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Spring Edition 2011

NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMISSIONING SPECIALISTS ASSOCIATION

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CSA CHAIRMAN & VICE CHAIRMAN 2011 - 2013



From Left to Right: Nick Till handing over the reins to; Neil White - Chairman & Matthew Ward - Vice Chairman

We are pleased to announce that Neil White of Crosscount Limited has stepped into the breach as Chairman of the CSA and Matthew Ward of Prime Limited as Vice Chairman for the 2 year period of April 2011 - April 2013. The official hand-over took place at the CSA 21st Annual General Meeting on Friday 8 April.

Neil was our Vice Chairman for the past 2 years and both Neil and Matt have been part of our Main Committee for many years, Matt also on our Training Sub-Committee.

A very big thank you goes to Nick Till for all his hard work as Chairman for the past 2 years. Nick will continue to support the CSA, remaining on the Main Committee and as Chairman of the Marketing Sub-Committee.

We welcome Neil and Matt in their respective roles for the next 2 years.

NEW MEMBERS

Corporate Members - Comfort Commissioning Services Ltd, Essex, Verisys Limited, Leeds

Associate Members - Clean Room Validation Ltd, Glasgow, Shan International Est., Saudia Arabia, Environmental Management & Services Ltd, Hereford.

Individual Members - Michael Forrest, Leigh Adey, Daniel Yates, Niall Murphy, Clark Ridgewell, Alan McEvoy, Jamie Gallagher, Chandra Gurung, Michael Stephenson, Binoy Chandran, Sumeesh Sukesh, Firas Hakim, Ben Lammas, Donald Leyte, Abel Gapan, Jowe Villas, Fidel Caballero, George Luna, William Urfano, Nick Boardman, Raja Natarajan, John Smith, Tay Woon Beng, Tham Kin Kong, Michael Lloyd, Paul Kilminster, Mike Luxton, Richard Hill, Mark Filer, Ryan Littlejohns, Thomas Fellows, Andrew Thomas, Chris Price, Edward Deitch, Christopher Driscoll, Gerard McGeoch, Rommel Bituin, Jowel Anglo, Jeffrey Poblete, Julito Villamil, Jerome Polpol, Crispin Corrales, Virgilio Felix

Individual Associate Member - Hildebrand Villalba, Keith Kerridge, Shafie Sulaiman

We would like to welcome the above new members to the Association



Jules' News

The twice yearly change-over of Chairman and Vice Chairman is once again upon us, it only seems a short time ago we were welcoming Nick Till as our new Chairman and already his 2 year "stint" has ended, where does the time go? The AGM held at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel in London on 8 April all went smoothly with around 80 attendees. There was a formal meeting in the morning where various issues were discussed and a copy of the minutes of this meeting have been sent out to all members.

You will all have received your Annual Report 2010/2011 and Nomination form which was sent to all members in March – if you would like to support your CSA and join one of our Committees, please complete this form and send/e-mail it to me at the CSA office.

As you will see by the New Members box on the front page, we have had a huge number of new individual members and this is mainly due to majority of our Corporate members registering their engineers as individual members. There are still some Corporate members who have not adhered to this request despite being reminded in the last 3 issues of Index and don't forget you receive a massive 60% discount.

All you need to do is complete and return the latest Individual Membership application form (available to download from the CSA website www.csa.org.uk), for each of your engineers, together with their current CV and photo and send/e-mail to the CSA office. If you also enrol them on one of our Distance Learning Courses (DLC's A, B & C) at the same time, you will receive the first year's Individual membership free. Please note that from January 2011 all Individual applications received cannot join at a Grade 5 or 6 without first taking the Grade 4 Technical & Theory examination held twice yearly.

