

Workshop Processing, Storage, Dosing and Feeding of Alternative Fuels

Mülheim/Ruhr, Germany (24.–25.03.2011)

For the first time, Lechtenberg & partner organized a dedicated workshop focusing on the processing, storage, dosing and feeding of refuse derived fuels (RDF). With a limited number of 30 attendees from more than ten countries, the leading European equipment suppliers spoke about their experiences and explained new technology developments to international representatives of mayor cement and lime producers.

Held at the premises of Lechtenberg & partner in Mülheim/Ruhr, Germany, first an overview of existing technologies and developments was given by D. Lechtenberg. He spoke about common practices in processing of various types of waste – starting from municipal wastes to industrial wastes. H. Domenig, sales manager of Lindner Recyclingtech, Austria, then showed references of existing RDF production plants build by cement groups all over Europe. Domenig explained the concentration of core business in shredding technologies. Also the presentation from J. O. Simonsen, sales manager at Metso Denmark A/S, showed a concentration on core business: reliable and heavy duty preshredder for all types of waste. A question by an attendee about the presence of foreign parts within the waste was answered by Simonsen with a short, impressive film: a whole car incl. engine was dumped into the shredder and cut in small pieces.

The influence of refuse derived fuels in the clinker production was explained by Dr. H. J. Diller, responsible director of the chemical department at Lechtenberg & partner. Low moisture, a defined grain size, low ash content and a low presence of chlorine, sulphur and other trace elements with a high calorific value are the preferable quality characteristics of RDF.

With the “King of Shredders” explained by P. Wallenius and J. Kaaremaa of BMH Technology Oy, Finland, was shown an opposite company strategy: delivering the whole range of processing, storage, dosing and feeding technologies with capacities of up to 100 t/h of waste. A new plant build by BMH with a capacity of 750000 tonnes of municipal solid waste into RDF was just opened in Singapore. The design of high and large storage silos of up to 30 m height and 20 m in diameter was controversial discussed – as Lechtenberg was explaining before the height of RDF storages needs to be limited due to compression, and danger of self ignition to max. 5 m without extra fire protection and explosion proven equipment.

M. Mikulec, director of the Schenck Process Test center in Prague, and B. Neumann, vice president of Schenck Process in Darmstadt, Germany, explained in a very interesting presentation their wide range of experienced technologies for alternative fuels storages, dosing and feeding. The new development of a screw weigh feeder allows even the exact ad continuous feeding of huge capacities (more than 20 t/h). A. Kuralt of FLSmidth Pfister in Augsburg, Germany, gave a comprehensive argument why Pfister is specialized on dosing systems: hundreds of reference plants all over the world using the Pfister rotary weigh feeder for dosing alternative fuels. At last Dr. L. Di Matteo of Di Matteo Fördertechnik in Beckum, Germany, explained his role in the developing alternative fuel market. The family owned company develops scientific technologies for storage and feeding. Most interesting were his explanations about maximum silo sizes for storage of RDF. ◀



D. Lechtenberg from Lechtenberg & partner opened the conference by giving a presentation about existing technologies and developments