

SGT NEWS



Compiled and published by FMJ International Publications Ltd on behalf of the Society of Glass Technology

KEEPING MEMBERS INFORMED

Like all businesses, the Society of Glass Technology needs to adjust to changing circumstances. As part of a recent review exercise, a small, experienced group was set up to evaluate our publications and the way in which the Society communicates with members to keep them abreast of activities and functions.

It was felt that the Society should be projected on a wider basis. Although *Physics and Chemistry of Glasses* is an internationally renowned academic journal, we acknowledge that greater interest has to be generated in the Society and the services it can afford to readers who may not be members. In particular, more news and general interest 'glass' articles are necessary. Every local section and technical committee organises a number of meetings each year that could be better attended if publicised to a wider audience.

SGT News has been created to perform this task. A two page Society news section will be published within each issue of *Glass* and every two months, these sections will be combined to produce a supplement that will be distributed to all SGT members. This arrangement permits the Society to reach a much wider readership, while also providing

existing members with greater information. Furthermore, members will now receive at least one copy of *Glass* per year, free-of-charge.

We will, of course, require extra help to produce and edit these articles. Derek Hawsworth will be taking on the task of collating the material and will depend on all sections and committees to report on their activities and meetings, both before and after. Individual members are also invited to contribute both technical and general interest news items.

Tell us about your successes and failures. We all have the latter but perhaps you can prevent others from falling into the same trap. The future success of the Society depends on you, the existing members and our collective ability to encourage and attract newcomers. I look forward to receiving your help with this exciting new initiative.

Neil M McDonnell,
president, Society of Glass Technology.



President:
Mr N M McDonnell,
CEng, MIMechE,
FSGT.

Honorary Secretary:
Mr W Simpson,
FSGT, FICeram,
FIIM, FBIM.

Honorary Treasurer:
Mr M D Theu.

JOURNALS OF RECORD

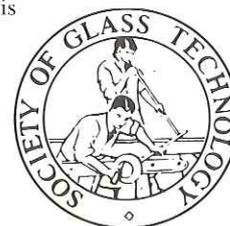
The Society publishes two journals in annual volumes at bi-monthly intervals from February each year. They may be obtained for personal use by joining the Society or copies may be purchased for use by organisations.

Indexes to the journals are published in the December issues and bound volumes are available at an extra cost.

Glass Technology contains Society news; proceedings (papers presented at symposia which have not been subjected to the usual stringent refereeing procedure); news from the marketplace; papers, communications and letters to the Editor (which have been formally submitted and refereed); book reviews; and abstracts.

The topics covered include glassmaking and fabrication, properties and applications of glasses and glass ceramics and similar subjects of a practical nature.

Physics and Chemistry of Glasses contains papers, communications and letters to the Editor (which have all been formally submitted and refereed); book reviews; and abstracts. As its name indicates, this journal contains papers describing original basic research on the nature and structure of glasses. ■



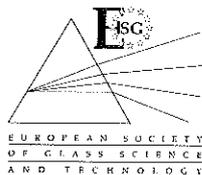
MEMBERSHIP

Are you concerned with glass as a manufacturer, scientist, technologist, user or collector? If so, join the Society of Glass Technology today.

The 1992 annual subscription, which entitles members to receive either or both of the SGT's journals, varies from £9 to £63 according to age and number of journals for UK members and from £11 to £69 for those overseas.

Further details from the Society of Glass Technology, 20 Hallam Gate Road, Sheffield S10 5BT. Tel 0742 663168. Fax 0742 665252.

FIRST CONFERENCE: FIRST CLASS



The first is always a special case, the one you make allowances for when things go wrong and vow to learn from your experiences next time. The first conference of the European Society of Glass Science and Technology (ESG) is the exception, however. Organised by the SGT, it passed without a hitch and will undoubtedly be remembered for a long time by those who attended.

