

EFRC Student Workshop, June 11th to 14th, 2018

Every second year a 4-day student excursion is organised by the EFRC. This year's workshop started early in the morning at the Amsterdam-Airport. The first lectures about „EFRC – the history and its aims“ had been presented by Dr. Siegmund Cierniak (former chairman of EFRC), “Reciprocating Compressors – Basics” by Bernd Schmidt (HAUG/CH) and “Pulsations and Vibrations” by Andre Eijk (TNO/NL) at TNO, Delft/NL. The group of 28 participants stayed overnight downtown Rotterdam/NL.

The second day started – after a short trip by bus along Rotterdam's harbour – at Europe's biggest refinery “SHELL PERNIS, Rotterdam/NL”. Jeroen van Koperen (SHELL PERNIS) presented “How does a recip fit into a refinery?”, followed by a tour through the fields, seeing quite a lot of reciprocating compressors in different applications and having intensive and interesting discussions between the students and the experts.

The night from Tuesday to Wednesday started with an excellent dinner in a hotel in Rheden/NL. “Selection and design of reciprocating compressor systems for process gas application”, presented by Niek Albers (HTC, NL) and his people, was the highlight of the morning session, topped by a workshop tour. We have seen many reciprocating and centrifugal compressors in the assembling stage at HOWDEN THOMASSEN COMPRESSORS in Rheden/NL.

After a short trip the group reached in the afternoon Neuman & Esser in Übach-Palenberg/DE. Dr. Klaus Hoff (NEA) and Andreas Hirschter (NEA) explained NEA's role in the compressor world and guide the group through the facilities, so that they saw the manufacturing, assembly and test runs of compressors.

The last day was dominated by a tour on the facilities of the SHELL REFINERY in Wesseling/DE. Guido Kluth (SHELL) explained the refining process and many details about their compressors. The group visited the factory, where many reciprocating compressors of different makes and duties are in use. It was very informative for all the students to learn how the acquisition process of new employees is organised and how they could get a chance to become employed by the SHELL group.

Last but not least, Christian Stoeckel (TU Dresden) introduced the homework to the students group and gave a few helpful tips.

The participating students had been more than happy learning and seeing so much within this few days. They felt confident of managing the EFRC-homework within the scheduled time frame and were pretty keen on winning the first prize „1 week compressor training course at BURCKHARDT COMPRESSION in Winterthur/CH“.

In the afternoon at the Cologne-airport the time was ripe to say bye-bye to each other. Everybody travelled back home to the home universities in Vienna/A, Dresden/D, Valencia/ES, Moscow/RUS, Leiden/NL, St. Gallen/CH, Zurich/CH, Cairo/ET, Rovira/IT, Kaiserslautern/DE, Madrid/ES, Enschede/NL, Murmansk/RUS, Delft/NL, Aachen/DE and Cadiz/ES.

by Dr. Siegmund Cierniak