

10th European Mining Course celebrated at Deutsche Steinkohle AG

FEMP, the Federation of European Mining and Mineral Education Programs held their sixth annual meeting at DSK in Bottrop, Germany on 25 and 26 November, 2005. At this occasion it was also celebrated that this year the tenth European Mining Course (EMC) is organised. This first European cooperative education program started in 1996 with just 8 students. The organising universities were: RWTH Aachen, Helsinki University of Technology, TU Delft and Imperial College. The program grew over the years to a program with three options, in which 9 universities in 7 countries work together. The total number of students is now around 50 with 12 different nationalities. 30 major companies support the students through the Federation of European Mineral Programs (FEMP). The program is now well recognised and won the "Best Teaching Award" of RWTH Aachen, a couple of years ago.

Each year FEMP organises an annual meeting and reunion. This year DSK hosted the meeting. Besides 50 students and some 50 alumni there were also expected representatives of 25 international companies as well as some 25 representatives of the academia. This ensured that the event was again an excellent opportunity to strengthen the contacts between the various groups.



On Friday 25 and Saturday 26 November the annual meeting and reunion took place on the BGT premises of the former mine Arenberg in Bottrop, Germany. On Friday morning the business meeting of the Industrial Advisory Board took place. The discussion focussed on more cooperation in research in the future and the possibility to form research clusters between the universities and the industry.



Students and alumni of the three programs joined at lunchtime. In the afternoon a workshop was organised by DSK with the theme: "Resources, Vision 2020". Prior to the workshops Dr. Bernd Tönjes, CEO of DSK gave a presentation on the future of coalmining in Germany, followed by a session where the participating FEMP industrial members presented themselves.

During the workshop 9 groups discussed the following topics:

- Mining in Europe
- Mining – outside Europe (rest of the world)
- Unconventional Mining (e.g. Mining on Mars)
- Metallurgy in Europe
- Non – Metal Resources in Europe
- Recycling
- Road-, Railway-, Tunnel- Constructions
- Sustainable Development and use of resources
- HSE – a link to mining and metallurgy

At the end the students presented the results of each group. Some interesting ideas had been developed.

After the workshop Wolfgang Traud, Manager of Production Control at Deutsche Steinkohle AG, gave a short presentation on DSK's vision on technical strategy for the future.



The evening program included a buffet dinner and drinks (compliments of DSK) in the former Locomotive shop of the Arenberg mine. During the dinner attention was given to the fact that this was the 10th time that the EMC program was offered. The founding fathers: Wijnand Dalmijn, Tim Shaw, Raimo Matikainen, Per Martens and Hans de Ruiter signed the Golden Book of FEMP.



On Saturday 26th November a program was offered with visits and activities at a/o a cokes-factory, waste rock deposit and the trainings-mine Recklinghausen. Here a number of hands-on projects were carried out in Groups. Students, alumni and Industry & Academic representatives worked together on projects like: rock bolting, installing support, drilling, etc.



This unique international educational program for students of mining, mineral and geotechnical engineering in Europe is organised by the Technical Universities of Aachen, Berlin and Freiberg (Germany), Delft (the Netherlands), Helsinki (Finland), Exeter (England), Wroclaw (Poland), Kosice (Slovakia) and Miskolc (Hungary).

Students of the participating universities form groups during an eight months period. Each group of 15-20 students stays two months in 4-5 universities to follow courses (in the English language) in either mining (European Mining Course: EMC) or mineral engineering

(European Mineral Engineering Course: EMEC) or geotechnical engineering (European Geotechnical and Environmental Course: EGEC). The programs also include exchange students from Canada, USA, Australia, Argentina, Brasil, Chile, Poland, Estonia, Slovakia and Spain.

Industry supports this unique initiative and provides annually some 175,000 Euros to support the students participating in the programs and the organisation of FEMP.

Current members of FEMP are: AKZO-Nobel Salt, Anglo American Plc., Atlas Copco, Barrick Gold Corporation, Boart Longyear, BHP-Billiton, Caterpillar, Corus, DSM-Energy, Euromines, Falconbridge, Slovenské Magnezitové Závody, Hornonitrianske Bane Prievidza, IHC, Kali Und Salz, KGHM, Larox, Metso, Minera Alumbreira, Outokumpu, RAG, Resource Capital Funds, RWE Power, Rio Tinto, Tamrock, Umicore, Walter Beckers, Wirtschaftvereinigung Bergbau, Xstrata and Zinifex



Since 1996 over 310 students have completed the programs and work in all parts of the world. They form a valuable world-wide network, which keeps in touch with the industrial members of FEMP.

Copies of the presentations can be found at: www.femp.org/info/reunion05 and pictures at <http://gallery.ta.tudelft.nl/femp2005reunion>

Hans de Ruiter
Course Director
+31 15 278 5001, j.j.deruiter@ta.tudelft.nl