MAY MEETING / TOUR: LONDON DERRY NORTH DIVISION POLICE STATION

LOCATION: 14203 - 50 STREET, EDMONTON, AB (Just off Manning Drive)

DATE / TIME: TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2003 @ 6:30 PM SHARP!
Meet in the Lobby of the facility where we will tour the Services Area. NOTE: Late comers will not be allowed in. The facility exceeds federal guidelines of the Model National Energy Code for Buildings by 43%, which will reduce operating costs and produce 200,000 kg less carbon dioxide emissions a year. Ninety-five per cent efficient boilers are used for heating. Seamless vapor barriers are used to reduce heat loss, and energy-efficient windows with solar shading all contribute to the efficiency of the building. BRING A FRIEND!

JUNE SOCIAL: ANNUAL FAMILY BBQ & PICNIC

LOCATION: SITE #8, VICTORIA PARK (RIVER VALLEY ROAD & 116 STREET, EDMONTON, AB)
***See Page #8 For Mail In Registration Form

DATE / TIME: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2003 @ 6:00 PM (Come Early!)
This year we return to Victoria Park for this annual event that promises to be a lot of fun as it has been in past years. The facility was closed last year for renovations. This site is a covered site so unless the weather is really bad the event will go ahead. Bring your spouse for this evening filled with entertainment and fun!

March Meeting: On Tuesday, March 18, 2003 the Edmonton Branch, Alberta Institute of Power Engineers met at the NAIT Engineering Technologies Annex. Guest speaker, Mr. Harry Maekelburger, PE, P. Eng., Coordinator, SAIT Power Engineering, gave a ‘super’ slide show presentation on the construction of the $600m CP Rail Rogers Pass Tunnel. Harry demonstrated the many problems that were faced as well as how the ventilation system works as trains pass through the mountain. It was an excellent show and we certainly appreciate Harry’s commitment to the Institute of Power Engineers both here and in Calgary.

April Meeting / Tour: The AIE met at the IPEX PVC Plant, located at 4225-92 Ave., Edmonton, AB., on Tuesday, April 22, 2003. IPEX is a leading supplier of thermoplastic piping systems. IPEX is synonymous with quality and performance. The products include: Municipal pressure and gravity systems; plumbing and mechanical pipe systems;
PVC; CPVC, PP, ABS, PEX, and PE pipe and fittings (1/4” to 48”); electrical systems; telecommunications and utility piping systems; irrigation systems, radiant heating systems.

Special thanks you to tour personnel for showing the group the two plants are:

Ralf Makowski - QC Manager, Kitec manufacturing facility  
Brain Gledhill - QC manager, Edmonton PVC manufacturing facility  
Allan Baker - Western Regional Manager, for hosting the tour and providing the coffee, refreshments and an overview of the company as follows:

Kitec Distribution and Manufacturing - A Multi-purpose Composite pressure pipe made of Cross linked Polyethylene x Aluminum x Crosslinked Polyethylene (XLPE/AL/XLPE). The only place this product is made in N. America is at this facility. IPEX ships this product worldwide, with over 50 million feet of pipe produced annually at this facility. The Kitec pipe product is suitable for: Hot & cold domestic water applications, radiant floor heating, compressed air lines up to 300 psi., baseboard radiation piping, underground water service tubing, hot water recirculating lines, solar piping, this is why we describe it as a Multi-purpose Composite pressure pipe.

The product testing conducted at this facility is done in a CSA certified test laboratory, that verifies temperature and pressure claims as well as impact and burst testing that amazed everyone in attendance. The Kitec facility is housed in a building that has an installed radiant floor system that heats 85,000 sq. ft. at a cost that typically is 1/3 of most heating costs. (The in-house data verifies this). Additionally this building is heated by 3 - 1.3 million Btu boilers that use thermoplastic CPVC piping for distribution of the hot water throughout the building. There is also a 7 bay snowmelt system to keep the loading docks nice and dry whatever the season or conditions. All DWV piping in the building is the IPEX System 15 PVC DWV pipe and fittings, Kitec is used for the radiant floor, snowmelt piping as well as the hot and cold domestic water piping. Blazemaster CPVC pipe and fittings provide the fire protection for the office part of the building.

