Committee Updates

(From the Leadership Meeting in Las Vegas, NV Jan. 22, 2016)

EDUCATION TASK GROUP

The goal is to increase contacts over 2016. Two lectures have been scheduled so far this month (East Carolina University and Georgia Southern). Others are potentially in the works, specifically, Texas State University. Last year we had our first lecture at Florida International University & we are currently looking this year to make it an annual event. We discussed the progress to date. The group put together the package of materials to be given out as an introduction. Many institutions were contacted. Some responses received. As the work evolves, the next stage is to mine contacts by both slag folks and steel folks, where contact has already been established but no real relationship exists. 2016 will work to solidify those contacts. There was some discussion on sending out follow ups to all previously contacted entities. The group will convene a meeting by phone this spring.

SAFETY & PLANT OPERATORS COMMITTEES

Safety committee co-chairs Peter Gage and Samantha Turner briefed the group of the goals and objectives for the New Year. The safety statistics for 2015 will be collected from all active members in February. A third party will gather the data to ensure safety performances are kept confidential. The safety slogan contest will continue in 2016. Members are asked to participate in creating a new NSA safety slogan that will be used in 2017. Past selected NSA safety slogans will be added to the NSA website. Lastly, the 2016 safety committee goals and objectives will be to improve and standardize several features of the Steel Mill Package Hot Pit Loader. These objectives will allow participation from both the active and allied members. The safety features being evaluated on the Hot Pit Loader are:

- Front cab window – improving cracking and other heat related issues, identifying the best protection of the operator from a severe slag reaction.
- Retrieval system – identifying the best practice/procedure on extracting an unresponsive loader that is stuck underneath the furnace or in a dump station area in the safest and quickest way possible.
- Fire Suppression System – improving the footprint area to mount the product tanks and standardization of connection points and hose runs.
- Hydraulic hose wrapping – improving the product currently being used in the field and determine what material of hose wrapping is most effective (wrap vs. stainless steel braiding).
- Electrical connections – improving and protecting of electrical connections, looms, fuses, panels, etc.

The outcome of the 2016 safety goals will benefit NSA active members, allied members and the overall safety aspect.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The goal is to review test methods for slag (1/3 of the way done), review the technical bulletins on the website, and work on ASTM product designation. These goals will be completed by meeting with committee members to create a list of all tests for slag, ensure bulletins are up-to-date, and reviewing any new information for the future.

Plant Operators

The Plant Operators Committee this year will be working on a Hydraulic Hose Tracking System, Tele Clinics, and Keeping "Mill" Trash out of the Slag.

Safety

Runner
Dear National Slag Association Members,

On behalf of the National Slag Association (NSA) we are delighted to welcome several new 2016 members.

We are pleased to extend the opportunity for new and current members to join and participate on one or more NSA Committee. Committees working together to address relevant and significant industry topics are a primary and extremely important component of the National Slag Association. Active, Allied and Associate members receive high value membership benefits by participating in “Working” Committee Meetings throughout the year.

We also hope to see you at NSA’s 98th Annual Meeting scheduled September 26 – 29, 2016 at Wild Dunes Resort in the Isle of Palms, SC.

Please remember to be safe and stay safe throughout the year.

Warm regards,

Karen Kiggins
President
Karen Kiggins
National Slag Association

MARKETING COMMITTEE

The Marketing Committee is in need of new Success Stories from the industry. We are also finishing up our goals and objectives that carried over from 2015. We expect this to be completed by the end of April. We are also currently looking for active volunteers to help with our goals and objectives for 2016.

Environmental Committee

John Yzenas started the meeting with a discussion on the SDS template; although it has been finalized, there is additional language Tom Green would like to see included. It was agreed that there would be further discussion on the template at the upcoming SMA meeting in Tampa. It was stressed that the template should be used as a guide and tailored to each company’s needs as it best suits them.

Charles Ochola gave a brief update on the PennDOT situation. Charles summarized the topics that were discussed at the Technical Workgroup meeting on 12/16/15. Of significant interest was PennDOT’s attempt to limit the Calcium oxide concentration to 1% in slag. Yzenas informed the group that he has been in discussion with the FHWA to revise the limit; one of their findings from the discussions is that the tests are currently being applied incorrectly and therefore should not be used as a factor by PennDOT in establishing a limit.

There was discussion on the veto by the US President on a congressional resolution that would have overturned federal regulations on clean water. Specifically, the regulation known as the 2014 Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule expands the definition of waters subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Water Act. This was of particular interest to the group because of the ominous implications it has on the placement of slag. For example, in Pennsylvania, PA DEP has voiced concern regarding the proximity of iron and steel slag aggregates to any water and expanding the definition of Waters of the U.S. This implies that slag may not be able to be used as antiskid or even placed where there would be a trench or storm water system that could be impacted by runoff from slag.

