Getting the Green Formula Right

An event focusing on industrial applications of green chemistry

The chemical and process industry is making conscious efforts to have clean processes that minimize the use of hazardous substances. This is underlined with the response the Industrial Green Chemistry World (IGCW) 2013 received. It gathered various elements of the industry together, including academia and government bodies. Here is more about the event...

Nowadays, there is an increasing trend towards implementation of green engineering in various industries, including chemical and pharmaceutical. In order to promote incorporation of cleaner processes, Green ChemisTree Foundation recently organized the third edition of Industrial Green Chemistry World (IGCW) at Renaissance Mumbai Convention Centre Hotel, Mumbai, from 6 – 8 December 2013. This event brought together industry leaders and green chemistry and green engineering stalwarts on a common platform, to share their knowledge on trends and technologies in this direction.

Through various initiatives such as conferences, workshops, seminars, symposiums, etc, this event provided a platform for the industry to discuss eco-friendly processes. Experts spread awareness about such implementations through case studies and presentations.

Live presentations

Speakers at the 180° Seminars focused on topics such as the green process and

(LtoR): Director, ACS Green Chemistry Institute, Dr David Constable; Company Director & Corporate Adviser, various companies India, Middle East, Europe & USA, Rajiv Pandia, Chief Guest, Padma Vibhushan, FRS, Prof M M Sharma; Director, Green Chemistry Centre of Excellence, University of York, Prof James Clark; Chief Technology Officer, Clariant International Ltd, Dr Martin Vollmer; Chief Coordinating Officer, KnowGenix, Dr Rajagopal at the inaugural ceremony

(Founder, LAZORR, Satish Khanna speaking on ‘Impact of collaborative efforts’

Chief Coordinating Officer, KnowGenix, Dr Rajagopal speaking at the Panel discussion on ‘Why integrate green chemistry as a strategy for the sustenance of chemical business?’

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measurements, green catalysts, green solvents and green engineering. These seminars were 180 minutes of subject specific seminars on topics that are most relevant in the industrialization of green chemistry and engineering applications. These seminars were designed to bring forth technical insights and its commercially viable methodologies. On the other hand, conferences focused on various sectors such as the pharma industry, pollution control board, academia-industry, etc.

The leading speakers who contributed to the deliberation during conferences and seminars included Padma Vibhushan, FRS, Prof MM Sharma; Director, Centre for Green Chemistry & Green Engineering at Yale, Prof Paul Anastas; Director, Green Chemistry Centre of Excellence, University of York, Prof James Clark; Founder LAZORR, Satish Khanna, etc. The convention also integrated live presentations by the fathers of green chemistry and the founders of green chemistry principles, Prof Paul Anastas and Dr John Warner.

Moreover, the one-day conference on green chemistry for the pharmaceuticals industry was organized in collaboration with the Department of Pharmaceuticals, government of India. Also, the one-day conference on green chemistry awareness was arranged exclusively for the state pollution control board officers. Additionally, the event also witnessed special events on industrial green chemistry for teachers and students.

Another program that focused on students was academia-industry partnership interaction. The objective of this initiative was to identify and bring together academia and research institutes and facilitate them with an industrial platform to present their ‘ready-to-commercialize’ technologies to the industry seeking solutions.

**Participation**

The IGCW-2013 facilitated a quality participation of over 250 senior decision makers and technical directors from some of leading Indian chemical companies such as AkzoNobel, Asian Paints, AstraZeneca India Pvt Ltd, Bayer, Clariant India, Colourtex Industries Ltd, Dr Reddys Laboratories Ltd, Excel Industries Ltd, GNFC Ltd, Godavari Biorefineries Ltd, HiKal Ltd, Intersperse Industries, Jubilant Life Sciences Ltd, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Merck Specialities Pvt Ltd, Momentive Performance Materials India Pvt Ltd, Novozymes, Pidilite Industries Ltd, Piramal Healthcare Ltd, Praj Industries, Rasayani Biologies Pvt Ltd, Reliance Technology Ltd, RPG Life Sciences Ltd, Solvay India R&D Centre, Sun Pharmaceuticals Industries Ltd, United Phosphorus Ltd, Wanbury and ZCL Chemicals Ltd.

Also, the key highlight of the IGCW conventions was the IGCW-exhibition a tangible and pro-active business platform to connect the green chemistry and engineering based solution providers to its industry seekers participating in the convention in various capacities.

**Awards**

**Industrial Green Chemistry World (IGCW-2013)** is a global expression for chemical companies to proactively engage in accelerating their industrial green chemistry and engineering implementation. Awards included: MNC Category, Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories Ltd; SME Category, Dr Taher Dakorwala, Gharda Institute of Research & Technology; Most Promising Technology, Equinox Software Solutions Pvt Ltd; Academia Category: Dr Prabhavathi Devi B L A, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad, Students Category: Sujata Pramanik - University of Tezpur, Assam.

**Conclusion**

With 360° approach of organizers and participation from industry stalwarts, enthusiasts, students, teachers and also government bodies, the event was a great success. With the stress on conferences and live presentations, each of the participants had a good amount of knowledge to take away from the event. Also, as it provided the networking platform for the industry, one can expect to have generated business with eco-friendly technologies and solutions.