PVC Plant - This plant produces PVC pipe from 1/2" - 48" in diameter. It is the only plant in the world producing 48" PVC pipe. They also produce pipe for electrical, irrigation, plumbing, industrial and municipal applications, as well as for industrial applications up to Schedule 80 PVC pipe from 1/2" - 24" in diameter. This is one of if not the largest PVC pipe plants in N. America, and the 48" extruder puts out more poundage annually than the production of most PVC pipe plants. Product made at this plant is shipped across North America daily. North America's first PVC manholes are being made here in addition to this plant being the largest plastic fabricating facility in W. Canada. They fabricate PVC/CPVC fittings, headers, tanks etc., thru to 48" sizes. In addition this is the only place in the world that has a pipe coating facility dedicated solely to providing a protective fire resistant coating to PVC pipe that enables it to meet the stringent fire regulations for installation into high-rise buildings and air plenums. This new System XFR will be on display, you can physically take a torch and hold it to the pipe and not even raise a blister on the inside of the pipe.
Steam Lines

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Old Business:

1. **Convention Committee Update** (September 25-27, 2003)
   The Convention Committee will be hosting four ballroom dance refreshers in early September, for those members who are planning to attend the President’s Ball on Saturday, September 27, at the Ramada Inn in Edmonton, AB. There will likely be a small fee to offset the cost of a rented auditorium, but no charge for the instruction. The location and dates will be announced at a later date. If you are interested in participating, please call Pat Moore at 421-4377.

   The Convention Committee is holding monthly meetings to work out all of the details and canvassing corporations for Corporate donations to offset the costs. At the March 18 meeting Lorne Shewfelt presented a cheque to John Melnyk for $1000 on behalf of his employer TransAlta to give to the Convention Treasurer, Wil Amundson who was unable to attend the meeting. The money will be used for the Convention to pay for the bus and luncheon for a tour of TransAlta’s Keephills Generating Station. We appreciate TransAlta’s generous donation and say, Thank you!

2. **AGM Resolutions**
   Alberta Area Director, Lorne Shewfelt proposed three Resolutions that he felt should be reviewed at the AGM and have to be submitted to the National Office before May 31, 2003. These were published in the last Steam lines and a brief description is outlined as follows:

   - **Resolution #1** proposes a change in the per capita advance schedule, which will significantly reduce the financial impact to a Branch as its membership grows. At this time, there will be no effect to Calgary, but the effect will be significant to Edmonton, where we are currently losing money every time we sign up a new member.

   - **Resolution #2** proposes a change to the calculation of President’s Cup points to reflect the significance of Branch performance in signing new members, and in ensuring that existing members are paid up. These are critical criteria for the AIPE’s financial health, but are not currently recognized in any way.

   - **Resolution #3** requests more detail be developed regarding President’s Cup calculations. We are limited in working deliberately towards winning the Cup but do not know enough about how it is awarded. Edmonton is obviously a strong contender, and Calgary should be as well in the coming years.

**EDMONTON BRANCH EXECUTIVE MEETING**

The Edmonton Branch held an Executive meeting at the U of A heating plant on April 10, 2003. Our appreciation goes out to Ray Kjenner for providing the meeting room. The important issues discussed are as follows:

1.) **Awards Committee Nominations Needed by May 31**
   The Executive agreed that the Branch President fill the role of Awards Committee Chairman each year as he is most familiar on what roles the members do to help out throughout the year. Edmonton Branch President Sam Seepersad agreed and will be the Awards Committee Chairman this year as nominations must be submitted to the IPE Head Office before May 31. It will be a real treat for the membership this year as the Awards will be given out at the AGM here this September.
Lorne Shewfelt and First Vice-President Wil Amundson also volunteered to be on the Awards Committee and will meet on May 5, 2003 and select individuals that meet the criteria to achieve an award. Lorne Shewfelt will revise the IPE Operations memo to reflect these changes.

