

**Vacuum Insulation Panel Association
Asian Working Group Conference Call
Friday, 9 December 2016, 8:30 to 9:30 CET (15:30 in Beijing/Singapore)**

Participants:

Miaotian Sun, Qingdao Kerui New Environmental Materials
Richard Burnley, Kingspan
Patrick Lim, Hanita Coatings
Yoash Carmi, Hanita Coatings
Gregor Erbenich, Porextherm
Raquel Ponte Costa, VIPA International

Apologies:

Zhaofeng Chen, NUAA
Jun-Tae Kim, Kongju National University
Yanqing Zhou, Hongda Suzhou V.I.P. New Material

Minutes

1. Welcome

1.1 VIPA International antitrust compliance statement

Raquel Ponte Costa welcomed all participants to the first conference call of the Asian Working Group. She reminded participants of the VIPA antitrust compliance statement which has to be respected. Any discussions about company's individual sensitive information or aiming at restricting competition are not allowed.

1.2 Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved with no additions.

1.3 Terms of reference of the Asian Working Group

Raquel explained each Working Group has a term of reference document which lists the mission of the Working Group and the general working procedures. Participants wondered about the name of the Working Group, should it be called Chinese Working Group or Asian Working Group. Raquel mentioned that indeed for the time being VIPA only has member companies in China but there are companies located in other Asian countries which we would like to have in our membership. As soon as these other companies join, this Working Group will then extend its activities to other countries in Asia.

Members approved the document drafted by Raquel.

Decision:

Participants in the conference call approved the terms of reference of the Asian Working Group.

2. Objectives and topics to be worked on by the Asian WG

Raquel asked Yoash Carmi to report on the standardisation activities going on in China. Yoash mentioned that the group lead by Nanjing Fiberglass Institute started looking a few months ago into a new standard for VIPs in all applications. The last VIP-related standard in China was published in January 2015 but it is very simple and does not include items like aging, thermal bridge, internal pressure, etc. Yoash met some representatives of this group in China a couple of weeks ago and they asked for VIPA to provide information and guidance about the CEN standard drafted in Europe as well as the GSH quality label criteria. Yoash reported he already asked some documents to Professor Phalguni who is now the convener of the ISO Committee working on VIPs. Members discussed how to help this group and with what in concrete. One

participant suggested first waiting to receive an official request directly from the standardisation group or from the Nanjing Fiberglass Institute. The other participants agreed this should be the start.

Gregor reminded participants of the discussions during the meetings in Barcelona and the suggestion of sending someone to China for a few days to brief the group of companies about the CEN standard and the GSH quality assessment rules. The issue is who to send and how to make sure the briefing is impartial and objective. Gregor was of the opinion that FIW would be a good candidate for such an exercise. They have all the knowledge and being an institute the neutrality is guaranteed. Members suggested that first the Technical Working Group could prepare a package explaining the basis of the standard and the GSH quality label. That would already be a good start and also a cheaper option compared to sending a delegation to China for a few days. Participants agreed that a face-to-face exchange would be better and a conference call would not be enough but they also concurred that the costs of sending someone to China should be shared between VIPA and the Chinese standardisation group.

After discussion, members agreed that both Miaotian and Yoash should get in touch with the Chinese standardisation group in name of the VIPA Asian Working Group. They should ask them to send detailed information to the VIPA secretariat so the Board can take a decision on the level of support the association could provide to this group:

- purpose of the group
- who takes part (which companies)
- what is the timeline and what is the schedule of meetings planned
- which support do they need from VIPA's side and when will they need it

Decisions:

- **Miaotian and Yoash to contact the Chinese standardisation group and ask them to send more detailed information about the work they plan to do.**
- **Once the Chinese standardisation group sends more information including a request for support, the VIPA Board should discuss and decide what to do with the request. Options include the Technical Working Group to prepare a package with information; sending someone (possibly FIW) to China to brief the group about the CEN standard (costs to be shared by both parts VIPA and the Chinese standardisation group).**

Raquel asked participants about any other issues in Asia which the Working Group could look into. Patrick mentioned that there are things happening in all countries in Asia but without local presence it is difficult to achieve any meaningful result. Patrick mentioned that VIPA is pretty much unknown in Asia especially to government authorities. Raquel explained that the VIPA website is going to be translated to mandarin and include a Chinese website domain. This will hopefully make it easier for people in China and perhaps also in nearby countries to visit the VIPA website and learn more about the association. Raquel mentioned the secretariat plans to publish a press release in mandarin once the mandarin version of the website is online. Raquel asked Patrick to share contacts of local authorities everywhere in Asia that should receive this mailing.

Action:

Patrick to send to the VIPA secretariat contacts of companies, organisations and government authorities in Asia with whom VIPA should get in touch.

3. Any other business

Raquel mentioned that the date of the next conference call shall be discussed via email once the actions below above are completed.

No other business was discussed. The conference call finished at 09:30.