There was discussion on the Product Category Rule (PCR) for slag. The PCR define the rules and requirements for EPD of a certain product category in our case slag and the reason we are pursuing this is to assist in the Slag Product Initiative being pursued in various states.

Upcoming Meetings

Plant Operator, Safety & Purchasing Committee Meetings
March 9 – 10, 2016 Hosted by Powerscreen
June 22 – 23, 2016 Hosted by Telsmith

Marketing, Technical & Environmental Committee Meeting
April 20 – 21st Hosted by the Edw. C. Levy Co.

Annual Meeting
September 26 – September 29
Wild Dunes Resort – Isle of the Palms, SC
From new start-up to world market leader for mobile debricking machines

TML Technik GmbH is an expert in special machinery deployed in the harshest of climatic and mechanical conditions. The company focusses on manufacturing equipment for metallurgical plants; it is the world’s biggest manufacturer of mobile debricking machines for the iron and steel industry.

The company’s portfolio includes telescopic excavators and rotary booms, as well as debricking, slag raking and charging machines used in steelmaking. The machines are at work debricking ladles, converters and blast furnace runners, drilling and setting tap-hole sleeve, and carrying out refractory repairs during operation.

It all began with the UNIDACHS...
The first UNIDACHS was “rolled out” over fifty years ago. With their 360° endlessly rotatable telescopic boom the UNIDACHS series of telescopic excavators can execute many movements - even simultaneously - that conventional excavators cannot. With their unique kinematics, they are suited or work where linear movement and rotation of the telescopic boom are required...for example:

- Cleaning, repairing and debricking converters and electric furnaces,
- Debricking and deslagging ladles.

But it is not the telescopic boom alone that makes the UNIDACHS ideal for use in the iron and steel industry: The machines are tailored especially to meet the challenging operating conditions prevalent in the iron and steel industry - heat, hard materials, long reaches and constrained working spaces. The materials, the hydraulics, the cables, and the electronics systems in the machines are optimally adapted to the extreme ambient temperatures.

Source: www.tml-technik.com

Interest in using drones in the aggregates industry is at all-time high, and the National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association wants to help aggregate producers understand how to use the new technology to their advantage. The association is to host a new AGG1 online webinar called Drones and Mining. The event is set to take place on February 25 from 1-2 pm (EST). The event will help teach those in the aggregates industry how other companies are using drone aerial images to help change how they go about their business. The webinar will show how unmanned aerial vehicles can be used to conduct planning, mine operations and stockpile measurements. Sully-Miller Contracting business development manager Jon Layne and drone company Kespry business development manager Adam Rice will be the featured speakers for the webinar.

Source: The National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association
Fessco of Crete, IL, has received the honor of being named ANSUL “Single Diamond” Distributor as part of the ANSUL Alliance Rewards Program. This level of distinction is a testament to the hard work put forth by the organization over the past year. Diamond Distributor distinction is based on achieving measurable goals established by Tyco Fire Protection Products. At this time, less than 20% of ANSUL distributors have achieved Diamond status. Companies that meet this milestone must earn that partnership each year through sales performance.

“Reaching Diamond Distributor status is not easy and we’re proud to recognize and reward our top-producing ANSUL distributors for achieving this goal,” explained Rick Foster, U.S. Sales Director, Special Hazard Products. There are three Diamond levels for a distributor to achieve – Single, Double and Triple. Each recipient received premium website position on ansul.com, a recognition award, and can choose from a variety of rewards including promotional merchandise, co-op advertising, free training, sales event support, and more.

When it comes to fires in the workplace, NSA Allied Member FESSCO Fire Equipment continues to be vigilant in keeping people trained to use the fire equipment they have, as well as have the right equipment for the potential fires they might experience. “We often hear people say that they didn’t realize that all fire extinguishers don’t have the same firefighting capabilities” said John Vermilye, Account Manager for FESSCO. “It’s one of the values of doing ‘live’ fire training. When you put an extinguisher in the hands of someone fighting a real fire, not only are they assessing their own ability to operate an extinguisher, but they can now understand how well the equipment they have will perform on the types of fires they experience on the job”.

FESSCO has a mission to not only serve their customers education and training needs, but has recently done free educational sessions and ‘live’ trainings for American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) meetings, Northwest Indiana Business Roundtable (NWIBRT), Purdue University-Calumet Engineering and Safety students, The Construction Advancement Foundation (CAF) as well as at the NSA Annual Meeting. “It makes good business sense to have an informed customer base, and we feel obligated to give back to the community. If we can keep people safe and mitigate damage to equipment, everyone wins.” said Dave Beranek, President of FESSCO. FESSCO Fire Equipment specializes in industrial fire applications and vehicle fire suppression systems, and serves Chicago and North West Indiana customers.