13th Stamicarbon Urea Symposium
A Valuable Source of Urea Innovations

Stamicarbon held its 13th Stamicarbon Urea Symposium from May 9-12, 2016 in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. More than 300 participants from all over the world attended this excellent organized event in one of the most booming cities in The Netherlands.

There were abundant opportunities to meet fellow producers and Stamicarbon partner-suppliers for example the sightseeing boat tour through the Rotterdam harbor on Wednesday afternoon and the dinner that followed in the cruise terminal.

Stamicarbon uses their 4-years symposia as a platform to present their latest innovations. Indeed an impressive number of innovation, detailed out in nearly 40 technical papers were presented.

In the opening session Mr. Prem Brindraban, CEO of the Virtual Fertilizer Research Center of IFDC, opened the eyes of many by putting the nitrogen fertilizer industry in the world perspective and clearly explaining the challenges for fertilizer innovations lying ahead.

Furthermore Sandvik and Stamicarbon presented the latest Safurex developments, which improves the corrosion resistance considerably in the harsh urea synthesis environment.

During the following sessions numerous other innovations were highlighted in parallel sessions such as UAS and multiproduct fluid bed granulation, a simplified fluid bed granulation process without any fluid bed cooler, the Advance Coat to protect urea prills against deterioration, several interesting revamp technologies, the Micro-Mist Venturi scrubber, the dry finishing technology, several emission reduction technologies and solutions to recycle ammonium salts from acidic scrubbing.

But also numerous operational and maintenance developments were presented in detail such as accurate wall thickness measurement of Safurex heat exchanger tubes, stress corrosion cracking in high pressure gas lines, optimizing basic control loops, biuret formation in a urea plant and a high pressure reactor wall breech due to loss of passivation during blocking in.

The final session also contained interesting topics like Design improvements by sharing incidents and How satisfied are you with Stamicarbon followed by a really spectacular closing ceremony.

Stamicarbon again excels with professionalism and innovative power to improve urea technology.