

MMTA members sample & analyse



StewartGroup

On 9th September 2010 visitors from the MMTA joined [Stewart Group](#) for an exclusive introduction to the inspection and analysis of minor metals and ferro-alloys at their laboratory in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

The first stage of the tour began at the bulk ferro-alloy storage warehouse of C. Steinweg Handelsveem in the port of Rotterdam (www.steinweg.com) where Stewart's surveyors demonstrated sampling techniques for ferro-alloys. Guests also witnessed Steinweg's ferro-alloy crushing and sorting operations working on some ferro-titanium (Fe-Ti).

At the laboratory members were given full safety kit and an in-depth tour by the expert chemists.

Starting with the raw sample-bag of material the tour took in all aspects of analysis from the simple acid solution to a range of high-tech machines such as the X-ray fluorescence (XRF) machine which uses X-rays to look at the chemical composition of a substance.



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Save over 25% on the International Minor Metals Conference 2011 (see page 4 for details)

Letter from Guy Darby, MMTA Chairman

Dear Members,

2010 has been another good year for your association with membership having reached 140. Your committees in conjunction with the Executive continue to work tirelessly to bring you information, opportunities and give optimum value for your membership.

Because of the continued success of the Association and its record membership level the board of directors has decided that the smooth running and efficiency of the Association must not be compromised and therefore has decided to hire an assistant to the Executive.

In addition we are looking to relocate the Association's offices in a more central location encouraging greater use by members especially those who are from outside London that may wish to use the facilities for meetings etc.

In order to help finance this expenditure the 2011 membership rate will be adjusted to £1200, this is the first rate rise in 4 years and I hope you agree is justified.

Once again I would like to thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you at one of the MMTA's events in 2011.

First REACH, now Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP)

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Although REACH regulations are barely in place, the European Commission (“Commission”) has already initiated a new scheme, the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation (EC N° 1272/2008). MMTA members should note that the new EU Classification and Labelling inventory will not only cover substances under REACH, but almost all substances, regardless of tonnage.

The notification of substance classification can still be done along with the registration under REACH by the first REACH deadline of 30 November 2010, however for products not being registered under REACH in the first tonnage band, it is expected that most notifications will still need to be made by direct submission to ECHA before the deadline of 3 January 2011. All classifications will later be placed in a public inventory after company confidential information is filtered out.

Wide scope of the inventory

In addition to substances under REACH, the EU inventory will cover all substances which meet the criteria for classification as hazardous and are placed on the market on their own, or in a mixture above the concentration limits specified in the CLP or in the Dangerous Preparations Directive (DPD), resulting in classification of the mixture as hazardous.

After the 3 January 2011 first deadline, notification will need to be made within one month after first placing on the market. There is no fee for notification or updates.

Who is responsible?

Every manufacturer and importer which places substances on the EU market is responsible for the notification of the classification of their substances to the inventory. Those in the supply chain which do not need to notify are downstream users, re-importers, distributors of substances, and producers or importers of articles.

Notification can be made individually by the manufacturer and the importer or as a group of manufacturers or importers.

What information?

The notification includes the identity of the person responsible for placing on the market; the identity of the substance; the classification under CLP; when relevant the reason why a substance has been classified or not; specific concentration limits if necessary and label elements (pictograms, signal words and hazard statements).

Harmonised classification

The CLP Regulation provides harmonised classification in either GHS format or Dangerous Substances Directive (DSD) format. When harmonised classification is not available, self-classification using the classification criteria of the CLP Regulation is the only alternate solution. Weight of evidence and expert judgment may be used.

The tools

All notifications must be made through the ECHA REACH-IT system. There are several options: the online creation of classification and labelling notification and submission; C&L notification through IUCLID 5.2; bulk submission and last but not least the creation and management of a group of manufacturers or importers.

The on-line creation of notification and submission offers a simplified approach with fewer fields, default values, a link to the inventory and the “I agree” concept. This approach is tailored to SMEs.

Notification through IUCLID 5 allows more than one composition for the same substance (useful if there are various impurity profiles) and links each composition to a particular classification and labelling. This option allows one to become familiar with the IUCLID format used for REACH registration. IUCLID use is not always plain sailing and requires some practice.

Bulk submission is designed for large businesses or enterprises, allowing the submission of multiple notifications, thus decreasing the number of submissions by the business or enterprise.

