GEM Reader Survey

We would like to thank all our readers who took the time to complete the reader survey enclosed in the previous issue of Global Emissions Management. After collating the results, we were pleased to see that the magazine broadly matches readers’ requirements.

Despite the advance of technology and accessibility via the Internet, it was interesting to note that 80% of respondents stated a preference for the printed version. This proves that GEM is obviously a collectors’ item, with 94% of readers keeping copies of the magazine.

Whether from research or the supply chain, academia or commerce, there was generally agreement on the questions raised, with the overwhelming majority approving of the technical papers, pgm prices, and length of articles and readability of the magazine. The two issues which stood out as dividing opinion, were the number of charts and the use of photographs.

We appreciate all your comments, and will consider these when designing future issues of GEM.

SAE Honours Dr. Andy Walker with 2006 Lloyd L. Withrow Distinguished Speaker Award

Dr. Andy Walker, Johnson Matthey’s Heavy Duty Diesel Global Technology Director, is the winner of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) 2006 Lloyd L. Withrow Distinguished Speaker Award. The award recognises the excellence and consistency of Dr. Walker’s presentations at SAE technical sessions. To qualify for the Lloyd L. Withrow award, candidates must have already received the SAE’s Oral Presentation Award more than twice. Dr. Walker won his first Oral Award in 2003 for his paper titled, “The Development and Performance of the Compact SCRT® System: A 4-way Diesel Emission Control System”. He subsequently won the award twice more, for presentations describing the performance of combined SCR and DPF systems. He has written more than a dozen SAE papers and qualified for the Lloyd L. Withrow award based on his presentations at the 2004 and 2005 SAE World Congresses.

500,000,000 Catalysts

In September 2005, Johnson Matthey’s 500 millionth catalyst came off the production line. Since the first catalyst was made in Royston in 1974, the company has opened nine other production centres around the world and has plans to open two more in Korea and Russia (see above right).

Autocatalysts for passenger cars comprise the bulk of the total number, but increasing numbers are being supplied for trucks, buses, and non-road mobile machinery as legislation in those sectors catches up with light duty standards. Given that the number of cars made in 2005 was around twice as many as in 1974, we can be confident that it will take far less than 30 years to reach the milestone of one billion catalysts.
Korea Investment

Johnson Matthey has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with senior representatives of Gyeonggi province, Republic of Korea, to secure a green field site as the first step in a multi-million pound investment in Korea. The site is located in a new high technology science park near Jangan in Gyeonggi province, 50 kilometres south west of Seoul.

Over the last decade Korea has emerged as a leading player in the global automotive industry and Johnson Matthey plans to build a plant to manufacture emissions control catalysts for a wide range of both diesel and petrol powered vehicles. The new facility will also carry out research and development activities and will include vehicle and engine emission test capabilities to support the Korean motor industry.

Larry Pentz, Executive Director, Environmental Catalysts and Technologies and Sohn, Hak-Kyu, the Governor of Gyeonggi province, signed the MOU. Other senior representatives of Gyeonggi province, the Korean Embassy in London and KOTRA, the Korean Trade – Investment Promotion Agency, also attended the signing ceremony.

New Factory in Russia

Johnson Matthey has also signed a MOU with the First Deputy Governor of Russia’s Krasnoyarsk Region, and the General Director of the Krastsvetmet Metal Company to secure a brown field site for an autocatalyst manufacturing plant in Russia. The site is in Krasnoyarsk, Siberia.

Russia’s place in the automotive industry has grown significantly in the last five years, with many international original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) investing in local manufacturing facilities. Johnson Matthey plans to build a plant to manufacture emissions control catalysts for both diesel and petrol powered vehicles for the local Russian market, which saw emissions legislation requiring the use of autocatalysts come into force earlier this year.

Investment in Filter Coating Facilities

Johnson Matthey has commissioned a new factory in Royston to manufacture catalysed soot filters, and is putting in new capacity in its South African facility that also supplies the European market. The Company has also brought forward investment at several facilities around the world to manufacture catalysts for heavy duty diesel applications.

Johnson Matthey Presents Papers at SAE

At the Society of Automotive Engineers World Congress held in Detroit in April, Johnson Matthey authored or co-authored the following papers:

- Development of a Partial Filter Technology for HDD Retrofit (2006-01-0213)
- Field Test Trucks Fulfilling EPA ’07 Emission Levels On-Road by Utilizing the Combined DPF and Urea-SCR System (2006-01-0421)

GEM Celebrates 10th Anniversary

2006 marks Global Emissions Management’s tenth anniversary. Despite undergoing a series of changes in terms of layout and style over the years, the company has remained true to its goal. This is to inform those in and around the automotive emissions control industry about developments in technology, legislation, global markets and precious metals, as well as providing updates on developments at Johnson Matthey.