

EABS Newsletter

European Association for Brazing and Soldering

www.brazingandsoldering.org

E-mail: eabs@btconnect.com

Issue 42

Spring 2010

A short note from the Chairman

Since circulation of the Autumn 2009 Newsletter we have the following matters to report on:

1. We have received a further set of interesting statistics from Blackfoot Hosting in regards to the 'traffic' on the EABS Website. The details concerning the site activity provided to us by Blackfoot are given below.
2. With the Spring Technical Training Seminar in Hanau scheduled for March 2010 being postponed due to lack of support, we have decided to reschedule it to March 2011. Comments on the event appear on pages 2 and 3 below
3. As you already know, the joint Johnson Matthey Metal Joining–EABS Seminar dealing with the brazing of Tungsten Carbide and PCD scheduled for May 2009 had to be re-scheduled to May 2010. Unfortunately the downturn in the European economic situation meant that again the Seminar had to be postponed and it is now planned for May 2011. Details of the programme for the 2011 event, which will include guest speakers, will be posted to the EABS website early in 2011.
4. The programme for the 9th Annual EABS-Solvay Aluminium Brazing Seminar in Hanover, Germany, scheduled for 1st and 2nd September 2009, also had to be cancelled due to a lack of support. However it has been agreed with Solvay Fluor GmbH that we will offer our joint seminar in October 2010. ***Details of the event have been posted to the website and circulated by e-mail to potential attendees.***
5. It has been decided that we will be more pro-active in publicising EABS. The steps that have been put in place in respect of this matter were described in Autumn 2009 Newsletter. Since that time we have added a FAQ section to the website, and this is regularly extended to deal with matters that have been referred to us for comment or advice

Website Statistics

It seems clear from the Tables shown at the end of this section that the traffic through our website in the past year has continued to experience satisfactory growth. It is interesting to be able to obtain up-to-the-minute feedback from the statistics that our website host, Blackfoot Hosting, provides as a routine part of the service that they offer to their client companies. For example, it is pleasing to be able to, (now), look back to 2008 to see how traffic through the site has improved during the past two years. Of course, it is not easy to identify with any guarantee of certainty what has driven this improved interest in our site, however a detailed analysis of the month-by-month figures over the years has shown that as we have added more and more items to our 'library' in the Members Area, and made changes to the overall design of the site, the traffic 'stepped up' over a two month period after the changes were made, and then continued to grow at a rate of about 7% year-on-year.

Analysis of the mass of data that we obtain from the Blackfoot Hosting statistics that relate to the visits to our site allow us to determine the countries from which our 'visitors' come. In 2009 we had 'visitors' from 83 countries, the top 12, in order of the number of visits made were:

USA, United Kingdom, China, Russian Federation, India, Romania, The Netherlands, Sweden, Turkey, Canada, South Korea, & Poland.

These 12 countries provided 77.6% of the visitors to the site, with the first five accounting for 68.9%. The remaining 71 countries providing the balance! It is also interesting to note that 80% of the visits have last between 10 and 30 seconds. However the average time that the remaining 80% visitors remain on the site is 2 minutes, with a total of 211 visitors remaining for a time between 30 minutes and 1 hour, and 61 remained for more than 1 hour

Clearly, overall the pattern of visits to the site points to the fact that EABS has something that is of unique interest, and that we are doing things that are relevant to their interests. It is, of course, significant that we are receiving visits from people who have more than just a passing interest in the brazing process, and that such visitors represent a contact with EABS from a very extensive range of countries from across the world.

Period	No. of unique visits	No. of visits made by the unique visitors	Number of pages visited by all visitors	Total number of hits
1st April 2008 - 31st March 2009				
Total	5085	7419	17292	42590
Monthly Average	424	618	1441	3549
1st April 2009 – 31st March 2010				
Total	5514	9112	18733	40978
Monthly Average	459	759	1561	3415
Forecast to 31st March 2011				
Total	6500	10800	19000	42000
Monthly Average	542	900	1583	3500
Actually achieved by 1st June 2010				
Total	1120	1736	3284	6790
Monthly Average	560	868	1642	3395

National and International Standardisation

As many of you may already know, for the past three years the Chairman, Phil. Roberts, has been a Member of the WEE/19 Committee of the British Standards Institute. This committee is concerned with matters related to the Standardisation of Brazing and Soldering matters in the UK.

At a meeting of the Committee held in London during November 2009, the Chairman of that Committee, Mike Scott announced his intention to resign his Chairmanship of both WEE/19 and CEN/TC121- SC8, these resignations to take effect during March 2010.

The meeting paid tribute to the work of Mike Scott over the past years, and then went on to elect a new Chairman. Phil Roberts was duly nominated to the post of Chairman of both Committees, and the Committees that oversee such matters within both BSI and CEN have now ratified his appointment to both of these positions. CEN is the body that concerns itself with the development and ratification of European Standards. Sub-Commission SC8 is concerned with brazing, and there are already some interesting documents under discussion in that committee relating to Operator and Process Approval Standards: both are matters that will be of increasing importance in the future, and it is very satisfactory that EABS will have a voice at the meetings that will be progressing this work.

Spring Seminar in 2011

While we were sorry that the 2010 event had to be cancelled, it gave us further time to consider what to do about this particular Seminar in future years. The reasons why we decided upon Hanau as a suitable location for our Spring Seminar was discussed at length in the Autumn 2009 Newsletter, and nothing that has happened since then has made us change our minds regarding the desirability of arranging the Spring seminar there in 2011. However, and on reflection, we have formed the opinion that while the Hotel Villa Stokkum in Hanau/Steinheim is an admirable establishment, it was pointed out that a hotel nearer the centre of Hanau might be more acceptable to potential delegates. After some discussion of the options with our German colleagues we have decided to use The Tulip Hotel in the centre of Hanau. As readers will recall Hanau lies to the east of Frankfurt-am-Main, and is about a 35-minute trip on the S-Bahn from Frankfurt Airport; it is also conveniently located very close to the autobahn system. Consequently travel to the event should pose delegates, (and the Chairman!), with no major problems. Consequently we are about to sign a contract with the Tulip Hotel for a seminar to be held there between **22nd and 24th March 2011**

It is anticipated that the full details of the programme, that will certainly include a number of specialist guest speakers, will be posted to our website and circulated to potential delegates during October. It is to be hoped that the 'green shoots' of the economic recovery that are now being reported in Europe will be showing enough growth to convince the companies from which the potential delegates will come that it would be a good idea for their people to join us at the Tulip Hotel in the centre of Hanau, the former city where the Brothers Grimm lived. However there will be no new fairy-stories told at the EABS Seminar.....just useful, and accurate, technical information!

Joint JMMJ-EABS tungsten carbide and PCD Brazing Seminar

The seminar planned for June 2010, and due to be presented in Basle, Switzerland, was yet another casualty of the international economic downturn.

Further discussions with our colleagues at JMMJ have taken place, and we are both aware that while there is a need for this Seminar, we should wait until the signs that economic climate is improving before setting a date for its presentation. The target date is May 2011, and we remain convinced that the best location for it will be Basle. However, and by mutual agreement, the matter will not be actively pursued until the Autumn.

The EABS Technical Article

[A brief introduction to the brazing of ceramics](#)

The complete text of this article is to be found as **Document 3.8** in **Area 3** of the **Members Area** of this site and can be downloaded by Members via their personalised access details. The document contains 2335 words, and when printed covers 6 sides of A4 paper.

End of Newsletter,