A group submission may be made by one corporation with different legal entities or various companies having no links between them. The members of the group must agree on a common classification for the same substance.

There is no mandatory legal framework for the group notifier responsibilities. Only one member of the group needs to have a REACH-IT account to cover the group. This simplifies life for everyone else in the group.

Content of the labelling

The name, address and telephone number of the supplier of the substance or mixture must be given, as is the nominal quantity in packages made available to the general public. Product identifiers must be shown and where applicable: hazard pictograms, signal words, hazard statements and appropriate precautionary statement and any supplemental information which may be required.

It should also be noted that the labelling has to be in a language that is acceptable to the country of destination.

Safety Data Sheets

New safety data sheets (SDS) are required from 1 December 2010 regardless of tonnage. The SDS must be supplied in the language of the Member State where the substance or mixture is placed on the market.

The DSD and DPD Directives will be replaced over a transitional period under which substances must be classified, labelled and packaged under the CLP Regulation, from 1 December 2010 for substances and from 1 June 2015 for mixtures. However, from 1 December 2010 to 1 June 2015 classification of substances under both the DSD (67/548/EEC) Directive and CLP Regulation is required.

Summary

While the notification of classification of substances and mixtures would appear to be straightforward, business continuity demands that all notifications be done on time and protect existing supply chains and markets.

REACH-IT is a powerful tool which may require some practical experience to deliver its full potential. MMTA members may benefit from economies of scale by joining forces in the production of notifications, labelling and safety data sheets.

EcoMundo is a member of MMTA. Please contact the [MMTA](#) or [André Clodong](#) at EcoMundo SAS for more information.

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Dates for your diary

North American Dinner	New York, NY, USA	9	December 2010
Christmas Lunch	London, UK	16	December 2010
Quarterly Lunch	London, UK	3	February 2011
The International Minor Metals Conference	Philadelphia, PA, USA	4 - 6	May 2011
North American Dinner	New York, NY, USA	8	December 2011
Christmas Lunch	London, UK	15	December 2011

MMTA-Registered Warehouse news

C. Steinweg Warehousing (F.E.) Pte Ltd has joined the MMTA following the approval of their warehouse in Shanghai, China. This is the MMTA's first warehouse listed in China and is an important milestone in the Association's representation in this market. For details of the warehousing, distribution, forwarding, transportation/stevedoring, chartering activities and customs services that can be provided for metals and other commodities contact Vincent Thong on +65 (6267) 0919, singapore@sg.steinweg.com, www.steinweg.com.

Note: **Pacorini** warehouses in Baltimore, Rotterdam and Vlissingen have been delisted as MMTA-approved following their purchase by Glencore. This is in accordance with the MMTA's warehouse [criteria](#) that state: "approved warehouses shall be neutral, not owned or associated with any trading company".

New MMTA Members:

Since the last edition of *The Crucible* the following companies have joined the MMTA community:

5N Plus Inc. is a producer of high purity metals and compounds, including tellurium, selenium, indium, gallium, and germanium. For full details contact Michael Benson on +1 (514) 856 0644 or info@5nplus.com, www.5nplus.com.

Beijing JiYa Semiconductor Material Co., Ltd. is a leading gallium producer with capacity of over 20mt per year. Gallium is a critical minor metal that plays an important role in many modern industries including for semiconductors, LEDs, solar cells and magnets. Contact Mr Chan Fung or Mr Lin Yanqing on +86 10 82961036, info@bj-jiya.com, www.bj-jiya.com.

SNR Denton UK LLP (formerly Denton Wilde Sapte LLP) is a legal expert in metals and commodities litigation, arbitration and other general business affairs. Contact John Rosenheim for more information on +44 (0) 20 7320 6970, johnrosenheim@snr-denton.com or www.snr-denton.com.

Firth Rixson Ltd is a leading manufacturer of nickel- and cobalt-based superalloys. It also produces rings, forgings and other metal products worldwide. For full details contact Deborah Stott on +44 114 219 3006, dstott@firthrixson.com, www.firthrixson.com.

Kennecott Molybdenum Company is part of Rio Tinto a leading international mining group. Kennecott mines, processes, and markets copper, molybdenum and rhenium. Contact Robert M Leary on +1 801 204 2133, robert.leary@riotinto.com, www.kennecott.com for further details.

Sekom Handelsges mbH & Co KG is a trader and converter of hard and refractory metals, concentrates, oxide and ferro-alloys. Its specialty is in molybdenum, rhenium, tungsten, tantalum and titanium. Contact Dr András Szép on +44 7824 359474, office@sekom.com, www.sekom.com.

