

The 9th CEM 2009, Italy - Another Resounding Success

CEM, the International Conference on Emissions Monitoring, has grown in strength and popularity since its inaugural meeting in 1997. CEM 2009 has continued this position as the major international conference and exhibition specifically designed to cover the subject of source emissions monitoring in its entirety.

The current calm in the pollution monitoring industry belies the challenges ahead. Requirements for reducing the emissions of air pollution have been evolving since middle of the 20th century and are currently a complex medley of limits, targets and caps. Sources must not only comply with rigid emission limits but must also provide emissions data to a number of different agencies and

bodies to comply with the different legislative formats and reporting systems at the regional, national and international level. The international community is currently working to improve the co-ordination between monitoring systems and the legislation they support - for example, the EU aims to improve the alignment between the Large Combustion Plant Directive and the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive. But what will these and other changes in emission legislation mean for the pollution monitoring industry?

- more pollutants will require monitoring from a greater number of sources (for example, mercury is rapidly moving up the agenda in the EU, USA and Asia ahead of the legally binding UN EP Global Treaty on Mercury to be set in 2013);
- advanced systems and methods will be required to measure lower and lower concentrations of pollutants as emission limits tighten;
- speciation of pollutants such as PM_{10/2.5} will become a priority as non-attainment areas struggle to determine how best to target reductions;
- increased accuracy will become paramount as pollutants such as N₂O, CH₄ and possibly Hg are introduced to trading markets in the EU and USA. Once a monetary value comes into play, measurement accuracy becomes an economic target as well as an environmental one. Emission factors may be called into question, with real data being used to confirm or refute;
- as legislation and action plans grow in number and stringency, the importance of monitoring and quantifying this pollution in an accurate and transparent manner will become a priority. Real-time and on-line reporting systems will be the aim for most large sources.

CEM 2009 was held between 23rd to 25th September in the picturesque setting of Lake Maggiore, Italy.

The conference was split into 5 sessions:

1. Emission factors and inventories - looking at the challenges of providing accurate data to meet national and national requirements
2. Certification and accreditation - these systems are shifting from being something desirable to something almost mandatory in many areas
3. PM_{10/2.5} - fine particles are possibly the greatest challenge to many countries at the moment with many EU member states and individual states in the USA facing the fact that they cannot comply with the tightening air quality standards without a better understanding of the speciation
4. Advanced techniques - as legislation calls for increased accuracy despite decreasing concentrations, advanced techniques offer a solution to this challenge
5. Case studies of standards in practice - just how easy it is to use CEN/ISO standards in the real world?

Delegates came from 28 countries from around the world to listen to the 25 papers at the conference.

The conference proceedings are available to purchase at a small charge from www.cem.uk.com.

The conference programme was only one part of the CEM2009 experience. The posters and extensive exhibition, supported by 35 international companies, offered delegates the chance to discuss

and interact with those who may be able to answer the very questions that would solve the challenges they face. The social agenda was designed to maximise the time delegates have free to ask awkward questions, handle equipment and to relax into the extended network of the now well established CEM-community.

CEM series of conferences is organised by Environmental Technology Publications, IEA Clean Coal Centre and the Source Testing Association.

IEA Clean Coal Centre supports its member's efforts to make the production, transportation and use of coal sustainable. The Centre provides this support by providing a unique global resource that the members can reliably draw upon for credible and unbiased information and expertise on all aspects of the sustainable use of coal. Services are delivered to members through reports and reviews on important topics, advisory services to governments and industry, support for relevant R & D, and by providing networking opportunities that foster international co-operation within and amongst developed and developing countries.

IEA Clean Coal Centre is a collaborative project established in 1975 involving member countries of the International Energy Agency (IEA). The service is governed by representatives of member countries, the European Commission, and industrial sponsors. The IEA Clean Coal Centre programme of work contains studies of considerable significance for all countries involved in the use or supply of coal.

The IEA was established in 1974 within the framework of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). A basic aim of the IEA is to foster co-operation among the twenty-four IEA participating countries in order to increase energy security through diversification of energy supply, cleaner and more efficient use of energy, and energy conservation. This is achieved, in part, through a programme of collaborative research and development of which IEA Clean Coal Centre is by far the largest and the longest established single project.

The Source Testing Association (STA) was established in 1995 and has a corporate membership of over 200 companies from process operators, regulators, equipment suppliers and test laboratories. The STA is a non-profit making organisation.

The STA is committed to the advancement of the science and practice of emission monitoring and to develop and maintain a high quality of service to customers.

Its aims and objectives are to:

- (i) contribute to the development of industry standards, codes, safety procedures and operating principles;
- (ii) encourage the personal and professional development of practicing source testers and students;
- (iii) maintain a body of current sampling knowledge;
- (iv) assist in maintenance of a high level of ethical conduct;
- (v) seek co-operative endeavours with other professional organisations, institutions and regulatory bodies, nationally and internationally, that are engaged in source emissions testing.

For the future the next conference will be held in Prague, Czech Republic in September/October 2011 and then we are planning on Athens, Greece for the spring of 2014. For details of the conferences and exhibitions visit www.cem.uk.com or contact Marcus Pattison at marcus@cem.uk.com.



The full Conference Programme is now available on CD. If you missed CEM 2009 you may order the conference proceeding by email. (£65/€70)

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