

Newsletter



April 2011

Letter from the Publisher:

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In memory of Valery Legasov

As we approach the 25th anniversary of the accident at the Soviet nuclear power plant in Chernobyl, it is appropriate to commemorate the life of the academician, Valery Legasov, who in addition to his indisputable scientific accomplishments, also demonstrated a total independence of spirit and complete sincerity regarding this disastrous accident.

The accident took place on 26 April 1986 and it was in the following August at a special meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency, in Vienna, that Valery Legasov presented a detailed account of the accident to some hundreds of experts, revealing its astounding causes and the truly tragic consequences.

This honest presentation which shared details of the errors in the actions taken by skilled persons within Soviet society was something quite unusual, even inconceivable. Within a few days the rest of the nuclear community learned further reliable information concerning the destroyed RBMK type reactor; about the way in which it was exploited and how it was poorly operated during the transient which preceded the accident and what happened during the accident itself.

Over the three months preceding, the nuclear community had devised numerous hypotheses on the cause of the accident; all were wrong.

Valery Legasov, in stark opposition to the normal secrecy exhibited by his political leaders, had made a

truthful presentation of what had happened.

Having been exposed to radiation himself at the Chernobyl site and having undertaken in Vienna to implement immediately the most urgent provisions to avoid a repetition of this accident, two years later physically weakened and demoralised by the absence of such provisions, the brilliant academician, Valery Legasov, committed suicide.

Currently, the nuclear disaster which has taken place in Japan is often reminiscent of Chernobyl. Nevertheless, the types of reactors are very different, the geological and geographic environments are completely different and the consequences will be different too. Let's hope that there will be a Japanese Valery Legasov who, when the time comes, will reveal the causes and exactly what happened in the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

Some countries are preparing to decommission their nuclear power plants or at least, abandon the construction of any others. Some countries are refusing to take such measures. It's their choice. But the accident in Japan should at least give rise to a universal critical assessment, in a reliable and in-depth manner, and eventually lead to the same levels of security being adopted throughout the world. It's no easy task, but from an ethical perspective it's a crucial obligation.

Jean-Claude Charrault
Director General



News from the EEF

Upcoming events

05.04.2011 Dinner-debate Strasbourg — **Bringing Caspian Gas to Europe – the Southern Corridor projects**, at the invitation of Statoil, EON Ruhrgas, RWE and IGI Poseidon

12.04.2011 Dinner-debate Brussels — **Offshore wind energy: realising the potential**, at the invitation of AREVA

11.05.2011 Lunch-debate Strasbourg — **How to start building and financing the European Supergrid?** , at the invitation of Friends of the Supergrid

25.05.2011 Dinner-debate Brussels — **Which Energy mix by 2050?** , at the invitation of ENEL

08.06.2011 Lunch-debate Strasbourg — **US Energy Policy - Why so different from the EU?**, at the invitation of ENERCON

05.07.2011 Dinner-debate Strasbourg — **Coordinating national energy policies: a must for a successful energy future**, at the invitation of EURELECTRIC

Internal meetings

06.04.2011 General Assembly: Active Members and EEF Secretariat will attend.

(Invitations have already been sent)



Past events

08.03.2011 Dinner-debate Strasbourg — **Achieving the energy efficiency targets: The key role of innovative energy supply companies**, at the invitation of EWE

Energy efficiency has been identified as the most cost-effective way to save energy, to reduce CO2 emissions and to improve the energy system at the same time. Without a substantial increase in energy efficiency, it will neither be possible to achieve security of supply nor climate protection goals. Creating a larger market for energy services will therefore be crucial for meeting the ambitious target.

Many actors in the market are needed in order to meet the energy efficiency targets. In the past, the focus has been on the role of SME's. Greater recognition should however also be given to the role of innovative energy supply companies as credible champions of improvements in energy efficiency. They can offer a wide range of expertise and services in this field and thereby meet their customers' demand. Only a consistent political support for appropriate products and energy services will enable significant progress to be made towards improving energy efficiency both for commercial and private customers.

Given the publication of the European Energy Efficiency Action Plan by the European Commission at the beginning of March, this dinner debate came at the right time to address these issues.

