plant Maintenance Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>·Cost of reliability</li> <li>·Maintenance strategy</li> </ul>
15:30 - 15:45	BREAK
15.45 – 17.00	Day 3 Group Activity and Summary

8:30 – 9:00	Day 3 Feedback & Review of Key Points
9:00 – 10:15	Refractories
10:15 – 10:30	BREAK
10.30 – 12.00	Environmental Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Protection Equipment</li> <li>· Emissions strategy</li> <li>· Legislation and Accreditation</li> </ul>
12.00 – 12.30	Introduction to Group Activity
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH
13:30 – 14.30	Group Activity (continued)
14.30 – 15.30	Group Activity Presentations and feedback
15.30 – 15.45	BREAK
15.45 – 16:30	Delegate strategy development for:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>·Identifying company/plant improvement plans to improve process operation and reduce operating costs</li> </ul>
16:30 -	Questions and Workshop Review

### YOUR COMMENTS

As ever, we would like to have your feedback—especially on what you would like to see in this newsletter. Many of you participated in the cpi customer survey, the results of which are now on the

website. If you have any further comments please contact us at the e-mail address below. Enquiries@cemenperformance.com