3.) Great Human Race

The AIPE is now registered with the Great Human Race as a non-profit organization. This year the event will be held Saturday, May 10, 2003, at the U of A Butterdome, starting at 10:00 am. This is a great way to raise money sponsored by the United Way for your charitable organization. (See www.greathumanrace.com). The deadline to register is May 4 at any Running Room, by mail: Great Human Race, 10020-108 Street, Edmonton, AB T5J 1K6 or fax: (780) 990-0203. The cost to register is $15.00 before April 26 and $25 after (includes a T-shirt). Youths 17 and under are free but must sign a waiver with T-shirts at $10.00. Participants can either run 8 km or walk 3 km. Wheelchair participants are welcome to attend and complete the same races. NOTE: Anyone can register on-line. All pledges are forwarded to the Great Human Race who, in turn, issues a cheque for 80% of each organization’s collected pledges. The other 20% is retained to cover costs of the event. Tax receipts will not be issued for donations as they can only be issued to a Registered Canadian Charity, and not non-profit organizations such as us.

How this money will be spent will be determined by the individuals that volunteer their time for this event at a later date. The Treasurer will segregate the money so that it is monitored separate from the Branch funds. Lorne Shewfelt, Sam Seepersad and Wil Amundson volunteered to participate in the event on May 10 and will be there. In addition, several Power Engineering Instructors from NAIT, will also participate. Register NOW for this worthwhile event!

4.) Society Registration Renewal (by July 31, 2003)

The AIPE must annually renew the “PE” designation with Alberta Registries. Pat Moore will have the forms completed and John Melnyk will obtain a copy of the Audited Financial statement that must also be included in the renewal, and ensure that Pat Moore receives a copy.

5.) Medicine Hat Advisory Committee, April 29

Power Engineering Program Head, Burke Bechtel has invited the AIPE to have a member attend the Advisory Committee meeting. Calgary Branch President, Ray Shupac has indicated that he will attend. Lorne Shewfelt will attend the meeting on behalf of TransAlta Utilities.

6.) Membership List

The membership list has grown considerably over the years and it is very important that data is recovered quicker than with the current way using MS Excel XP (ie. Telephone numbers, member locations, e-mail addresses, etc.). John Melnyk has managed to maintain the individual lists but it is very time consuming. Pat Moore contacted an outside computer firm for an estimate to set the program up in order that it be user friendly. However, the cost will be $600 - $750, which we felt was excessive knowing our finances. John Melnyk has indicated to set the program up in order that it be user friendly. However, the cost will be $600 - $750, which we felt was excessive knowing our finances. Sam Seepersad will contact another agency to get another quote. The Executive feels that this is a very important issue and must look at resolving this soon, however no decisions were made at this time.
Power versus Stationary - Engineer versus Operator

This became a bit of an interesting issue at a recent meeting which I attended. My response was that Stationary originated in order to differentiate between “Portable” and/or “Traction”. These latter units were the railway and “field steam engines” which were common and helped “open up” this great country of ours. There were also the portable units which could be easily re-located to some new site, the “donkey engine” of sawmill fame, the “portables” used in the tobacco industry around Stompin’ Tom Connors’ favorite town Tilsonburg. I’m guessing here that the locomotives could go beyond provincial boundaries and this may have posed a bit of a legislative problem. Last but not least, there were also the Marine Engineers, more self-explanatory than some of the previous terms. Now we’re going beyond national boundaries. I believe the term Power Engineer will become the dominant term in the not too distant future and Marine Engineer will be around for decades to come.