DLC TEST RESULTS

Congratulations go to those listed below who have recently passed their DLC A and B tests and DLC C course:

DLC A

Kenneth Johnstone
Deon Davis
Paul Molyneaux
Lee Rowcroft
Greg Eusebi
Paul Martin
Rebecca Salkeld

DLC B

Darren Beckwith
Joe Chandler
Scott Brown
Shaun Williams
Liam Fairhurst
Marcus Harrison

DLC C

John Given
Brian Edwards

PRICE INCREASES

Unfortunately, we have had to make a few minor price increases this year on Flutec which is now £75.00 per 200ml bottle, Technical Memoranda (TM's) now £12.00 each and sponsorship and advertisements for Index (varies according to issue).

NVQ LEVEL 3 – INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING

We currently have 6 students taking the on-line CSA NVQ Level 3 in "Installation & Commissioning" – This is a nationally recognised qualification and throughout Europe and we are pleased to be able to offer this at the same price for 2011 (members £1,200.00 and non-members £1,300.00). For further information go to our website www.csa.org.uk to download an Information sheet and Enrolment form – so don't delay!

Julie Parker CSA Secretary

CSA 21st Annual General Meeting and Luncheon Held on Friday 8 April 2011

The CSA AGM and Luncheon was held at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, London WC1 with a good attendance of around 80 members and guests. The proceedings commenced at 10am with a formal Annual General Meeting followed by a 3-course luncheon and Awards. Nick Till produced a presentation and attendees participated in the meeting with various discussions and ideas. The Chairman of each sub-committee gave a progress report and key objectives for year ahead. Thank you to those who took the time to attend the AGM and for supporting the CSA!

CSA HONORARY MEMBERSHIP AWARDED TO JOHN COPPIN



Nick Till presenting John Coppin with Award

A special presentation was given to John Coppin by Nick Till at the AGM making him an Honorary Member of the CSA. John was one of those present at the inaugural meeting back in 1990 and has been on our Technical Sub-Committee since. John worked for Haden Young many years ago and then TRANE Refrigeration where a reliable source tells us this is where he obtained his in depth refrigeration knowledge. John then joined Ove Arup and worked with them for 28 years until he retired in 2008.

John kindly took over as Chairman of the Technical Committee from Martin Lowe in 2006 and has worked tirelessly producing new technical publications and is currently working on a new edition of the CSA Engineers Compendium which is scheduled for release in July 2011.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of everyone at the CSA to thank John for all his hard work over the last 21 years.

CSA BEST STUDENT AWARD



From left; Neil White, Paul Brown and Niall Murphy

Congratulations to Niall Murphy of Ashford Environmental Services Ltd who was given the Best Student Award at the AGM for his outstanding results in the Grade 4 Exam held in October 2010. Paul Brown, Training Sub-Committee Chairman presented him with his framed Certificate and a bottle of “bubbly”.

CHAIRMAN'S RANT

"Not so much a rant, more an introduction to our key objectives for the coming twelve months!"

Later this Summer will see the publication of a revised Commissioning Engineers Compendium, the first revision in 11 years. The Technical Committee have worked tirelessly on this but they need your support. If there is something you feel was missing from the 2000 Edition or requires further explanation, please let them know. If it can, it will be included. This may be your last chance for several years, please email any suggestions by Friday 10th June to office@csa.org.uk.

The training committee are also considering ways of introducing 'on line' Grade 4 examinations, such as those carried out at driving test centres for the CSCS card test. This would greatly improve the assessment procedure for students based overseas. On this note we have been approached by some eminent members of the Commissioning Industry who would like to set up regional divisions of 'chapters' of the CSA, much like CIBSE. These requests have come from as far afield as Australia, New Zealand and the United Arab Emirates and are being given due consideration.

Later this year will also see a formal vote on the proposal to form a new category of membership for the Pre-commission Chemical Cleaning Industry. This is not a new topic and it would appear from the AGM that the majority of membership are in favour of this. We hope to introduce an 'E'vote system for this proposed change to run alongside the voting process as laid down in the Association constitution.