Formed in October 1990, the ESG is an affiliation of three respected European glass societies – the Deutsche Glastechnische Gesellschaft in Germany, the UK-based Society of Glass Technology and the Union Scientifique Continentale du Verre. Its principal aim is to advance the science, technology, application and art of glass, glass ceramic and related materials. This will be achieved by establishing a European conference, to be held bi-annually at first.



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GOOD MIX

It was this event, which some nine months later took place at Ranmoor House, a University of Sheffield hall of residence. Around 200 glass scientists and technologists gathered together on 9 September 1991, for the start of a four day conference entitled 'Fundamentals

Second ESG chairman, Neil M McDonnell (left), with his successor Dr Fabiano Nicoletti of Stazione Sperimentale del Vetro, Venice.



of the Glass Manufacturing Process'. A good mix of nationalities were present, including a significant number from countries outside the European community.

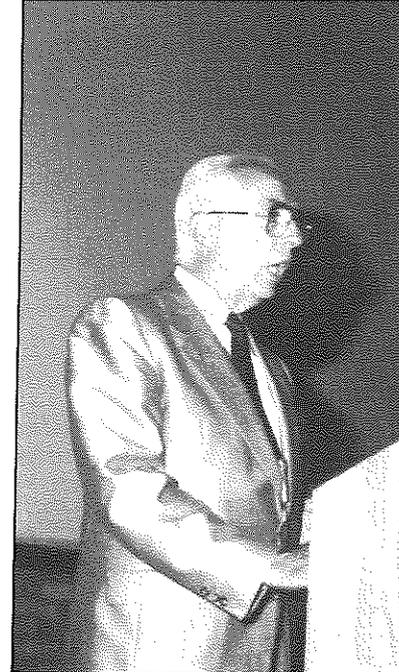
The event began with an address from the president of the International Commission on Glass, Mr J P Causse, in the form of a question: "Is there a need for the ESG?" The answer... yes, in the exchange of knowledge and experience at the European level. Mr Causse then proceeded to give an overview of changes in European glass production methods over the last decade. He put special emphasis on the role of research and development work in securing the industry's future.

The programme was divided into two sections, one for basic glass science and the other for technically-oriented subjects. In the basic science section, 36 papers were presented over the course of four half day sessions, covering physical properties and analysis, crystallisation, structure, process modelling, surface treatment and special glasses. A wide cross section of European academic institutions and research organisations were in attendance.

OPERATOR'S ROLE

An equally punishing schedule of 31 papers constituted the technical sessions. The first half day of papers were devoted to the increasingly important though little discussed topic of the role of the operator in modern computer-based systems, which was organised by the ICG's Technical Committee 15. The message that came across from almost all the speakers can be put succinctly: The computer is not there to replace the operator but to free him to apply his natural intelligence.

Process control was addressed in the session that followed. It provided the opportunity to hear about such diverse topics as fuel flow metering, oxy-fuel melting, the



Mr J P Causse, president, International Commission on Glass.

detection of small particles in optical glasses, melter temperature control systems and rapid furnace cooling. As with the previous session, the standard of information given and the research that was behind it, was high.

The 'furnaces and melting' sessions provided among the best papers at the conference, not to mention some of the best audience participation. If there was one topic that tended to overshadow others, it was the environment. A few years ago, a conference of this magnitude would probably have featured one or perhaps two papers on this subject. At Sheffield, seven of the 11 papers presented under the 'furnaces and melting' banner had either pollution control or recycling at their core.

As a forum for promoting the exchange of knowledge and experience, the first ESG conference was a success. The next meeting, scheduled for 1993, will be hosted by Italy.

The organisers will have two years to prepare, compared to the nine months allotted to this year's event. The Society will publish proceedings of the meeting during 1992; the cost is likely to be about £60.

JOIN THE SMART SET!

SGT member's and fellow's ties are now available in blue, green, grey and maroon colours. One tie costs £7.86 and the full set of four, £25.

Gold coloured cuff links can also be purchased priced £7.86 and bearing the Society's crest.