

New AIGA Board

AIGA Board met in Shanghai for the 45th Board and Annual General Meeting on 24th November 2016.

The 2014-2016 office term for the AIGA Board ended at this meeting and a new Board was constituted for the term of office from 2016 to 2018.

Wilbur Mok, President – Air Products Asia was unanimously elected for the Board President's position. Other office bearers were also elected for the 2016-2018 term at the 24th November 2016 meeting. Board members thanked outgoing President John Panikar, President - Praxair Asia for efficiently leading the activities of AIGA for the period 2014-2016 when several new programs have been successfully launched by AIGA towards enhancing its' effort to promote safety in the region.



Wilbur Mok
President, AIGA

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I am happy to be associated with AIGA and am looking forward to speeding up the activities that have already been undertaken by the association along with national affiliates to raise the standard of safety, occupational health and environmental care across Asia in the manufacture, use and handling of industrial gases. AIGA was established in 2003 and in a short time its Technical Committee and Work Groups have made tremendous contribution in promoting safety, health and conservation of the environment which are of paramount importance for the success and sustainability of industrial gases industry in the Asia region. This is being carried out not only through publication of more than a hundred safety standards & guidelines, but also through hosting of Safety Seminars in association with various Country Gas Associations in Asia in creating awareness on current topics, as well as publication of Training Packages, Safety Bulletins and Posters. All these publications are available for reference and use free of charge on AIGA's website.

I wholeheartedly appreciate AIGA Technical Committee and Work Group members for their exemplary efforts. Safety in manufacturing and handling of industrial gases always remain to be our key focus, but transportation safety also continues to be a hot topic, for reasons that are very unique to Asia. AIGA has recently embarked upon specific new programs and activities that would help improve safety in product transportation and make our drivers safer.

AIGA intends to continue to deepen its partnership with other regional and national associations and regulatory bodies so as to contribute more towards safety, health, security and the environment. I would like to thank you for your continued support and cooperation for our activities.

The full Board members elected are:

President

Wilbur Mok (Air Products)

Vice President

John Panikar (Praxair)

Secretary

Norikazu Ishikawa
(Taiyo Nippon Sanso)

Treasurer

Werner Hickel (Messer China)

Members

Mok Kong Weng (Air Liquide)

Sanjiv Lamba (Linde Corporation)

Makoto Horiguchi (Iwatani Corporation)

Ex-Officio

Wichit Sophitanontrat (Linde),
Chairman of Technical Committee

Milan Sarkar,
Secretary General (AIGA)

AIGA Safety Seminars

AIGA working jointly with the associations in India, Korea, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand and Singapore completed seven safety seminars according to plan in the year 2016. Malaysia Association organised two seminars in the year (at Penang and Bintulu)

AIGA is pleased that all the safety seminars were well attended and it was further heartening to note that the seminars in Taiwan and Korea drew close to 200 participants. At each of these seminars, speakers were provided by AIGA Technical Committee, SAG or Work Groups to speak on topics related to relevant harmonised and AIGA publications. Some details on the 2016 seminars are given in the below table.



MIGMA Bintulu Seminar in Progress

Safety Seminar held in 2016

Host NA	Seminar Topic	City	Date	No. of Participants	AIGA Speakers
FMM-MIGMA	Safe Handling of Industrial Gases	Penang, Malaysia	16-May-16	95	Ashley Mills
THPGIA	Process Safety Management	Taipei, Taiwan	16-Sep.-16	180	Alberic de Mareschal, MVS Ramakrishna, Andy Cook, Wong Tuck Hoon, and David Anderson
GIA, India	Industrial & Medical Gases Safety	Pune, India	22-Sep.-16	100	Sawet Thananirun and Milan Sarkar
KISGA	ESG Safety	Seoul	12-Oct.-16	200	JH Park
IGAS	Transportation Safety for Bulk Cryo and Flammable Gases	Singapore	11-Oct.-16	60	Yong Nicholas, Alberic de Mareschal and Toshiaki Kuwano
FMM-MIGMA	Safe Handling of Industrial Gases	Bintulu, Sarawak	11-Oct.-16	61	Mark Garrett
SIGA	HP Cylinder Test Shop Operations & Safety	Bangkok	15-Dec.-16	40	Wichit Sophitanontrat and Adisorn Ruangdej



