

Ladies' yacht clinches Howard's Way Trophy



June saw the return of the biennial MMTA Sailing Regatta and one of fiercest competitions in years for the "Howard's Way" trophy, named after former MMTA chairman Howard Masters of Lambert Metals International.

Eight sleek Beneteau 40.7 yachts battled it out in the Solent off the south coast of the UK. Professional skippers were on hand with local knowledge, worth its weight in rhenium in an area

with notoriously unpredictable currents and patches of wind.

After the first day the leader board was very tight with the consortium of ladies from Metal Events, Sanab and Eurochain just edging ahead of the pack. Tuesday's sunny weather and perfect wind conditions turned stormy on Wednesday, but not before the ladies had won another race, placing them in an unassailable position.

The ladies' victory left in their wake a number of close friends and competitors. The RJH Trading boat took second place, followed by Wogen Resources in third. Our thanks to Royal London Yacht Club for hosting us in Cowes and to Derek Hodd, a former MMTA director, for planning such challenging races.

Congratulations to all who took part!



New York dinner achieves a record attendance

MMTA's May 8th dinner in the Cornell Club, New York, saw an excellent turn-out of 50 attendees from across North America and Europe. Attendees included MMTA Chairman Charles Swindon, past chairman Anthony Lipmann, Danny Lerhman, Wayde Yeoman, Doug Geniti and David Czerniawski. The MMTA is committed to the North American minor metals community and will hold events here on a regular basis.

In welcoming guests Charles Swindon said a strong international organization capable of lobbying for minor metals at the highest level was important for industry. He gave Europe's REACH legislation as an example of regional laws that have world wide effects.

The speakers Dustin Docter of Vital Chemicals and Jack Lifton presented on bismuth, dubbed the 'green metal' for being environmentally benign, and *The Minor Metals Age*, respectively. Lifton highlighted several pressure points where the US economy is highly vulnerable to minor metal deficits. He cited rare earths and rhenium as markets particularly sensitive to supply chain disruption.

Lifton concluded that "where minor metals come from and are applied is a matter of American national interest" and that the current situation will only be remedied when mining companies are seriously encouraged to develop by-product metals.

Our thanks to Hudson Metals Corporation for their tireless assistance (www.hudsonmetals.com).

Dates for your Diary:

Informal lunch in London	2 nd September 2008
35 th Anniversary Dinner, London	14 th October 2008
General Meeting and Christmas Lunch, Savile Club, London	4 th December 2008
North American minor metals seminar and dinner	(tbc) December 2008
The MMTA's International Minor Metals Conference, Istanbul, Turkey	27-29th April 2009
Annual General Meeting 2009, Istanbul, Turkey	28 th April 2009
Open day at Jean Goldschmidt International SA, Belgium	4 th June 2009

MMTA meets in Antwerp

At the invitation of the Port of Antwerp on May 15th the MMTA visited one of the major minor metals terminals of Europe and the world. Several MMTA-registered warehouses are based in this beautiful and historic city.

The seaport of Antwerp is an important link in the chain of international trade and our boat trip saw only a fraction of the facilities Antwerp has to offer. Every year Antwerp's port operators handle over 180 million metric tons of international maritime goods traffic, making Antwerp the second largest port in Europe, and in the top 10 globally.

This event was kindly sponsored by [Vollers Belgium NV](#), [CWT Commodities](#), and [C Steinweg NV](#).

German traders visit London



On May 19th fifty young German metal traders visited the metals trading hub of London on an educational visit organised by Berlin-based Verband Deutscher Metallhändler e.V. (VDM). Their visit included seminars on minor metals by the MMTA and base metals by the LME.

MMTA Chairman Charles Swindon and VDM's Herr Schmitz welcomed the attendees. Presentations on minor metals were given by the MMTA, London Chemicals & Resources and RJH Trading.

Copies of the presentations are available to MMTA members from the Executive.

NEW MMTA MEMBERS:

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

All Metals and Materials supplies of a wide range of minor metals to consumers across the world. The company specializes in cobalt (Co). Douglas Geniti at All Metals and Materials can be contacted on +1 (845) 651 6567 and dgeniti2000@yahoo.com.