Umicore Precious Metals Refining (UMPR) is a producer of indium, selenium and tellurium and also provides recycling services and can handle precious metal bearing scrap from various origin e.g. from electronic, photographic and catalytic applications. Contact Kris Van den Broeck on +32 (3) 821 72 38, Kris.VandenBroeck@umicore.com, www.preciousmetals.umicore.com.

The International Minor Metals Conference © in Philadelphia, PA, USA, May 4 – 6, 2011

Organised by Metal Events Ltd

The premier event for the minor metals industry!

To benefit from the exclusive special registration rate available to MMTA members register by 7th January 2011 and pay just £695 per person. To learn more about special rates for members and non-members please contact sales@metalevents.com or +44 20 7840 0145. More details online at www.mmta.co.uk and www.metalevents.com.

Sarah Frigot promotes MMTA in China

In June MMTA director Sarah Frigot (Wogen Resources Ltd) gave a presentation at the 2010 International Tungsten, Molybdenum and Vanadium Forum in Beijing, China, about the MMTA and the many benefits of membership.

The conference was organised by Beijing Antaike Information Development and MMTA member Shangxiang Minmetals Inc. It was hosted by the China Nonferrous Metals Industry Association, Jinduicheng Molybdenum Company Ltd and the China Molybdenum Company Ltd.

While the conference focused primarily on just three metals, many of the attendees are also active in many other minor metal markets, as producers, consumers and traders, as well as Chinese policy makers, providing an ideal platform for an MMTA paper.



Ms Frigot told those present that China has always played a key role in the global minor metals industry and that the MMTA was working with George Song of Shangxiang Minmetals Inc to explore the possibilities of enlarging its membership in this region.

She described how out historically the MMTA has approved warehouses in Hong Kong and Singapore and that currently the first two mainland Chinese warehouses are undergoing approval.

Ms Frigot also pointed out the important role the MMTA plays in providing standardised contract terms and inspection norms as well as the mediation and arbitration facilities that are available to members.

In conclusion she invited attendees to discover more about minor metals and the MMTA at the 2011 [International Minor Metals Conference](#) which will take place on 4 - 6 May in Philadelphia, PA, USA.

The MMTA's conference is the largest international event for the minor metals industry and the 2011 event will combine an exceptional programme of presentations with fantastic networking opportunities.

Save over 25% on the International Minor Metals Conference 2011 (see page 4 for details)

Minor Metals Dinner in New York City 2010

December 9th

The speaker at the MMTA's annual North American dinner will be Professor Thomas E. Graedel, creator of the 'criticality matrix' used to determine the risks and strategic value of critical metals and lead author of the UNEP's papers on recycling metals.



Dinner has been generously sponsored by Traxys North America LLC.

MMTA's Christmas Lunch, London

December 16th



The annual seasonal lunch for members and their guests will be at Lincoln's Inn's Old Hall in central London.

During lunch there will be a light-hearted quiz with the winning table receiving champagne kindly donated by Avon Metals Ltd.

Full details available from the MMTA.

MMTA raises £3000 at 37th Anniversary Dinner for projects in Mufulira mining community, Zambia

During the MMTA's annual dinner held on Tuesday 12th October 2010 at the Institute of Directors, London, MMTA members and their guests raised approximately £3,000 for the Cary-Mufulira Community Partnership Trust. Anthony Lipmann, of Lipmann Walton & Co, gives us an insight as to how this money is invested; "the donations provided by MMTA members penetrate every part of Mufulira society, through the schools and hospitals where we support a wide range of micro-projects".



Students at Mufulira High School, Zambia

At Mine Basic School, within sight of a massive copper smelter and within range of the daily sulphur fall-out from the converters, MMTA money is contributing seed and fertilizer for the growing areas. Here bananas and ground-nuts are being grown in the parched soil to assist nutrition of the children and nurture useful market garden skills. MMTA money also contributed to the construction of a fence to surround the plantation so that the harvest is not stolen but ends up feeding the children for whom the produce is intended.

At Mufulira High School, Augustine Mwasha is energetically running the new computer room, training students on how to use the internet and allowing the children to communicate with their

twinned school in the UK; Ansford High School in Somerset. Joint projects on climate change between both schools are being undertaken and the MMTA members' money will subsidise the Zambian side of the exchange programme which exchanges teachers and pupils between Mufulira and the UK.

