

Vacuum Insulation Panel Association

Technical Working Group Conference Call, Thursday 28 April 2016, 14:00 to 15:00

Participants:

Yoash Carmi, Hanita Coatings, Technical WG Chair
Roland Caps, va-Q-Tec
Christoph Sprengard, FIW
Matthias Geisler, Evonik Industries
Raquel Ponte Costa, VIPA International

Apologies:

Marko Meglič, Knauf Insulation
Pascal Rousset, Rexor
Justin Davies, Kingspan
Liat Suari, Hanita Coatings
Estelle Perrin, Rexor
Hans-Frieder Eberhardt, Porextherm
Phalguni Mukhopadhyaya, University of Victoria
Yi He, Qingdao Kerui New Environmental Materials
Quiang Liu, Fujian Supertech
Miki Mi, Jiangsu Sanyou Dior Energy-saving New Materials

Agenda

1. Welcome

1.1 Governance rules

Raquel Ponte Costa opened the meeting and welcomed all the members. Raquel reminded members of the Antitrust Compliance Statement of VIPA International.

1.2 Approval of the agenda

Raquel asked Roland to give an update about the CEN TC 88 WG11 under AoB. The agenda was approved with this addition.

1.3 Approval minutes previous conference call 5 February 2016 and review of action items

The minutes were approved as a correct statement of the discussions and decisions taken during the last conference call. Members reviewed the actions items. Raquel reported that Yoash Carmi volunteered to be the chair of the Technical WG. His nomination was approved by the Board during the meeting of 14 April in Frankfurt. The action related to the study on the measurement of VIP's internal pressure is completed and will be discussed during the call. With regards to the last action, Christoph Sprengard explained he has not yet found a student that could work on getters because this is a very precise subject. Related to this action, Raquel explained that the Board suggested asking a master or PhD student to work on a thesis related to VIPs. Professor Harjit Singh from the Brunel University said he would welcome such a project. The Technical WG discussed last time which topic to give to the student but no agreement was reached on this because such thesis should normally last between 1 to 3 years so it needs to be complex enough for the student to be busy with during this time. As a result, the offer of using the Brunel University is still in stand-by. Raquel said this will continue in the list of actions for the Technical WG.

Actions:

- Technical WG members to come-up with suggestions for a topic to be researched by a student (master or PhD thesis).
- Christoph Sprengard to keep VIPA informed in case he knows of any student interested in working on a short term research project on developing a technique to measure the capacity and performance of getters.

2. VIPA Studies

2.1 Status FIW study on compressive strength measurement

Christoph Sprengard reported that FIW just received all the fiber-glass specimens. The mid-term report is about to be finalised. Christoph will share it with everyone together with some questions for discussion. Raquel asked Christoph if it would be useful to organise a face-to-face meeting so the results of the study are discussed with the whole group. Christoph promised to send the mid-term report to all members together with a timeline for the completion of the study and some suggested dates for a face-to-face meeting.

Actions:

- Christoph Sprengard to circulate the mid-term report to all Technical WG members.
- Christoph Sprengard to send a timeline for the completion of the study including some suggested dates for a face-to-face meeting.

2.2 Status Hanita study on the development of an advanced technique for measuring the effect of moisture content on the thermal conductivity of VIPs

Raquel reported the contract was signed a couple of weeks ago and the invoice for the first installment is about to be paid so Hanita can start working on the project. Yoash Carmi mentioned Hanita is ready to start the project and already ordered a new machine for the research.

2.3 New proposal for consideration:

Hanita and FIW project: calibration of the lift-off technique for measuring the internal pressure of fumed silica VIPs and determination of boundary conditions for the lift-off measurements and processing of measurement raw data (EUR 25,000, 8 months)

Christoph Sprengard presented the project to all participants. No one had questions on the content and structure of the proposal. Raquel mentioned she did not receive any other comments from the members not attending the conference call. Hans-Frieder Eberhardt from Porextherm could not attend the conference call but he confirmed via email that he approves the study. Yoash suggested changing the starting date to June instead of May since the proposal still needs to be approved by the Board. Raquel explained that following this call, she will inform the Board about the proposal and give one week for the Board members to send their approval. Following that, the contract is signed and afterwards, the work can start.

Decision:

The participants in the call approved the joint proposal FIW and Hanita Coatings: calibration of the lift-off technique for measuring the internal pressure of fumed silica VIPs and determination of boundary conditions for the lift-off measurements and processing of measurement raw data.

3. Co-operation agreement between VIPA and GSH

3.1 VIPA Quality Working Group to review the RAL-GZ 960 document

Raquel informed the participants in the call that the co-operation agreement is up for approval by the Board via written resolution. The deadline to send the approval is 29 April and so far, we have received enough positive votes in favor of going ahead with the agreement. With regards to the implementation, Raquel mentioned that a VIPA Quality WG will need to be created. The Board suggested this to be organised within the Technical WG. The main mission of the Quality WG will be to access the RAL-GZ 960 document and make recommendations for changes if deemed necessary. Any modifications to the document will need to be approved by the RAL. Raquel will keep everyone informed about the creation of this Working Group.

4. AoB & date of the next conference call

Under AoB, Roland Caps reported on the meetings of both the CEN TC 88 and the CEN TC 88 WG 11. Both groupings had meetings the past weeks.

Within the CEN TC 88 WG 11, the method to measure the thermal connectivity for all VIPs (regardless of the core material used) was discussed. The same procedure is to be used in all applications, buildings and appliances alike. The next meeting of the WG 11 will take place in July. A new draft will be presented by then. On the meeting of the TC88 of last week in Oslo, all Working Groups reported on the progress achieved. Roland mentioned that the TC88 is a more general Technical Committee which is less relevant for VIPA. No other item was discussed. The conference call finished at 14:50.
