

Bitumen Demystified

Thursday 26 October 2006

SCI, International Headquarters
14/15 Belgrave Square, London, UK

Please note that CPD points are available for this meeting



Organised by the SCI Construction Materials Group

In association with the Institution of Highways and Transportation and the
Institute of Asphalt Technology

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PROGRAMME

- 09:00 *Registration and Coffee*
- 09:30 Chairman's Introduction
David Whiteoak, TRL, UK
- 09:35 The History of Bitumen
Ian Dussek, Consultant, UK
- 10:00 Exploration
Wim Tuegals, Nynas NV, Belgium
- 10:30 What is Bitumen?
Mike Southern, Eurobitume, Belgium
- 11:00 *Coffee*
- 11:20 Feedstock Selection for Bitumen
Simon Watkins, BP Bitumen, UK
- 11:50 Chemistry of Bitumen
Ian Lancaster, Nynas AB, UK
- 12:20 Rheology of Bitumen
Sophie Nigen-Chaidron, Shell Global Solutions, France
- 12:50 Morning Discussion
- 13:10 *Lunch*
- 14:20 Adhesion of Bitumen to Aggregates
Stefan Vansteenkiste, Belgian Road Research Centre, Belgium
- 14.50 Influence of Bitumen on Asphalt
Gary Schofield, Total Bitumen, UK
- 15:20 Performance Specifications
Tony Harrison, RBA, UK
- 15:50 The BiTVal Review of Bitumen Tests
Cliff Nicholls, TRL, UK
- 16:20 Afternoon Discussion
- 16:40 *Tea and Close*

Aims of the conference

Bitumen is a complex visco-elastic material, derived from the hard end of the hydro-carbon spectrum that is used as the binder in the majority of flexible road pavements since the demise of coal tar in the middle of the last century. The complexity allows for wide variation in properties, both naturally occurring and deliberately engineered, that leaves many engineers who regularly use the product confused about the myths and the truth. The seminar is intended to set out the position of bitumen as a useful engineering material that is key to an efficient road network in this and other countries. Papers will be presented reviewing the history, exploration and manufacture of the material, looking at its chemical and physical properties, its influence within asphalt mixtures and its specification and testing. The seminar is aimed as an update to practising engineers and technicians in the highway industry, whether from a bitumen supplier, an asphalt producer, a consultant or a highway authority.

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