Participants at GIA, Pune Seminar

Plans for 2017 safety seminars:

The Work Plan for 2017 will see AIGA continuing to work with the National Associations to organise safety seminars in the year which significantly contribute to enhancing safety awareness among people associated with industrial gases industry in Asia region. The initial plans for 2017 safety seminars by AIGA National Associations are as below

Host NA	Seminar Topic	City	When
THPGIA	Mechanical Integrity - Process Safety	Taipei	Sept-2017
AIGA China	Safety in Handling and Transport of ESG	Shanghai	Oct 2017
GIA, India	Transportation Safety	Bangalore	Sep 2017
KISGA	ESG Safety	Seoul	Oct- 2017
IGAS	Gases Safety	Singapore	Oct-2017
SIGA	Emergency Response for Packaged Operations	Bangkok	Nov - 2017

Technical Committee & Work Groups

There were quite a number of changes at the Work Groups in the year 2016.

In Medical Gases Work Group, Sawet Thananirun came in place of Poh Lyn Yeo as a representative from Linde and also as Chairperson for the Work Group. Mark Garrett from Air Products and Arindam Das from Praxair also joined the Medical Gases work group as representative from their respective companies. Both of them are also members of Packaged Gases Work Group.

The ESG chair which fell vacant has been filled up by Margaret Ang from Air Liquide. Dr Kunihiro Koike from Iwatani, CH Ju from Matheson Korea, James Chan from Air Liquide Taiwan, Pornchai Lerk Annun from Linde Thailand and Laura Luo from Praxair Singapore also joined the ESG Work Group as members in the recent past. Transportation Work Groups also saw new members joining in the year in Jason Thong from Air Liquide and Cloud Lin from Air Products.

AIGA Technical Committee have been visiting National Associations (NAs) and jointly holding its' triannual TC meetings to enhance level of engagement and collaboration with the NAs. In 2016 such meetings were held in Seoul in South Korea, Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia and Taipei City in Taiwan with the respective National Associations. In 2017 the same effort continues with the first meeting held in Kolkata in January 2017 with Gas Association India as host.

Work Groups	Technical Committee	Safety Advisory Group	Medical Gases WG	Packaged Gases	Electronic Specialty Gases WG	Transportation WG(A)	Transportation WG(B)
Air Liquide	Henry LIU	Alberic de Mareschal	Thierry SCHRIMPF	Kok Khoo Toh	Margaret ANG/ Jason Thong	Shao Haiyun	Vera Jarugaruna
Air Products	Haris Farooqi	Joey Chen	Mark Garrett	Mark Garrett	Young-Soo Kim	Nicholas Young / Cloud LIN	Nicholas Young/ Amorn Junngskul
Linde Group	Wichit Sophitanontrat	Andy Cook	Sawet Thananirun	Ramana Vutukuru	Pornchai Lerk Annun	Daniel Zhou	Nattawud Janteb
Iwatani	Ang Lee San	Md Dani			Dr Kunihiro Koike		
Messer China	DU Pu	Thomas Rubbert			LI Hong Wei	Xiuping Yu	
Taiyo Nippon Sanso	Toshiaki Kuwano	Toshiaki Kuwano	Koujirou Hirao	Tan chin Tee	CH Ju	Kazuhiko Fujie	N. Ponthep
Praxair	MVS Ramakrishna	Rakesh Srivastava	Arindam Das	Arindam DAS	Laura Luo	Cyrus LIU	Adisorn Ruangdej
Co-opted	Milan Sarkar (Sec-General)				**Name in Blue indicates Chairperson		

Technical Committee & Work Groups

Working in consultation with the Work Groups and the Board, AIGA TC has finalized and rolled out the 2017 Work Plan.

Highlights of the plan include the following:

- ♦ Work on Strategies for 'Enhancing field level use of AIGA and Harmonised Publications'
- ♦ Enhance field level engagement by networking with National Associations in Asia
- ♦ Carry out a survey to understand field level use of AIGA and Harmonized publications
- ♦ Transport Safety Task Force to focus on new programs that could help in reducing High Severity Product Vehicle Accidents (HSPVAs)
- ♦ A Task Force to focus on Physical Security which has gathered momentum in recent past
- ♦ Actively participate in IHC and IOMA meetings
- ♦ Higher level of interaction with CIGIA in China and AIIGMA in India to develop collaborative project of mutual interest that promote safety and protect health & environment
- ♦ Supporting National Associations in co-hosting safety seminars in their countries



AIGA TC & SAG members with MIGMA team in Kuala Lumpur

International Harmonisation update

AIGA had the honour to be the host for 40th meeting of International Harmonization Council (IHC) in Bangkok on 28 Feb – 1 March of this year in hotel Peninsula, Bangkok. IHC members comprise AIGA, CGA, EIGA and JIMGA. Apart from representatives from IHC member associations, there were "Observers" from some of the IOMA Global Committee member companies and also council liaisons persons from CGA, EIGA & JIMGA. Adisorn Ruangdej, Chairperson of the Technical Committee of Siam Industrial Gases Association (SIGA) was present as a special invitee which provided good opportunity for interaction between IHC members and SIGA.

AIGA and SIGA Board members jointly hosted a group dinner on 1 March 2017 on board magnificent Manohra Boat Cruise on Chao Phraya river in Bangkok, providing excellent opportunity for interaction and networking.

An important agenda at the meeting was to focus on Harmonized Publication Library Gap Analysis work for Electronic and Speciality Gases which is being lead by JIMGA with AIGA supporting.

Recognition of the work carried out by IHC was also highlighted. It was observed that the IOMA GC has initiated work to recognise the contributions of IHC in the IOMA Broadcaster newsletter and also at the IOMA annual conventions.

IHC closed out ten publication projects in 2016. For 2017, Seventeen publication projects are targeted to be completed.

The next IHC Meeting is scheduled from 11-12 July 2017 and will be hosted by the Compressed Gases Association Inc, in Denver, Colorado - USA.



Welcome speech by Wilbur Mok at the IHC Dinner



Delegates at the 40th meeting of IHC held in Bangkok

AIGA Publication Update

Recent Publications in 2016 & 1Q 2017:

New AIGA Publications:

- ♦ Training Package 19/16 - Recent (2015) Incidents in the Gas Industries in Asia
- ♦ Training Package 20/16 - Safe Visits to Customer Sites for Occasional Visitors
- ♦ Training Package 21/16 - Safe Filling of Open Top Dewars & Flasks from Cryo Liquid Cylinders
- ♦ Training Package 22/16 - Recent (2016) Accidents / Incidents in the Gases Industry in Asia
- ♦ AIGA 93/16 – Guidelines for Location of Occupied Building in IG Plants
- ♦ AIGA 94/16 - Safe Design, Manufacture, Installation, Operation & Maintenance Valves used in LOX and Cold Gox systems
- ♦ AIGA 95/16 - Mechanical Integrity of Syn Gas Outlet Systems
- ♦ AIGA 96/16 – Hydrogen Selenide
- ♦ AIGA Poster SP01 - Driver Fatigue Management series 1
- ♦ AIGA Poster SP02 - Driver Fatigue Management series 2
- ♦ AIGA 91/16 - Guidelines for qualifying customers purchasing gases

Revised AIGA Publications:

- ♦ AIGA 036/16 – Guidelines for Managing Waste Acetylene Cylinders
- ♦ AIGA 037/16 - Permissible Charge for Filling of Acetylene Cylinders
- ♦ AIGA 039/16 - Road Transport Emergency Preparedness

Work In Progress:

- ♦ Reference Guide on Industrial Gas Cylinder valve outlet connections (New AIGA publication)
- ♦ Safety Bulletin on In Cab Camera and how does it help improve road safety
- ♦ Reference Guide on Medicinal Gas Cylinder valves (New AIGA publication)
- ♦ Safety Poster on Driving Distraction from use of Mobile Phones
- ♦ Safety Poster on Asphyxiation Hazard from Inert Atmosphere
- ♦ Guidelines on how to track and manage aggressive drivers (New AIGA Publication)

National Association Round Up

Change of Association Secretary Generals:

David Anderson from Linde takes over as new Secretary General of AIGA China. David took over the role as a part time responsibility to rejuvenate the activities of the AIGA Representative Office in China. He joined BOC Gases UK in 2001 and is currently based in Shanghai as Head of HSE and Quality for East Asia Region of Linde. David is based in Shanghai.