Engineer versus operator. This has surfaced much more recently with the elimination of the “Building Operator” categories here in Alberta. It appears the term “Engineer” indicates an individual should be much more “qualified” or “capable” than an “Operator”. “Webbie” Webster seems to indicate this to some degree: “…one who designs or constructs…” as well as “…one who operates an engine or apparatus…” for the engineer whereas the operator “…operates a machine or device…”. To me, the key word here seems to be “engine”, which Webbie says “…converts various forms of energy into mechanical energy…”. So as I see it, Building Operators should have been called Building Engineers rather than operators. And is it really that big an issue? Aren’t we all in the same boat? Is it steam powered? Next to consider is Refrigeration Operators I guess. Cool!

Coal and the Environment

Seward Station is an example of how the environmental impact of coal as a fuel can be mitigated. Seward is a coal-fired 196 MW power plant owned by Reliant Energy, built in 1949, and located 70 miles east of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The plant became noteworthy in 1996 and 1998 when it experimented with co-firing wood wastes from sawmills in the area. 10 - 15% of the coal consumption for one 64 MW steam generator was replaced with sawdust, some of which had been awaiting disposal for as long as two years. Results included substantial reduction in NOx and SO2 emissions, and a slight increase in boiler efficiency.

In June, 2001, Seward was the focus of another innovative environmental breakthrough. It was announced that the existing plant would be replaced with a new 521 MW plant on the same site, using new technology to provide clean disposal of waste coal. The existing 130 jobs will be retained, and another 400 jobs created. The waste fuel is available very cheaply, and it is expected that the plant will become a very low-cost provider of electricity for the area.

The new plant will use circulating fluidized bed boiler technology to burn coal that is high in sulphur and contains as much as 50% ash, and it will still significantly reduce emissions of SO2 and particulates. The disposal of waste coal in this manner also addresses a major long-term environmental problem. The waste coal is refuse left over from steel making and other industries, and it has been stored in unsightly stockpiles for many years. Even worse, the rainwater runoff from the stockpiles has seriously polluted the local watershed and rivers with acids and heavy metals. Seward Station expects to consume 100 million tons of this coal over its projected 40 year life. Additionally, the alkaline flyash and bottom ash which is produced will be used at the waste coal sites to neutralize the remaining acids, thus helping in the ongoing efforts to clean up the local rivers. This has the added benefit of eliminating the need to dispose of the ash, which is usually a disadvantage for coal firing.

To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe. -Anatole France

When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us. -Helen Keller

Education is when you read the fine print. Experience is what you get if you don’t. -Pete Seeger
For the last few years a committee have been working to “clean-up” the existing Regulations and remove the ambiguities. The members of the committee are Vaughan Ellis, Jack Folklinga, Gilbert Requena, Frank Kapuscinski, Bruce Allen, Bob Clyne, Roger Steele, Olie Schell, Mike Poehlmann, Roy Stock.

We are pleased to announce that the Engineers’ Regulations become the Power Engineers’ Regulations on May 1st, 2003. When you compare the “new” Regulation to the “old” Regulation, it will seem to be a major change, but on close inspection the changes are mostly “revisions for clarity”. There are a few new additions and a couple of major changes as listed below:

The Definitions section has been expanded with new definitions and a number of editorial modifications.

A Supervision Section has been added to clarify the supervision requirements for a power plant (2(1) and the responsibilities of the chief power engineer have been better defined in 2(6) and 2(7).

The sub-section 3(1) dealing with Thermal Liquid Heaters has been changed to reflect current practice, this clarifies the responsibilities of the power engineer in charge of a thermal liquid heating system and the responsibilities for the shift operators.

The sub-section 4(3) dealing with Heating Plant has been changed to clarify the responsibilities of a power engineer in charge of the heating plant.

Log Book – Section 6 has been expanded for clarity and to include thermal liquid heating systems

A new Section 8 “Authorized Scope of Practice” has been added. This section explains the set of Tables to be found at the back of the Regulations. The Tables are a new way of showing the staffing requirements for different plants and replace 5(1) – (10) in the old Regulations. Together with Section 9 the Tables are a better way of presenting the information.