Finally, I would sincerely like to thank Nick Till for his invaluable contribution during his two year term as Chairman. He has made great strides, notably the technical forum, which was mainly Nicks own work. Thanks also to Julie, Michelle and all of the various committees that work tirelessly to make the Association the great success that it is today, I hope to serve you well!

Nick Till - CSA Chairman

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Calibration – Why and When to Calibrate

The commissioning process demands that more measurements than any other mechanical or electrical disciplines are taken. Measurements that are often required are for air velocity, temperature, humidity, light, and water volume flow. As both a calibration laboratory and instrumentation supplier, we are often asked why instruments need to be calibrated? The simple answer is to ensure that your measurements are valid and also importantly to enable your company to comply with any Quality registrations/accreditations it may hold, including ISO 9001:2008 & 17025:2005 (UKAS in the UK).

When specifying a suitable calibration period, several things need to be considered. This includes, amongst other things, the uncertainty (or accuracy) required from the instrument's use, the type of instrument, the instrument's calibration history, calibration cost and of course the impact an "erroneous" reading would have on you and your client. In the case of a new instrument it is still necessary to decide what the calibration period should be. In many instances this will be the manufacturer's recommended interval, often set at a 12 monthly span. However calibration periods for some items may be extended significantly after their first calibration provided there is no drift. Consideration should also be given to a balance between re-calibration costs and the consequences of an out of tolerance situation. In general terms the more critical or expensive the application or process, the more frequently the calibration should be conducted. It should be noted that it is not uncommon to see new instruments that do not meet their claimed specification therefore it is still advisable to calibrate new instrument at the time of, or immediately following its purchase.

Ensuring your equipment's readings are satisfactory doesn't mean that you have to send all your equipment to a third party laboratory rather than each instrument is assessed for its suitability of use and a calibration program documented. Under ISO 9001 & 17025, registration/accreditation companies may calibrate items "in house" provided that "traceability" back to a National measurement reference standard is maintained. If calibrating "in house" this does also mean that quality procedures & records are in place, suitable reference equipment are to hand, that training is provided and of course that you have the space & time. However not all companies have access to these resources therefore it may be more cost effective/practical to send instruments to a third party laboratory for calibration. It is also worth remembering that every time an instrument is calibrated by a "lower grade" reference instrument then the traceability/accuracy chain is less clear. Either way International Standards such as ISO 9001 and ISO 17025 require the creation of documented calibration programs & that calibration records are maintained.

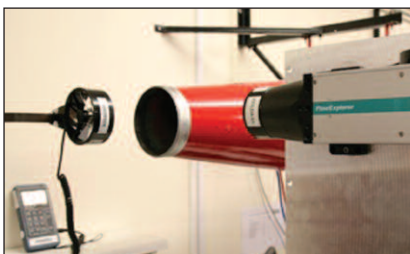
If you do decide to send your calibrations to a third party laboratory, it is important to check that the service provider has the correct traceability and accreditation for the respective instruments. The laboratory should provide a calibration certificate detailing the applied reference and the indicated readings, not just be a "certificate of conformity" to manufacturer's specification. This will allow you to monitor your instruments performance more closely and be able to extend calibration periods when an instrument has shown not to drift between calibrations.

Details of the reference standards used should be shown and they should be suitable for the range of the instrument under test. For example we have seen micro manometers calibrated only at 90% of their range and Balometers, used for measuring volume flow, only calibrated for pressure.

Be sceptical about laboratories promising good uncertainties for low prices and remember that under ISO 9001 registration, it is only the laboratory's Quality System that is covered not its "technical" capabilities. Even if a UKAS accredited calibration is not required choose a laboratory that can offer the service as you know that they have a quality system that has a good technical background. For more critical applications then you should always be looking for a UKAS accredited calibration. A full list of UKAS accredited laboratories can be found at www.ukas.org.

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Martin Trotter, Calibration Manager – BSRIA Instrument Solutions



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