Atlantic Metals and Alloys has been supplying metals, chemicals and compounds for industrial applications since 1983. They supply minor metals, master alloys, and rare chemicals, including Bi, B, GA, Ge, In, Mg, Ni, Sel Si, Te, PGMs, Cr, Mo, Re, Ta, W and Rare Earth metals. For a full list contact David Czerniawski on +1 (203) 378 9025, david@atlanticmetals.com or visit www.atlanticmetals.com.

Delta Products UK Ltd's trading team has accumulatively almost a hundred years of knowledge and experience in both the primary and secondary metals industries. Minor metals covered by Delta Products include Cr and Fe-Cr, Ga, In, Re, Nb, Fe-Si, Ta and Ti. Delta is also involved with base metal, ferrous and plastic scraps. Contact Nick Trillwood on +44 1923 292020, nicktrillwood@deltaproducts.co.uk, www.deltaproducts.co.uk.

Euroinvest International was established in 2002 and specializes in the import, export and distribution of raw materials (ferroalloys, non-ferrous metals, pig iron, and more) for the metallurgical industry, machine construction industry and in the civil and industrial constructions. Contact Daniel Badea on +4021 230 0154 or +4021 230 0158, office@euroinvest.com.ro, www.euroinvest.com.ro.

Jack Lifton LLC: Jack Lifton is a consultant and author on the sourcing and recycling of minor metals including the rare earths. Mr Lifton has consulted with American Fortune 500 companies, such as General Motors and Alcoa, financial institutions and with a large number of private equity funds and US government agencies. Contact on +1 248 739 1729, JackLifton@aol.com, www.strategicmaterialsourcing.com (under construction).

Maritime House Ltd is a family owned trading company which has specialised in trade with Russia and Ukraine since 1991. Maritime House focuses on three markets: purchasing industrial chemicals in Russia and Ukraine for export; distributing of Inco's nickel in Russia and Ukraine; and purchasing agents for major Ukrainian plants. Contact Chris Peer on +44 (0)1444 458411, info@maritimehouse.co.uk, www.maritimehouse.co.uk.

Who would you recommend to join the MMTA?

THE MMTA'S INTERNATIONAL MINOR METALS CONFERENCE[©]

the premier event for the minor metals industry

Ceylan Intercontinental Hotel, Istanbul, Turkey, April 27-29 2009

Organised by Metal Events Ltd on behalf of the Minor Metals Trade Association.

Following the great success of the MMTA's International Minor Metals Conference in Estonia in 2007, which attracted a record attendance from across the global minor metals industry, the MMTA has decided to hold its next event in the beautiful city of Istanbul — traditionally seen as the gateway between Asia and Europe.

The conference agenda will focus on innovation and market development for a range of minor metals as well as looking at "market hotspots", where metals are seeing dynamic growth and rapid price movements. Reflecting the wide-ranging interests of all of its membership, the conference will provide the platform for the global industry to meet.

EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL REGISTRATION RATE ONLY AVAILABLE TO MMTA MEMBERS

Book your place before August 1st 2008 and pay just £595 per person – a saving of £100 on the normal early-bird fee and over 35% on the full delegate fee!

Contact sales@metalevents.com or +44 20 7659 2276 before August 1st and benefit from the special members' rate and to learn more about special group rates (3+ delegates).

Details of the programme and related activities will be released soon at www.mmta.eu. If you are interested in giving a presentation at the premier global event for the minor metals industry please also contact sales@metalevents.com.



REACH: Consortia formation update

For a complete list of current minor metals consortia contact the Executive:

Bismuth (Bi): Lead Development Association International (LDAI) is coordinating a Bismuth Consortium that will include bismuth metal. Interested companies are advised to contact Dr Andy Bush at LDAI as soon as possible. LDAI, 17a Welbeck Way, London, W1G 9YJ. Tel +44 (0)20 7499 8422, bush@ldaint.org, <http://www.ldaint.org/>.

Chromium (Cr): International Chromium Development Association (ICDA) is currently setting up a Chromium Consortium. The lead company is the French producer Delachaux. More information from ICDA, 45 rue de Lisbonne, 75008 Paris, France. Tel +33 (1)40760689, info@icdachromium.com, <http://www.icdachromium.com/>.