Mr Werner Brinker, CEO of EWE and the audience discussed the role of innovative energy supply companies in meeting the energy efficiency targets and the solutions they can offer for modernising and actively involving the customer to the benefit of all.



09.03.2011 Board Meeting: President, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents, Directors and EEF Secretariat attended.

The treasurer presented the balance sheet 2010 and the budget for 2011. The report to the General Assembly was drawn. The General Assembly agenda was prepared as well as the invitations to ITAC and General Assembly. The new EEF website proposal was presented and Board members also discussed EEF events and proposals.

14.03.2011 Dinner-debate Brussels — The electrical infrastructures of the future, at the invitation of RTE

Energy is an ongoing political and economic issue for the European Union. Last November, the European Commission published two significant communications designed to give fresh momentum to the EU's energy strategy, namely through the infrastructure package.

Participants discussed about how to forge ahead and create electrical networks able to meet these challenges and ambitions, in the wake of the European Summit on Energy and Innovation on 4 February and with the upcoming Energy Council meeting on 28 February expected to take position on these issues.

This will undoubtedly require substantial investments



Dominique Maillard (RTE), Marina Yannakoudakis (ECR UK), Angelika Werthmann (NI Austria), Michael Hager (Cabinet of the Commissioner Oettinger), Alejo Vidal-Quadras (EPP Spain)
(EEF Dinner Debate sponsored by RTE 14 March 2011)

(estimated at some €100 billion Europe-wide over the next 10 years). But these efforts will most likely need to be even greater, hence the increased transparency in permitting procedures to boost new infrastructures, new energy educational programs, new practices for the people of Europe, etc.

23.03.2011 ITAC Meeting: President, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents, Directors, Associate Members and EEF Secretariat attended.

Participants were informed about the balance sheet 2010 and the budget for 2011, as well as about the EEF new website project. Associate Members also had the opportunity to make proposals for events for 2011.



Pascale Verheust, Giles Chichester, Edit Herczog, Jean-Claude Charrault
(ITAC Meeting – 23 March 2011)



Associate Members, Giles Chichester, Edit Herczog
(ITAC Meeting – 23 March 2011)



EEF Members

Active Member

The office of Britta Thomsen (S&D Denmark)
Vice-President of the EEF :

The office of Britta Thomsen has four permanent staff members.

Thomas Larsen is an administrative assistant responsible for structuring Britta's political everyday. Thomas has a background as a correspondent in English and French.

Sofie Lohmann Nielsen is a student in journalism and responsible for Britta's press work.

Marie Louise Lund has a bachelor's degree in political science and assists Britta with her work in FEMM.

Mads Reinholdt has a degree in political science and assists Britta with her work in ITRE-committee.

Ship Power

Wärtsilä enhances the business of its customers by providing integrated systems, solutions, and products that are efficient, economically sound, and environmentally sustainable for the marine industry. Being a technology leader in this field, and through the experience, know-how and dedication of our personnel, we are able to customise innovative, optimised lifecycle solutions to the benefit of our clients around the world.

Power Plants

Wärtsilä is a leading supplier of combustion engine power plants for the power generation markets. We offer competitive and reliable solutions for base load power generation, grid stability & peaking, industrial self-generation, as well as solutions for the oil and gas industry. We provide superior value to our customers with our distributed, flexible, efficient and environmentally advanced energy solutions in range of 4 – 400 MWe.

Services

Wärtsilä supports its customers throughout the lifecycle of their installations by optimising efficiency and performance. We provide the most comprehensive portfolio of services and the broadest service network in the industry for both the power plant and marine markets. We are committed to providing high quality, expert support as well as availability of services wherever our customers are - in the most environmentally sound way.

Contact person: Mr Anders Ahnger

Phone: +358 40 768 3319

Email: ander.ahnger@wartsila.com

New Associate Member



Wärtsilä is a global leader in complete lifecycle power solutions for the marine and energy markets. By emphasising technological innovation and total efficiency, Wärtsilä maximises the environmental and economic performance of the vessels and power plants of its customers. In 2010, Wärtsilä's net sales totaled EUR 4.6 billion with approximately 17,500 employees. The company has operations in 160 locations in 70 countries around the world. Wärtsilä is listed on the NASDAQ OMX Helsinki, Finland.