



# PLASTIC PIPES MOSCOW 2013

*INVENTRA press release*

**T**he Plastic Pipes International Conference, dedicated to the world plastic pipes industry, was held on 3–4 October 2013 in Moscow for the first time. The conference was organised by CREON Energy and INVENTRA, part of the CREON Group, and the Plastic Pipes Conference Association – the international associ-

ation created to organise and hold conferences for the plastic pipes industry.

The event brought together over 200 participants from 20 countries, from raw materials suppliers to gas, water and water disposal pipeline construction companies – all major market players in the world plastic

pipes industry. 31 presentations were given over the two days of the conference. The presentations covered summaries of regional markets, statistical data and advanced technologies.

The Plastic Pipes Exhibition was also held during the conference. Exhibitors included companies like

Baerlocher, LyondellBasell, Rollepaal, MOL, Piovan, Pipelife, the POLYPLASTIC Group, AGRU Kunststofftechnik, IPM и IPT Institut für Pruftechnik Geratebau.

**Zoran Davidovski**, Chairman of the Organising Committee of Plastic Pipes Moscow, explained in his welcome speech that the decision to hold the conference in Moscow was due to the rapid development of the Russian plastic pipes market. Increased capacity of quality pipes production, and growth in the multi-layered plastic pipes market were given as the main developments. It is estimated that Russia's annual market volume has reached over 0.5 million tonnes, with 85% of plastic pipes produced locally.

Russian plastic pipes producers have been on a difficult journey given the absence of raw materials, and a lack of government understanding which led to legislative vulnerability. Nevertheless, there are some world-standard Russian companies breaking the mould. "Just a few days ago the POLYPLASTIC Group, the leader of Russian market, hosted Prime Minister Dmitriy Medvedev at their plant. He could see the production

process in person. We hope that from now on the government approach to the plastic pipes industry in Russia will change and there will be local companies of world standard," said Fares Kilzie, Chairman of the Board of Directors of CREON Energy in his opening speech.

The first day of the Conference saw some summary presentations. **Noru Tsalic**, the Senior Vice-President of the Consulting Division of AMI concentrated on the world pipe market in 2012 – which was estimated at 113 billion US Dollars. The Pacific Ocean region took a major 41% share, Europe (including CIS Countries and Turkey) made 26%, NAFTA (Canada, USA, Mexico) made about 18%. Plastic pipes made over 50% of the market share (63 billion US Dollars). It is estimated that the plastic pipes share will be increased by 37 billion US Dollars by 2017.

**Kirill Trusov**, Director of the Pipeline Systems Department at POLYPLASTIC Group described the situation in PE pipe markets in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan (RUBK). It is estimated that the total PE pipes production volume in 2012 was about 440 thousand

tonnes with 330 thousand tonnes produced in Russia. PE pipes were used in water systems (61%), gas supply (26%), sewer systems and communication (13%). Overall plastic pipes consumption per capita in RUBK countries was 3 times lower than in Europe and 2.1 times lower than in China. Having said that, the utility networks in Russia are in deterioration. 240,000 km of water pipelines, 103,000 km of heating pipelines and 78,000 km of sewage need replacement. Moreover, there are many settlements in the country with no water and sewer systems at all. This represents enormous potential for the PE pipe market in Russia, where according to 2012 data, the market share of steel pipes was 65%, with 24% of PE pipes, 6% of PP pipes, 3% of PVC.

**Oleg Kozlov**, Technical Director of Alterplast presented his paper at the end of the first day and gave an overview of the Russian plastic pipes and fittings market based on PP-R, PEX, PERT and reinforced plastic pipes. The presentation included data on consumption of pipes with diameters up to 110 mm from 2008 to 2012 in Russia. The speaker summarised that PP pipe consumption increased from 53% to 58% and PEX/PERT from 6% to 10% but market share of metal pipes declined from 41% to 32%.

In the second session **Mohana Murali**, Senior Technical Service Manager of Bourouge, spoke about PE pipes application specifics in the oil and gas industry in the Middle East. Statistical data shows an annual cost increase related to the replacement of corroded metal pipes. The oil and gas industry is now looking into PE pipes as a more economically viable solution using PE pipes for pipeline construction and PE liner for steel pipes. In particular, the speaker showed the results of tests of PE pipes which have been transporting highly corrosive crude oil at a





temperature of 50°C and pressure of 1.0 MPa. The research showed that the properties of the pipe were changed imperceptibly, therefore PE pipes are an effective alternative to steel pipes in heavy-duty service.

**Detlef Schramm**, the Marketing and Assets Manager of PE Pipe Europe LyondellBasell, gave a presentation about HDPE pressure pipelines, with reference to their advantages and crack resistance, their high thermal stability and resistance to disinfectants.

The new types of LyondellBasell HDPE PE100: Hostalen CRP 100 RT black and Hostalen 4731 pipes were also presented. Both materials are used for pipe production for hot liquid materials transportation, desalination plant pipes and power cables. The speaker explained more about CRP 100 RD black – PE100 material which is highly resistant to disinfectants in the domestic water distribution systems.

