



2024

Duplex World Conference & Expo 2024

November 13 & 14 saw the Duplex World community meet at Ahoy Rotterdam to share knowledge, do business, and network in two days packed with opportunities. We take a look at some of the highlights of the event, which was co-located with Heat Exchanger World Europe.

By Joanne McIntyre, Stainless Steel World

This year, Duplex World took place for the second time in Rotterdam, now officially the permanent home of the conference and exhibition (returning in 2026). In two bustling days of activities, the community enjoyed a full conference program packed with expert



Daniel Cattin from Acciaierie Valbruna's keynote addressed building long-lasting infrastructure and the role of duplex rebars in preventing corrosion.



Conference Chairman Dr Yassar Ghanimi, Head of R&D Services, Group Quality and Safety Management at Andritz AG, opened the event with his keynote on the use of duplex steel in pulp & paper and process engineering.

speakers while also taking advantage of the exhibition of leading duplex manufacturers and suppliers. Held in combination with Heat Exchanger World Europe, the event brought together more than 1,100 participants, including 350 conference

delegates representing 25+ countries, alongside 76 exhibitors from 22 countries.

Technical conference

Duplex World conference has a reputation for being a high-quality technical program, and once again, sessions on topics such as corrosion, metallurgy and surface treatment provided a wealth of in-depth investigations into these thorny topics for the aficionados in our community. However, there were also plenty of sessions catering for those without a technical background.

Outstanding keynotes

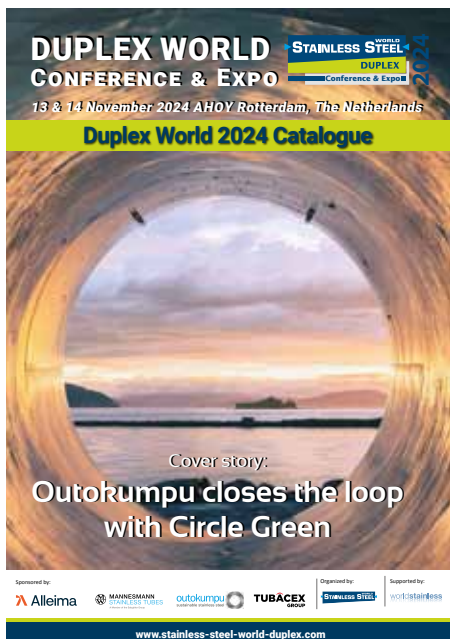
The event kicked off with two outstanding keynote speakers. Conference Chairman, Dr Yassar Ghanimi from Andritz AG, started the first day with an insightful look at the use of duplex in the pulp and paper industry and process engineering.



Atle Qvale, the Principal Engineer at Subsea Design, shared his 30+ years of experience in using duplex in offshore and subsea applications during his keynote address.

Duplex World thanks our sponsors for their support:





The full Duplex World catalogue, featuring a cover story from event sponsor Outokumpu, can be viewed here: <https://stainless-steel-world-duplex.com/>

Moving from material selection in general to a focus on pulp and paper applications, Dr Ghanimi's keynote explored how this family of materials excels in demanding processes. Daniel Cattin from Acciaierie Valbruna's keynote looked at building long-lasting infrastructure and the role of duplex rebars in preventing corrosion. His gripping presentation had delegates gasping at drone footage of the Morandi bridge collapse

John Houben honored with Duplex World Lifetime Achievement Award

John Houben, Global Principal Materials Engineer at ExxonMobil EMTEC, has been awarded the prestigious Duplex World Lifetime Achievement Award at the Duplex World Conference & Expo 2024. Presented every two years, the Award recognizes individuals who dedicate their careers to advancing materials knowledge and inspiring future generations. Honorees are lauded for broadening the global understanding of duplex and stainless steels and their versatile applications across many industries. John Houben's extraordinary career spans over 35 years, during which he has become a leading authority in material selection, duplex stainless steel fabrication, corrosion prevention, failure analysis, troubleshooting, and welding for refineries and petrochemical plants. At ExxonMobil EMTEC, he is responsible for metallurgical optimization and surface engineering, leveraging his vast expertise to drive innovation and excellence. Beyond his professional accomplishments, John has been a cornerstone of the materials community, serving on the Duplex World and Stainless Steel World Steering Committees for over 25 years. His commitment to knowledge-sharing and mentorship has profoundly impacted the global materials engineering field.



