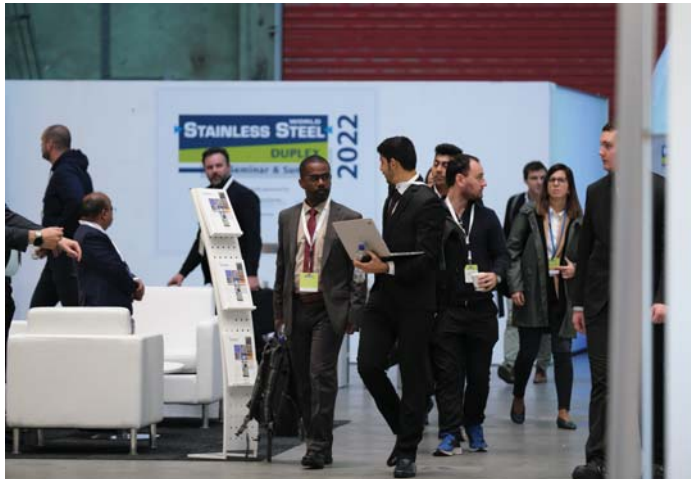


Duplex community meets in Rotterdam



On 1 & 2 November the global duplex stainless steel community reconnected at the Duplex World event in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

By Joanne McIntyre



Delegates, visitors and exhibitors enjoyed the open plan of the event.



Seminar Chairman Bruce Cowe, Manager of the Offshore and New Energies Corrosion Team at TotalEnergies opening the event.

A sea of smiling faces revealed what we all already knew; our community was delighted to meet face-to-face again to delve into the world of duplex stainless steel. Located in the atmospheric RDM Rotterdam, a former submarine construction and repair facility, the location provided plenty of pleasant surprises for delegates, exhibitors and speakers. Large white 'domes' served as seminar rooms on the exhibition floor, visitors to Heat Exchanger World Europe conference and exhibition joined the duplex crowd, and the views out over the Maas River and Rotterdam city were spectacular. While this year had a stronger European focus than previous years, we also welcomed speakers from Australia, USA, India, Oman and Brazil.

Technical seminar program

Delegates knew they could expect a seminar program of high technical quality. The Steering Committee, expertly led by Chairman Bruce Cowe from TotalEnergies, had crafted an excellent program covering many aspects of the manufacture and use of duplex stainless steels.

The event kicked off with two engaging keynote addresses. First was Johnny Eliasson from Chevron Shipping Company in California. Johnny gave a fascinating talk about the development of the first duplex

stainless steel chemical tankers back in the 1980s and how this innovation, which was brought about by disruptive thinking and a great deal of collaboration, changed the industry forever. Read our feature article based on Johnny's presentation in this issue. Tim Collins, Secretary General of world stainless (formerly ISSF) spoke about future opportunities for duplex stainless steel: infrastructure, mitigating the effects of climate change, and coastal/tsunami

defences. Tim highlighted how coastal defences utilising resilient materials are critical to protecting communities and economies. Duplexes are a compelling choice to reduce material cost and offer higher strength, high corrosion resistance and lightweight designs.

Audience participation

The first day of the Seminar was packed with technical paper sessions:

Prof. Thomas Ladwein receives Duplex World Lifetime Achievement Award

The Award honours an individual who has excelled in their efforts to selflessly share their knowledge and experience, and promote the use of duplex stainless steels as a sustainable, efficient, and successful materials solution.

Having spent most of his career focused on corrosion and corrosion resistant materials, Professor Thomas Ladwein is a widely recognised authority on the subject. After getting his PhD Thomas worked at a fabricator before moving to Thyssen Edelmetall. When the plate division was sold to Avesta Polarit in 2003, he took up a position as Professor of Electrochemistry and Corrosion in the Surface and Materials Science program at Aalen University, Germany for the last seventeen years of his career. Thomas has been a member of the Steering Committees of the Stainless Steel World conference since the very first event in 1999, and of Duplex World since 1997.

Pictured is Prof Ladwein receiving his award from Seminar organiser, Joanne McIntyre.



- Opportunities & challenges for duplex in renewable energy,
- Welding and additive manufacturing,
- Corrosion,
- Manufacturing, including casting & forging,
- Assuring in-service reliability: enhanced tests and standards for QA/QC,
- Lesson learned.

The audience was keen to get involved, posing questions, debating points and sharing their valuable experience and knowledge. This was helped by using a soft 'Catch Box' microphone which could be quickly tossed to people.

Interactive discussions

The second Seminar day again encouraged audience participation with an interactive workshop on welding hosted by Loic Armadu of Friedlander ORTEC Group and John Houben of ExxonMobil. The Doctor Duplex session is a firm favourite as it's open to all visitors, exhibitors and delegates. It offers a rare opportunity to ask some of the world's leading experts for advice and expertise.

The day was rounded out with technical paper sessions on the topics of:

- Metallurgy of duplex stainless steel,
- Lean duplex – use and properties,
- New applications,
- A new era for duplex; promoting & expanding its use globally.

Feedback from the Seminar has been overwhelmingly positive, and the organisers thank all speakers, moderators and the Steering Committee for their valuable input.

International exhibition

On the exhibition floor, leading manufacturers and suppliers of duplex stainless steel from around the world were on hand to showcase their products and services. The exhibition offered visitors and delegates the opportunity to meet with expert stand personnel to discuss their requirements and learn about innovations in the industry.

All aboard the SS Rotterdam!

On the evening of 1 November, participants made their way to the majestic SS Rotterdam, a cruise ship permanently anchored in the harbour, which now serves

Join us in 2024!



Duplex World and Heat Exchanger World Europe will next be held 6 & 7 November in Rotterdam. For information, please contact Mrs Joanne McIntyre, j.mcintyre@kci-world.com

as a unique hotel and party venue. Guests were welcomed into the elegant salon and bar before making their way to the split-level grand dining room. Live music contributed to the relaxed atmosphere as diners mixed and mingled, connecting with old friends and meeting new contacts. As the dinner was attended by participants from both Duplex World and Heat Exchanger World, there were lots of introductions to be made. The synergy between these two events was evident throughout the two days.



Some of the speakers in action, L to R: Tim Collins (world stainless), Andres Acuna (Ohio State Uni), Dirk Engelberg (Uni of Manchester) & Geoff Warburton (Wilco Oilfield Services), and Roger Francis (Nickel Institute).



The team from event sponsor Alleima (formerly Sandvik Materials Technology) enjoyed the opportunity to meet with new and old business contacts.



Dr Arijit Poddar from Jindal Stainless R&D poses questions during a technical session.



Mr Shah (right) from Ratanamani Metals & Tubes in conversation at the company's networking lounge.



Joelle Greenwood from event sponsor Mannesmann Stainless Tubes, deep in conversation.



John Houben from ExxonMobil (left) and Loic Armadu hosted the interactive welding workshop.



Chang Shing Sun from Outokumpu at the sponsors stand.



Armin Nolden (left) and Marcus Rhode from event sponsor Schmidt + Clemens.



Dinner on board the SS Rotterdam was a chance to unwind while networking.



The SS Rotterdam was an elegant and unique hotel and party venue for the event.



Beatriz Celleja from Tubacex gave a presentation on the topic of microstructure evolution and corrosion resistance of Uremium29 in urea environments.



Lena Wegrelius from event sponsor Outokumpu spoke about the use of duplex in marine structures for new energies.



The organisers of Duplex World and Heat Exchanger World Europe thank the sponsor for their support of the events.



The networking dinner allowed Duplex World and Heat Exchanger World participants to network.

Duplex World thanks our sponsors:

