



■ The exhibit at this year's EFRC provided manufacturers, consulting engineering firms, and service organizations to display their products to the attendees of the forum where an exchange of technical information and ideas took place.

## EUROPEAN FORUM FOR RECIPROCATING COMPRESSORS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

*EFRC Presented Well-Balanced Program and Exhibit*

By Joe Kane

More than 300 attended this year's European Forum for Reciprocating Compressors (EFRC) held in Antwerp, Belgium, June 9-10. Though it was no surprise that this fourth Forum was successful, we were pleased that it exhibited a giant leap towards maturity. Participants from four continents and 25 countries represented the international reciprocating compressor community aligned mostly towards the process segment of the compressor industry. This interest again helped establish the EFRC as one of the more important events in Europe.

The well-balanced technical presentations were given in two sessions running concurrently throughout the two-day period. During the first day, Session I was dedicated to product improvement, applications and compressor fundamentals while Session II concentrated on operation and maintenance of compressors. During day two, Session I covered EFRC research, selection and sizing of compressors and additional fundamentals, while Session II discussed selection and sizing of compressors, and additional information was

presented regarding operation and maintenance of compressors.

EFRC was founded in June of 1999 as a communication platform to facilitate the interchange of information between European users, manufactur-

ers and scientists working in the field of reciprocating compressors. A primary goal of the forum is to provide a means for scientists and engineers engaged in the development of reciprocating compressors to present current developments in the field to provide assurance that the machinery operates efficiently with low maintenance and productivity. Focus is on trends in design and operation of reciprocating compressors and a "forum of ideas" provides the opportunity to incorporate them into current design, operation and maintenance of this type of machinery. Users of compressors can report on their experience with operation and maintenance with such machines and to request solutions to problems from the industry concerned as problems occur. This activity is expected to lead toward improved international specifications and standards.

The goals of the EFRC are supported by three working groups consisting of: Precompetitive Research; Improvement of International Standards and Promotion of "Recip" Students. Research topics are centered more on fundamental research to enhance the collaboration of research institutes, manufacturers and users to achieve the most workable solution to efficient compressor design, manufacture, operation and maintenance.

For further information, contact the Association Office; European Forum for Reciprocating Compressors e.V. c/o Technische Universität Dresden 01062 Dresden, Germany. Phone: +49 +351 463 31983; FAX: +49 +351 463 37759; e-mail: [contact@recip.org](mailto:contact@recip.org). Tentatively, the next EFRC is expected to be held in Prague, Czech Republic, date to be announced. ■



■ Each session was well attended because of the timely and high level presentations covering research, fundamentals, innovation and technology, applications, operation and maintenance.