**Christophe Salles**, Borealis Marketing Manager, spoke about gravity pipelines. He presented an overview of pipe grade PP used in the sewer systems. He described their advan-

tages in detail and showed efficiency factors during transportation, installation and operation.

**Michael Pluimer**, Technical Director of the corrugated pipes division of

PPI, covered HDPE used for corrugated pipes production.

The third session was opened by **Lola Oğrel**, Inventra Analytical Department Director, who presented a review of PVC pipes market in Russia and CIS. Russia's PVC market volume is estimated at almost 50 thousand tonnes. PVC pipe consumption volume has grown 2.4 times within the last 10 years, and production has grown 3.3 times. The consumption increment was supported by home producers where the share of imported products was constantly decreasing. Other CIS countries, unlike Russia, mainly consumed imported pipes.

**Steve Tan**, Executive Director of PVC4Pipes spoke about the possibilities and usage limitations of recycled PVC in pipes and other plastic products. **Anders Udo**, Technical Product Manager of Baerlocher, gave an overview on the production technologies, practical experience and world market





prospects for PVC stabilisers used for pipe production.

**Rob Spekrijse**, CEO Rollepaal, spoke about advantages of oriented PVC for water pipelining and sewage pipelines.

**Zoran Davidovski** opened the last session of the first day of the conference. He spoke about CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during production and operation of plastic pipes. He said that research shows that the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of plastic pipes systems is significantly lower than that of the pipelines made of traditional materials.

**Marco Mekes**, Manager Testing & Certification Kiwa Nederlands, spoke about the fire safety of plastic gas pipelines. The research done in the countries where plastic pipework is approved for gas in buildings has been proven safe. The results showed that plastic pipes don't influence the statistical emergency record on gas pipelines.

The speaker also suggested that amendments should be made in the national and international standards

to allow the use of multi-layered pipes in the gas industry.

**Steve Sandstrum**, Director Technical Services of ISCO Industries spoke about the role of HDPE in the

design, construction and operation of low pressure hydroelectric stations.

The second day of the conference started with an overview of the PE market in the USA presented by **Tony Radoszewski**, President of PPI. He briefly described the economic situation in the country and shared his view on the possible growth of PE market in the USA. He said that the PE production capacity of the USA and Canada will increase to 5.7 mln tonnes (11.4 billion pounds) by 2018 and the demand for plastic pipes will raise 6.2% each year until 2017.

**Rainer Kottmeier**, Managing Director of Battenfeld-Cincinnati talked about problems related to the production of bigger diameter pipes – with appropriate solutions.

**Igor Gvozdev** represented the POLYMERTEPLO Group and gave a presentation about use of PEX pipes in high temperature water systems.

**Ton Schoenmaker**, International Project Manager of Pipelife Group finished the fifth session by presenting an overview of PE sewer manholes and inspection chambers in



Europe and Russia within the last few years.

The sixth session of Plastic Pipes Moscow was dedicated to the production and use of PVC pipes. **Pavel Rodionov**, Sales and Marketing Director of RusVinyl, spoke about raw materials supply for PVC pipe production in Russia.

**Lorena Guterres**, Commercial Director of Molecor Tecnologia spoke about recent developments in PVC-O.

**Jean-Francois Grenier**, Strategic Marketing and Business Development Department of Aliaxis, gave an overview on training manual for PVC manufacturers.

**Stephan Schuessler** spoke about the use of PVC pipes in bioreactors for micro-algae growth for biopower.

The next session started with a presentation from **Andre Nijland**, Re-

gional Licensing Manager in the Northern America and Asia Pacific Region of Wavin Overseas, about the advantages of OPVC biaxial pipes.

**Giorgio Santella**, Marketing Director of Piovan, spoke about cooling system for PE production lines. **Peter Postma**, Piping Systems and Materials Consultant of Kiwa Technology, spoke about the sustainability of nondestructive methods for PE joints testing. **Andreas Frank**, Dipl.-Ing. at Polymer Competence Centre Leoben, spoke about a comparison of accelerated tests for lifetime assessments for PE grades.

**Steven Folkman**, Professor of Utah State University, discussed the survey results relating to water main failures in the USA and Canada. **John Kurdziel**, Production engineer of Advanced Drainage Systems, spoke

about alternative testing methods for buckling. The presentation from **Tanja Piel**, Senior Scientist PE research of Borealis Polyolefine, was dedicated to new laboratory testing for crack resistance.

An iPad draw, sponsored by Rollepaal was held for all participants at the conclusion of the event. The prize winners were Veselin Panchev, Sales Manager at Unicor, Alexander Rider, Regional Sales Manager at IPT Institut fur Pruftechnik Geratebau and Renar Valeev, General Director of Instar.

The organisers of Plastic Pipes Moscow would like to thank conference sponsors, Baerlocher и Lyon-dellBasell; RusVinyl – our coffee break sponsor, and our event partners: MOL, Piovan, Pipelife, Wavin, Arctic-T and the POLYPLASTIC Group.