Angela Phillips, from event Sponsor Alleima, presented a comparative analysis of the corrosion behaviour of the super duplex UNS S32750 and UNS S83071.

before examining how duplexes can play a pivotal role in preventing such disasters in future.

On the second day, Atle Qvale, the Principal Engineer at Subsea Design, shared his 30+ years of experience in using duplex in offshore and subsea applications. With plenty of practical examples and personal anecdotes, Atle gave a riveting talk which saw him bombarded with questions at the end.

Topical sessions

Duplex World continues to evolve with the community it serves, and this is reflected in the session topics. This year these included surface treatment – sustainability – marine corrosion and carrion testing – additive manufacturing and welding – applications – metallurgy – manufacturing advancements and material selection.

International exhibition

On the exhibition floor, companies from around the globe showcased their products and services to the duplex and heat exchanger visitors and delegates. The spacious venue enabled exhibitors to display their wares to their best advantage.

With plenty of end users and fabricators visiting the event this year, satisfaction was high amongst exhibitors on both sides of the hall.

Synergy with Heat Exchanger World Europe

On the evening of 13 November, participants made their way to the iconic Hotel New York overlooking Rotterdam harbour for a fun Roaring 20's themed Networking Dinner. 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.



For many the exhibition provided a first look at the relaunch of the event sponsor Mannesmann Stainless Tubes as DMV.



Roger Francis and Joelle Greenwood hosted an interactive workshop on appropriate selection and use of duplex.



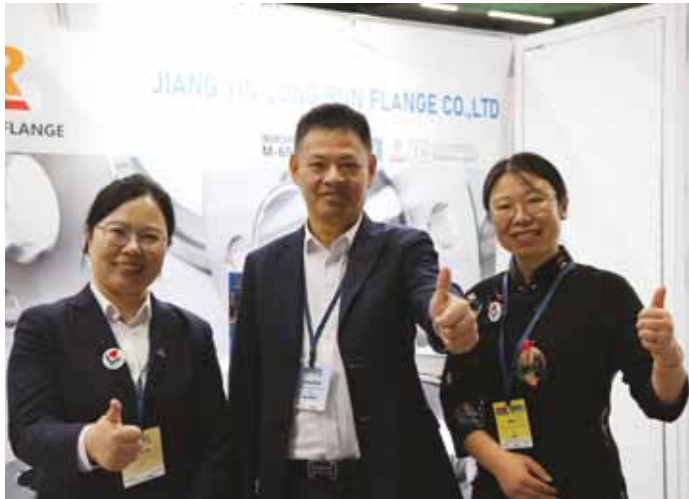
A panel discussion on supply chain and availability issues was hosted by Barinder Ghai from Alleima.



The team from event sponsor Tubacex was on hand to help visitors with enquiries.



During the Networking Dinner attendees were keen to get into the spirit of the 'Roaring '20s' theme!



It was thumbs-up all round for the team from Jiang Yin Long Run Glance Co.



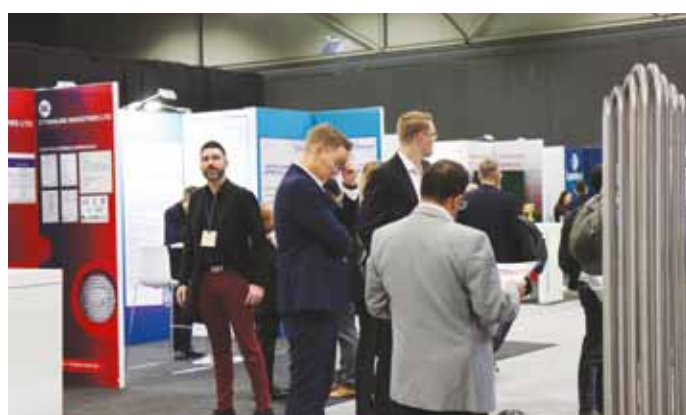
Duplex World has a strong focus on networking opportunities such as the popular end-of-day Happy Hours.



Barinder Ghai, Alleima in discussion with Mohamed Ghafri, Petroleum Development Oman.



A hearty thanks to the sponsors of Duplex World: Alleima, DMV (formerly Mannesmann Stainless Tubes), Outokumpu and Tubacex.



Visitors enjoyed the great synergy between Duplex World and Heat Exchanger World Europe.



The two-day event was ideal for networking and doing business.



A busy registration desk as the doors open on November 13.

Join us in 2026!

Duplex World & Heat Exchanger World Europe will return to Ahoy Rotterdam on 6 & 7 May, 2026.

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