Annual General Meeting election of MMTA Committee

The MMTA's Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on June 17th 2008 at the Royal London Yacht Club in Cowes, Isle of Wight. The meeting was well attended and full minutes will be circulated to members separately in due course. The election results are as follows:

Officers:

Chairman Charles Swindon, RJH Trading
Vice-Chairman David Craik, AMC Group
Treasurer Roy Walton, Darton Commodities

Directors:

David Brown, Lambert Metals International Ltd.
Sarah Frigot, Wogen Resources
Michael Ihlenfeld, F. W. Hempel Metallurgical GmbH
Anthony Lipmann, Lipmann Walton & Co. Ltd
Steven Munnoch, Avon Metals Ltd
Peter Nicholson, London Chemicals & Resources Ltd
Gladys Smith, SANAB Ltd

MMTA has a new fax number:
+44 (0)20 7183 9933



REACH: What should you know?



By Dr Derek J. Knight, Director of Registration Services, SafePharm Laboratories Ltd, www.safepharmlabs.com, with additional reporting by MMTA and REACHReady www.reachready.co.uk. Safepharm is an approved REACHReady supplier. (please see disclaimer below)

What is REACH?

REACH ("Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals") came into operation in the EU on June 1st 2008. REACH includes a systematic review program of all existing metals and chemicals, referred to as 'phase-in' substances, as they are gradually introduced into the system. REACH will be run by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) in Helsinki, Finland (<http://echa.europa.eu/>).

REACH will have a dramatic effect on the EU chemicals industry and also have worldwide ramifications. REACH will place a specific duty on manufacturers, importers and users of chemicals to assess the risks arising from their use and take any risk management measures.

Registration of Substances

Registration is an integral part of the new system and will include information on the properties and uses of a substance. The safety data requirements depend on substance volume and can be modified to take account of low exposure to humans or the environment. Additional safety data is needed at higher tonnages. A risk characterisation is part of the Chemical Safety Report needed for registration of substances at above 10 metric tons per annum (t.p.a.).

'Phase-in' substances and the pre-registration process

'Phase-in' substances are defined as:

- Listed in the European Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances (EINECS). A copy is held by the European Chemicals Bureau at <http://ecb.jrc.it/esis/index.php?PGM=ein>. EINECS contains over 100,000 substances, including the vast majority of minor metals and their chemicals.
- Manufactured in EU (but not placed on market) between May 31st 1992 and June 1st 2007.
- No-longer polymers (NLP's).

The review program for 'phase-in' substances has submission deadlines based on the tonnage of a substance a company manufactures or imports and the danger that a substance poses to humans and the environment.

Submission deadlines for 'phase-in' substances :

- by 1 December 2010
 - > 1000 t.p.a.
 - > 100 t.p.a. for substances classified as 'very toxic to aquatic organisms and may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment' (R50-53)
 - > 1 t.p.a. for substances classified as carcinogenic; mutagenic or toxic to reproduction (categories 1 and 2)
- by 1 June 2013 > 100 t.p.a.
- by 1 June 2018 > 1 t.p.a.

Pre-registrations are free and must be submitted before November 30th 2008. (They started on June 1st)

A company that fails to pre-register a substance cannot manufacture or import it into the EU until full registration of that substance has been completed.

Non-EU companies supplying substances to the EU market have the option of appointing a representative EU company to meet the registration requirements of REACH on their behalf.

REACH requires each legal entity that is a manufacturer or importer to pre-register and register (regardless of whether it is part of a group or a head office and its subsidiaries).

ECHA will publish an inventory of pre-registered substances by 31 December 2008. All pre-registrants for a particular phase-in substance will form a 'SIEF' group to share registration data and so minimise their costs. SIEFs will also coordinate any additional testing required for a substance. A new supplier of a phase-in substance can begin supply and join the review program.

In practice many SIEF's are likely to operate as consortia or similar (a full list of minor metals consortia is available from the MMTA).

For further information please contact SafePharm or the MMTA Executive.

Disclaimer: No representation, warranty, or undertaking (express or implied) is given and no responsibility or liability is accepted by MMTA or REACHReady or SafePharm Laboratories or by any of their companies officers, employees or advisers, in respect of the completeness or accuracy of any of the material contained in this document (either as at the date of the document or at any time thereafter).