At Mufulira High School, the library is being boosted with books bought with the MMTA members' donations, chosen by the trained librarian, Justine. At Muleya Winter Basic, tools to develop the market garden area within the school grounds are assisting to develop home economics classes and boost nutrition amongst the pupils, many of whom are orphans. These are but some of the small projects that involve specific items such as lime to improve soil, hoes, spades, wheel-barrows, water-buckets, fertiliser, chickens, chicken manure, seedlings which are making a small difference to people's lives.

Monies raised from individual donations by MMTA members are channelled first to the Cary-Mufulira Community Partnership Trust (CMCPT), a registered charity, before being released to an account at the Zanaco Bank controlled by Rotary for the account of the Mufulira Cary Community Partnership Trust (MCCPT), whose chairman, Fedraw Chifue, was able to be present at this year's MMTA dinner. In this way it is possible to avoid bureaucracy or for funds to be diverted to administration. Every penny donated goes tax free to pay for the objectives agreed by MCCPT in coordination with CMCPT and with some direction from the MMTA.

Guy Darby, MMTA chairman, said: "I am immensely proud of the relationship the MMTA has with CMCPT and the community of Mufulira.

I am also grateful to all those members that so generously donate to this worthwhile cause. I believe all of us in the industry have a duty to support those communities that generate the metals we are involved in. Mufulira is a symbol for all the mining communities to whom we owe so much."



Teachers at Mufulira High School, Zambia. Photos courtesy of Rachel Swindon whose visit last July was arranged by the Cary-Mufulira Community Partnership Trust.

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(continued from page 1) Members also witnessed inductively coupled plasma machines roasting samples at several thousand degrees. As well as metallic chemicals, Stewarts demonstrated how to determine the quality of solid fuels. The day ended with a welcome buffet lunch with Stewart Group staff from Rotterdam and Liverpool. The Committee wishes to thank Joop Speijer, Clare Wright and their colleagues for making this visit possible.

For more information on the inspection, surveying and analysis of metals and materials by Stewart Group visit www.stewartgroupglobal.com.



New chair at the Mediation and Arbitration Committee



At a recent meeting of the MMTA's Mediation and Arbitration Committee John Price (Trident Traders Ltd) stepped down from the chair. John has been guiding the MMTA through the legal maze of alternative dispute resolution for over a decade and is only the second person to have held this role.

Donald Lambert (Penningtons Solicitors LLP, left), a longstanding member of the MMTA's panel of arbitrators, is the new chair of this committee. In accepting his new role Donald said "I'm very excited to be asked to lead the MMTA's Mediation and Arbitration Committee. It has grown into a highly respected panel which provides essential support to the MMTA's growing international membership and I look forward to continuing the development of the dispute resolution services that it offers to member companies worldwide." Donald is a member of the London Court of International Arbitration and is recognised by legal directories as a leader in his field. Full information about the MMTA's mediation and arbitration services are at <http://www.mmta.co.uk/arbitration/>.

Membership focus:

F. E. Mottram Ltd

The F. E. Mottram Group is a leading manufacturer of ferro-titanium (Fe-Ti), having been one of the pioneers in this alloy in the second half of the twentieth century. Current capacity is 6000 mt per year Fe-Ti and the company has an additional capacity for 3500 mt per year for ferro-aluminium (Fe-Al).



The history of the company can be traced back to 1973 when Frank Mottram and Peter Nix started trading and supplying aluminium deoxidants. Production of aluminium alloys started in 1982 and in 1983 production of Fe-Ti commenced at the former R.G Holland plant in Sheffield, UK, where the first Fe-Ti 70% had been created. The current managing director is Daniel Nix and they joined the MMTA in 2009.

The history of Fe-Ti started with titanium contents of 30 to 40% but since the 1960s the more commonly traded form of the metal is around 70% titanium as it has significant advantages to consumers, including lower melting points, less aluminium (a key impurity), and up to a 20% higher yield of titanium units. F. E. Mottram predominantly produce 70% grade Fe-Ti for the global metals market although they retain the capacity for batches of lower grade material and uniquely tailored assay specifications too. The main grades of steel that employ Fe-Ti include ultra low carbon steels used to produce car body components in the automotive sector, stainless steels, and high strength low alloy (HSLA) steels. For more information visit www.femottram.com.