

IAC Organizes its “5th Annual All Stakeholder” Conference

The 5th Annual 'All Stakeholder' Conference organized by IAC turned out to be a huge success, with more than 75 delegates attending. Practically, all Industry stakeholders attended the meet comprising of the Government itself (Ministry of Road transport & Highways), Regulators (CCOE and ARAI), NGOs (CSE), Government Sector Petroleum Companies (Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum, Hindustan Petroleum), Private Sector Petro Majors (Reliance, Essar), Private Sector LPG Importers & Marketers (Shell, Total-Elf, Caltex, Aegis, Supergas) and Private Sector Marketers (Vanaz, CleanFUEL, Gas Energy, Pan-FUEL). From the Kit Industry, all the leading players were present which included Lovato, BRC, Vialle, Minda, OML, Ace, Stargas, Shrimankar, CLH, Longas, SKN and Sagas. Among the Equipment suppliers and Turnkey Installers, both MIDCO and L & T were present. And the most welcome participation was surely that of the OEs who were present in a good number with participation from Hyundai, Maruti, TVS and Tata Motors.

The opening session comprised of addresses by the Chief Guest- Mr S K Dash- Joint Secretary, Ministry of Surface Transport and Highways, Ms Anumita Roy Chowdhury (Centre for Science & Environment), Mr P C Kataria (Jt Chief Controller of Explosives) and Mr P. Raghavendran (President-Reliance), apart from the welcome address delivered by IAC President Mr John Joseph.

Three other sessions titled “Infrastructure : Rapidly Expanding”, “OE Perspective: “Rolling out LPG Vehicles” and “Retro fitment - Self Regulation: Key to Safety” were also held which featured very informative and detailed presentations from the Industry stalwarts.

This year's participation clearly indicates the stakeholders' intent to nurture a safe and sustainable Auto LPG Industry in India.

This newsflash provides a brief of the Conference and the highlights!!



◀ Shri S.K. Dash - Joint Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Inaugurating the seminar by lighting a lamp

▶ Shri S.K. Dash releasing IAC's Inaugural Newsletter



◀ Shri P.C. Kataria (Jt. CCOE) addressing the delegates

▶ Shri P. Raghavendran - President - Reliance Ind Ltd. (Refinery Business) delivering the key note address



◀ Shri S.K. Hazra - Managing Director AEGIS Logistics Limited chairing the session on Infrastructure

▶ Shri Balraj Bhanot - (Former Chairman CMVR Technical Committee) chairing the session on Retrofits



◀ More than 75 Delegates participated in the Conference



**Excerpts from the keynote address by Ms. Anumita Roy Chowdhury
(Associate Director, Centre for Science & Environment)**

“It’s one business which is in the interest of environment. Gaseous fuel strategies really give us the opportunity to leap frog and side step the dirty technology. “

“You have a very fixed number of three wheelers and cars and even more important is that both in the car and the three-wheeler segment, it is a pretty much a first generation or the first phase of the conversion led program and the presence of OEM is limited. In 3 wheeler segment you still have the OEMs and their share is increasing over a period of time, but, in the car market they virtually not present. If this hesitation and reluctance of the OEMs cannot be broken, then, you may set up your stations, but, where are the vehicles? Work on heavy duty vehicle segments has not really begun which we had hoped would have begun by now as we were very keen to get LPG buses into Chennai and other Southern cities. However, this has not happened though we are aware

that the technology for conversion of heavy duty vehicles to LPG exists in other parts of the world. Also we have not been able to create environmental policies which shall facilitate to bring this technology into India. So what is required is synergy which is like a coalition of the industry that you have created which gives an opportunity for the gas providers and the OEMs and all other stakeholders to get into a dialogue and thereby create that critical demand which is required to really expand the scope of the programme.”

“The other dimension of the problem which is of a very big concern to us that is of quality. As I said earlier that it is a conversion led programme and therefore, quality of the conversion kits is a matter of serious concern to us. Further, as many of you have been part of our discussions in EPCA would be aware that we have been repeatedly hammering this point of “quality of conversion kits” time and again. The poor quality of conversion kits does not give the same environment benefit which we expect to see from this kind of a programme.”