In the “1998” Regulations, Section 4.5 allowed a power engineer to sketch, construct, etc. In the “new” Regulations this is Section 10 and has been revised and includes a heating plant.

Examinations - Pass Marks for all power engineering examinations are now 65% and are in line with the rest of Canada. The averaging of marks has been discontinued. A candidate must obtain 65% on an examination to pass.

The Educational requirements for examinations have not changed but use the latest Alberta Education numbering system.

A new Section 28 has been added for examinations. Sub-section (g) will disqualify a candidate who fails any three examinations from writing another examination for a period of 12 months. Sub-section (h) states that a candidate who fails any examination may not apply to write another examination for a period of 30 days.

Finally, Section 31 has been added which set a date for the Regulations to expire.

- Contribution by Roy Stock, ABSA

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June Family BBQ & Picnic

Victoria Park *Site #8 (River Valley Road & 116 Street)

Edmonton, AB

Wednesday, June 18, 2003 @ 6:00 PM

Rain or Shine! **Unless it is really bad weather!

**Steak for the Adults; Hot dogs & Hamburgers for the kids!

Members / Spouse / Guests — $5.00/Person

Have a great summer. See you in September!

Mail Registration Form and Payment To:

Alberta Institute of Power Engineers

#18 Mathias Ave

Spruce Grove, AB T7X 2S2

Phone: 471-8872 (24 hrs) for inquiries

Before June 13, 2003
URGENT - STEAM LINES IS AT RISK!!

After seven years of considerable effort and dedication, John Melnyk is stepping down from his roles as Edmonton Branch Secretary and Steam Lines Publisher at the end of 2003. On behalf of the Edmonton and Calgary Branch Executive Committees, and the Alberta Area Executive Council, I want to thank John for all of the time, energy, and competence that he has put into our newsletter and his devotion to the Institute. The AIPE’s leadership is currently very concerned about filling John’s shoes, and about the future of Steam Lines. This newsletter is a critical tool for communication for the AIPE, and someone has stepped forward and volunteered to be the new Publisher. However, we will also need assistance and any we get would be very much appreciated. John is more then willing to train and work with the new Publisher who will be starting this September.

In several recent conversations, we have come to the conclusion that Steam Lines is probably too big a job for one person to manage, and we propose breaking it down into the following roles:

- A Publisher who will oversee all facets of production and be the first point of contact and maintain set deadlines for distribution. He will maintain the E-mail list and keep it current and private for the Executive members only.
- An Editorial Committee, with representation from Edmonton and Calgary, who will define and monitor editorial policy, publishing standards, and production timelines.
- Authors of material, including regularly appearing columns.
- An Advertising Coordinator, responsible for invoicing advertisers and responding to requests (Garry Burt will undertake this responsibility starting in 2003).
- An Advertising Layout person, who will design the artwork and text for advertisers (using logos which are supplied or available on the internet).
- An Editor, who will create the layout for each issue.
- Proofreaders, who will review the material for typos and other errors (preferably, at least two people.)
- A Distribution Committee, who will stuff envelopes, apply postage, and maintain the stationary inventory.

We are looking for ways to streamline the publishing processes currently used, including the purchase of software programs which will simplify existing procedures. At this time, volunteers for roles other than Distribution should have the following abilities:
- Able to navigate through the Microsoft Windows Operating System.
- Able to do basic word processing using Microsoft Word.
- Willing to learn the basics of other software programs, including Microsoft Publisher and Adobe Acrobat.

The time commitment required will vary depending on the role, and will change during the bi-monthly publishing sequence. Volunteers should be prepared to give up at least a couple of hours per month, and some roles may require up to ten hours in certain months. There is an AIPE computer available for use, but it would be beneficial for volunteers to have access to their own Windows-based computer system, and to an e-mail account. There is definitely an opportunity for people to participate who live outside of the cities of Edmonton and Calgary, since much of the activity will be coordinated by e-mail.

