

York, United Kingdom – ISEC'93

(Compiled by D S Flett and M Cox)

- Date:** 9-15 September 1993
- Venue:** York University, York, U.K.
- Organizers:** Chairman: Professor Douglas Flett
Secretary: Professor Michael Cox
- Conference Theme:** Solvent Extraction in the Process Industries
- Sponsor:** Society of Chemical Industry (UK)
- Number of Delegates:** 378 delegates representing 33 countries
- Number of Formal Sessions:** 16
- Session Titles:** Contacting Equipment
Processes
Rare Earths
Hydrodynamics and Mass Transfer
Metals 1 (Reagents and Modifiers)
Metals 2 (Metals Extraction)
Supercritical Fluid Extraction
Inorganic Materials
Liquid Membranes
Biotechnology
Organic Chemicals
Control and Modelling
Nuclear (2 sessions)
Environment
Fundamentals
- Plenary Lecture:** Solvent Extraction in the Process Industries: Quo Vadis,
Professor C Judson King (University of California at
Berkeley USA)

Carl Hanson Medal

The Carl Hanson Medal, sponsored by the SCI and DECHEMA, was awarded during the conference to Dr W Jack McDowell (USA) by Dr Gordon Ritcey (Secretary General ICSE). Dr McDowell responded with an account of his life in the application of solvent extraction to nuclear chemistry and analysis. [More...](#)

Poster Sessions

These were an integral part of the conference and allowed many more delegates to present papers. The selection of papers for poster presentation was based on the submitted abstracts; this was not without problems and it would have probably been better to select on the basis of

the full paper. Papers received after the closing date, were also accepted as posters but the papers did not appear in the Proceedings. A number of missing posters was due to the absence of presenters.

Refereeing: All papers were submitted to a panel of referees for comment; this is considered essential.

Exhibition

A small exhibition of equipment and services was held throughout the meeting and the venue was sited between the lecture rooms and refreshment area, an ideal arrangement for all.

Social Activities

Following the pattern of previous ISECs coach tours of the local countryside were arranged for the whole conference on Sunday(?). In addition, visits were arranged for the accompanying persons to sites with the historic city of York and the surroundings. These were organised by a locally based tour operator which proved invaluable to the Organising Committee.

A number of receptions were also arranged the most memorable being an evening private visit to the local National Rail Museum which gave delegates the opportunity to explore railway engines and carriages from the past.

Another evening event was a music recital, with refreshments, held in Ripon Cathedral.

The lack of a suitable venue in York for a conference banquet required this to be held in Ripley Castle. As this was several miles from York this entailed a coach journey. Unfortunately the weather during the conference was not favourable and those who attended the banquet held in a marquee in the castle courtyard will remember the storm which raged during the event.

Post-Conference Tours

The Post Conference Technical Tour visited companies in North West England involved in solvent extraction processing, including the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant and Albright and Wilson in Whitehaven. Unfortunately because of local difficulties the latter visit did not include the advertised phosphoric acid process, and it might be wise to insert a disclaimer in any publicity that companies have the right to change tours.

Both these companies are sited in the Lake District an area of outstanding natural beauty in the U.K.

Friends of ISEC'93

A number of companies including: AEA Technology, Albright and Wilson, American Cyanamid Co. (Cytec); British Nuclear Fuels, and Zeneca Specialties, supported the conference.

Organization

An ISEC'93 Working Party was formed in 1987 and the first circular and call for papers was distributed at ISEC'90 in Kyoto, Japan. The SCI agreed to sponsor the conference and a full Organising Committee of scientists and engineers drawn from industry, government, and academia was formed in 1990. A number of sub-committees were formed with responsibility

for: Technical Programme; Social Events; Technical Tours; Exhibition; Proceedings/Advertising; Registration and Accommodation; Finance. In addition members of the International Committee for Solvent Extraction (ICSE) were apprised of progress and minutes of the full Organising Committee meetings circulated.

Registration/Accommodation: The SCI Conference Department played a very important role in the overall conference organisation taking responsibility for handling the registration and accommodation requests. The majority of the delegates (66%) stayed in University accommodation with the remainder in local hotels in York.

Finance: The Society also underwrote the conference and handled all the financial transactions after a conference budget had been agreed between the Organising Committee and the SCI Finance Department. The decision to have an inclusive registration fee that included the main social events was an essential feature of the budget and facilitated planning. Although the registration fee was kept to a minimum it was recognised that this would exclude a number of delegates so a Bursary scheme was included to help students and others.

The SCI also provided a number of conference department staff at the conference to handle registration and delegates queries. The expertise and professionalism of the SCI staff was a very important factor in providing an enjoyable experience for the delegates.

Publication Proceedings

Papers were received as camera-ready copy after revision following comments from the referees. These were published as a three volume set by Elsevier Applied Science on behalf of the SCI, with the full contents and index for all volumes included in each. The Proceedings were available to delegates on registration, with further copies available for purchase from the SCI after the meeting.