Anoop Tandon takes over as new Secretary General of Gas Association India (GIA). This position became vacant in February 2017 when earlier Secretary General Mr Vijay Kumar passed away after a brief illness. Anoop has strong back ground in Industrial Gases business as he has spent totally 17 years in the industrial gases industry working in Operations, Engineering Supply Chain, Business Development and Sales. Anoop is based in Bangalore.

Industrial Gas Association Singapore (IGAS) leading the work of reviewing SSB code of practices:

IGAS is leading the work on review of two major Code of Practices at SSB (Singapore Standards Board) to upgrade the same to current global and regional practices.

CP 12: Filling, inspection, testing & maintenance of containers for storage & transport of Compressed gases
SS152: Cylinder Colour Code Guidelines

Malaysian Industrial Gases Manufacturers Association(MIGMA) Elects new Chairperson:

Executive Committee of MIGMA at its meeting on 21 Nov 2016 unanimously elected Connel Zhang - MD of Linde Malaysia as Chairperson which fell vacant due to relocation of Ashley Mills(also from Linde).

SIGA Working Closely with Government Agencies and Regulatory Authorities:

SIGA Board and Technical Committee worked closely with Government and Regulatory authorities in the areas of creating a country specific guideline on Safety Inspection of Cylinder Filling Stations and also in developing a Periodic Inspection/Testing Procedure for Bulk Cargo Tanks. SIGA also has been actively promoting the work being carried out at IHC and the benefits of harmonisation to Thai Government Officials through presentations and direct interactions.

AIGA and SIGA Participation in Gas World South East Asia Conference in Bangkok:

Milan Sarkar, Secretary General represented AIGA at the Gas World South East Asia Conference held in Bangkok on 7-8 Dec 2016. He Chaired the Session on 'Safety and Sustainability'. Sarkar was accompanied by Wichit Sophitanontrat, AIGA TC Chairman and Board President of SIGA. Their presentations at the conference on how 'AIGA & SIGA work are making an impact on safety & development of regulations in the region' were appreciated well by more than 200 delegates present at the conference.



Milan Sarkar and Wichit Sophitanontrat with John Racquet, Publisher of Gas World News at the Bangkok Conference

OBITUARY:

Vijay Kumar, Secretary General of Gas Association India since 2009 passed away in Delhi, India after a brief illness on early February of this year. AIGA conveys the heartfelt condolence on untimely demise of Vijay Kumar.

Byoung Hoo Kim retired on end of April 2017 as Secretary General of Korea Industrial and Speciality Gases Industries Association (KISGA) after successfully guiding KISGA activities over more than a decade. AIGA wishes him a happy and healthy retired life. Mr Ruck-Bum Choi has taken over the role of Secretary General of KISGA.

National Associations taking lead in allowing Non Destructive Testing of Seamless High Pressure Gas Cylinders:

Korea Industrial and Speciality Gases Association (KISGA) worked closely with country regulators(KGS) to allow non destructive testing of seamless high pressure gas cylinders by using ultrasonic method apart from current practice of 'hydraulic only'. KGS has included this provision in the local regulations which will help to improve safety and productivity in cylinder retesting.

Taiwan High Pressure Gas Industries Association (THPGIA) is also Working on developing a best practices guide for periodic testing/qualification of High Pressure seamless gas cylinders and Non Destructive Testing (NDT) of H2 trailers of DOT spec.

Highlights from recent events



AIGA and KISGA members at the 39th meeting of technical committee in Seoul, Korea



AIGA and GIA members at the 42nd meeting of technical committee in Kolkata, India



Wichit Sophitanontrat speaking at the Gas World conference in Bangkok



Participants at the Transport Safety Seminar of IGAS, Singapore



Participants at the Safety Seminar on HP cylinder test shop by SIGA in Bangkok



A speaker at KISGA, Korea Seminar on ESG Safety



Inauguration of GIA Safety Seminar 2016 by Mr. Ashendra Singh



Henry Liu delivering a talk at the Safety Seminar of THPGIA in Taiwan



Khun Sawet of AIGA speaking at the GIA Safety Seminar, Pune, India



AIGA members with Mr. John Miao, President of THPGIA on the sides of 41st TC meeting in Taiwan