If you can offer to help out, please contact one of the following people via e-mail, or in person at an Edmonton Branch meeting:
- John Melnyk at: jmelnyk@nait.ab.ca
- Lorne Shewfelt at: tishlor@telusplanet.net

In Calgary, please contact Ray Shupac at a Branch meeting, or at: ray.shupac@sait.ab.ca

Under John’s leadership, Steam Lines has evolved into an excellent newsletter and communication tool, and we believe that it can continue to grow and improve - but we need your help to make it happen as soon as possible to maintain continuity.

- Lorne Shewfelt, Alberta AIPE Area Director
Calgary Branch Meeting

The Calgary Branch February meeting was postponed to a later date by ProPak of Airdrie. The Branch looks forward touring their facilities sometime in the future.

Various meetings have been held with Casey Kok regarding website production. He has currently put a questionnaire out which will indicate the desires of the Branch general membership and will attend a meeting to discuss the pros and cons of a good professional website. A reason for the concern here is the cost, which is over the allotted budget.

A tour of the Esso Quirk Creek Gas Plant was planned for March 22 but was cancelled early in the morning of the tour date. Esso had notified all their facilities to stop all visitations due to the Iraq War situation, a point worth considering for other branches planning tours. Disappointing to say the least but understood. The Branch looks forward to touring the facility at a later date. Thanks here to Pravin Nathvani and Doug Macaulay for giving transportation to those who had been dropped off at the departure site. Also, appreciation was expressed to Budget Rental and SAIT for canceling the van rental agreements.

The Fifth Class course material continues to be reviewed and recommendations being developed. Ray Shupac, Calgary Branch President has met with Roy Stock, Senior Examiner of ABSA and continues to develop recommendations preparatory to the IPECC/SOPEEC meetings which they will be attending in Vancouver in June. The Branch President has also met with BOA and the IAO regarding the Fifth Class course and Building Operator status. A second meeting is scheduled for March 27 with representatives from BOA, BOMI, BOMA, and the IAO being in attendance. A meeting has been requested with Bob Clarke of Pan Global Joint Venture to ensure correct procedures are in place for course modification and/or development.

Ray Shupac attended the Medicine Hat College Open House and was impressed with the turn out of prospective students for their program. Burke Bechtel and staff are to be commended for their efforts and commitment to Power Engineering in general. Attendance at the Calgary Branch AIE display was more than anticipated. It was surprising to learn that some of the College staff were AIE members but were not named on the Calgary Branch roster. Follow-up indicated that Edmonton had them listed as members of the Calgary Branch but lists from Head Office did not show them as such. This problem is being pursued to amicable resolution with Head Office. Gerald Borgel of the Edmonton Branch also attended the Open House and he expressed interest in setting up a tutoring system whereby those studying for a next level of certification could help each other or be helped by other members willing to do so. There appears to be much merit here and this topic can be raised at meetings, website message boards, etc. Certainly a worthwhile subject and kudos to Gerald!

Some interest in maintaining Steam Lines has been expressed by some Branch members and if other help is forthcoming then two persons in the Calgary Branch have volunteered their services. It is hoped Steam Lines will remain in place and efforts to attain this will continue.

A Branch volunteer continues to work on development of brochures for our Education Committee. The brochures are being developed for distribution at the Junior High, Senior High, General Public, and Profession levels. Cristi Sacht is a student and is currently involved with semester ending exams so development has been understandably placed on hold. Cristi has indicated she will become a General Member upon graduation and will continue as an active and involved member of the Calgary Branch until at least June 2004.

The April meeting was being planned as a tour but a general meeting is being considered instead – there being a number of issues to be discussed. An Executive Meeting is being held in April.

Please Post In Your Plant or Location