“We have looked into the vehicle modifier programmes in the U.S and other countries. Systems exist in these countries wherein a relationship is built between the OEM and the conversion kit workshop and the OEM authorizes the conversion kit workshop to convert the models. This kind of a system generates confidence in the minds of the customer who wants to get his vehicle converted and the relationship between the OEM and the workshop works as a guarantee for the quality of the product. This system also helps as there are not many OEM LPG models, but, if you want qualitative conversions to happen, then, systems must come into play.”

“Therefore as far as the civil society, Supreme Court, EPCA’s role is concerned, there is a huge support for all of you up there. We through our limited responsibilities in the few cities that come within the ambit of the Courts ruling will give a strong push to come up with very clear targets and expand the scope of the programme. It is not that EPCA and the Court will get into the nitty-gritty of land transfers, but what we know and the lessons learnt from Delhi are that when you non-negotiable targets to the State Government that these many converted vehicles have to be on the road, then, the system follows.”



Mr Amit Shah and Mr Raju Joseph - President and Secretary of the Kit Association, IALF



IAC-Kit Industry Dialogue



IAC-Kit Industry Dialogue



IAC Board Meeting held on Sep 28



Standing left to right, Mr M K Chaudhari (ARAI) Mr K K Gandhi (SIAM) and Mr S R Marathe (ARAI)



Mr S R Marathe and Mr M K Chaudhari with IAC General Secretary Suyash Gupta



Fuelling a *greener* future



Excerpts from the keynote address by Mr. S. K. Dash (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways)

“Very soon we are coming up with a National Road Safety Board (NRSB). This is based on the recommendations of Mr. S. Sunder and a 16 member committee of which Mr. Bhanot was a member, the body was constituted in November 2005 and they submitted their report on 20th February, 2007.”

“It was good on the part of IAC to have organized a training program for the transport people. This is one area in our country where Human Resource Development is lacking and the Government expects the Non-Governmental agencies to carry out doing this great job of HRD in the transport sector.”

“It is not only necessary for government officers but even I say this thing I have to admit that this tremendous task of HRD cannot be achieved only by the government.”

“The Government is aware of the delay involved in getting the approvals for opening retail outlets of LPG on National Highways and a committee has been constituted to look at three things – first how to expedite the approval process; second is how to cut the delays and thirdly, how to be more transparent?”

“This forum is the right forum, as now more and more emphasis is being given on alternative fuels rather than main fuels and your association can play a very big role in future with regard to this.”

“I would urge the industry on this solemn occasion to self regulate, to self discipline, to implement Auto LPG in a safe & environment friendly manner. And unless there is discipline and self regulation, without which the government is not in a position to frame regulations for each and everything. The effort of the Indian Auto LPG Coalition to form a coalition of all industry stakeholders is commendable. It has always happened that whenever we are alone or whenever we fight for a strong cause also, individually, we don't win the game but when we are together we definitely put forth our cause and everybody listens to us!”

“If certain changes are required even in the act we are ready to do it. We are open to listen to your problems and we will definitely take action. We will involve you also in the process in an appropriate manner and so that you also carry a feeling that as a stakeholder, your grievances and voice is listened to at the right place.”

Members & Associates



Moments



Left to right: Reliance Ind. - President Mr P. Raghavendran, Shell India - Managing Director Mr Rajiv Chouhan and Mr S K Hazra, Managing Director - Aegis Logistics Ltd



Mr K Balakrishnan, US-TDA receiving a special recognition from IAC President Mr John Joseph



Ms Anumita Roy Chowdhury with Mr S R Marathe (Director - ARAI) and Mr M K Chaudhari (Sr Dy Director-ARAI)



Mr Sunil Mathur, Chief Manager (Auto LPG)- Indian Oil, receiving a special recognition from IAC President Mr John Joseph



Mr Balraj Bhanot, Former Chairman CMVR Technical Committee, receiving a special recognition from IAC President Mr John Joseph



Mr Balraj Bhanot handing out mementos to Mr John Joseph (President IAC) and Mr Suyash Gupta (General Secretary-IAC), at the end of a very successful 5th All Stakeholder Conference.

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Our representative would contact to assist you in joining IAC!!