

MINUTES OF COMMISSION III
Industrial Applications of Coal Petrology
58th ICCP Meeting
Bandung 3-9 September 2006
Acting Chair: Isabel Suárez-Ruiz
Acting Secretary: Antonis Bouzinos

The sessions of Commission III were held on Tuesday from 11.20-14.00 and on Wednesday from 13.30-15.50 and were attended by approximately 13 ICCP Members.

The acting chairperson presented the activities and the state of the art of the 6 active working groups and those of the Coal blend Accreditation program included in this Commission.

The acting chair also presented the objectives of these working groups and the CBAP, the activities developed in 2004-2005 as well as those carried out in 2005-2006.

Moreover, for the Fly Ash Working Group the acting chair informed the members that Dr. J. Hower had resigned as co-convenor of this WG. Isabel Suárez-Ruiz, the main convenor, was looking for another co-convenor. She asked Dr. B. Valentim from Porto University (Portugal) to take on this responsibility. He accepted this position and then she informed the ICCP members at the Bandung Meeting about the change. She asked the ICCP attending Members if B. Valentim could be accepted as co-convenor of the Fly Ash WG. All the attending ICCP members agreed with this proposal. The Fly Ash WG now has a new co-convenor.

In addition, the acting chair presented the opportunities for new WGs. According to the information that Dr. G. Predeanu provided the General Secretary of the ICCP a new WG dealing with application of microscopy to carbon products could eventually be accepted.

Four of the WGs of this Commission: the Automation WG (Convenor: D. Pearson), the Coke petrography WG (Convenor: H. Eickhoff), the Combustion WG (Convenor: E. Lester) and the Application of Reflectance to estimate Structural Order WG (Convenor: Without Convenor) have not developed any activity this year.

Then the acting chairperson started with the presentation of the activities of CBAP and the two WGs.

1. Coal Blends Accreditation program (CBAP)

Convenor: Isabel Suárez-Ruiz

The convenor of the CBAP, presented the objectives of the program, the items to be determined, the proposed statistics in order to evaluate these items and the database program. The database program was developed by Paddy Ranasinghe and supported by Alan Cook and it is currently being tested at Oviedo, Spain. The CBAP

has 13 available single coals (two of them need coal cleaning, another one is duplicated). In the Fall, by November, two coal blend samples will be prepared and sent out to the participants as un-mounted samples, ground to 1 mm stage. The preparation and polishing of the pellets will be carried out by the participants. The instructions for carrying out the exercise are being prepared and will be sent out to the participants with the coal blend samples. The program has 17 potential participants. The estimated income of this program for 2006 is of about 1814.40 Euro and the estimated expenses for the same period are about 3303.66 Euro.

A new appeal for providing single coals was made by the convenor. No questions or discussion followed this presentation.

2. Improved Image Analysis WG

Convenor: Cristina Rodrigues

The topic developed in this WG is entitled: "New approach to study the coal cleat system by image analysis". The convenor presented the activities of 2005-2006. The exercise program was changed due to difficulties in understanding how to work with the sample. The convenor gave new guidelines after discussion and the exercise will be repeated next year because in 2005-2006 only one participant responded. The results from the one participant were in good agreement with the proposed program of the convenor. Next year, the convenor will provide more pictures from different samples in order to study the four parameters that the convenor proposed in 2005-2006. The objective is to study a lot more parameters than these four. The WG needs more participants in view of its scope.

3. Identification and petrographic classification of components in Fly Ashes

Convenor: Isabel Suárez-Ruiz

The convenor explained the objectives of this WG and then summarized the main reasons for creating this WG. Then the convenor proposed the type of material to be studied, the methodology to be used and the time table. She also explained the criteria in order to establish a classification of Fly Ash components by using optical microscopy. Then the convenor presented a detailed pre-classification of the fly ash components both organic and inorganic on the basis of some published works. After this presentation there followed a discussion in relation to the criteria and the attending members agreed that they should start with an easy round robin exercise and classify the fly ash components following these main criteria:

- i) To differentiate Organic and Inorganic Components.
- ii) For the organic components it is necessary to take into account their optical texture, their fused or un-fused character, their structure and morphology, and their origin (coal, others) and in this specific order.
- iii) For the inorganic components, these should be classified into two categories: metallic and non-metallic components.

It was also agreed that the participants will provide a description of the particles included in the exercise. The convenor should send out two pictures of each fly ash component included in the exercise, recording the anisotropy/isotropy of the particle.

The convenor will send out a letter to the ICCP Members to find out who is interested in participating in this WG, explaining its goal. Early next year 2007 the convenor proposed sending a CD with pictures of the fly ash components that should be classified according to these criteria. One of the attending members of the Meeting proposed downloading the pictures of fly ash components from the ICCP web page once it is available. The other members agreed.

Alan Cook recommended using the ISO system for coal classification instead of bituminous, anthracite, etc., nomenclature. This was also accepted.

4. Opportunities for New WGs.

Proposed by G. Predeanu (Romania)

Potential New WG: The microscopy of carbon products.

The acting chairperson explained to the attending ICCP members that this proposal was focused on microscopy of carbon products such as mesophase in pitch, calcinated petroleum and carbon composites.

After that the acting chair proposed writing a letter to G. Predeanu to obtain much more information about the objectives of her proposal, her time table and work plan as well as the name of the potential convenor of the working group. There followed a discussion among the ICCP attending members and it was recommended the opinion of the active chair, R. Menendez should be sought to set up the objectives of this WG and also to inform the active secretary of the Commission III, G. Predeanu.

The acting chairperson closed the session of Commission III.