

Mechanical and Manufacturing division announces lecture series

The Mechanical and Manufacturing division has announced its new series of lectures for autumn winter, 2011/2012. The annual visit from the IMechE President will take place on Friday, November 18. The current President is Professor Roderick A Smith, Royal Academy of Engineering Network Rail Research Professor of Railway Engineering, Imperial College and chair of the Future Railway Research Centre. He was involved in crowd safety research assisting the Health and Safety Executive with investigations into the Hillsborough disaster, and has worked for the Board of British Rail (1992-96) and as an expert witness in many legal cases. The lecture will be followed by a dinner in the President's honour. On December 6, there will be a lecture on the Composite Centre in Limerick. In the new year, there will be a lecture on e-learning for engineers on January 24. The series began on September 27 with a presentation on the provision of satellite and rocket propulsion systems, presented by Martin Houston of AMPAC In-Space Propulsion. Details of further lectures will be posted on the events brief and they will include a presentation by the IMechE Railway chairman in February and the Paper Prize Competition in May for young mechanical engineers.



NSAI CEO, Maurice Buckley and the Minister for Small Business, John Perry at the launch of the 'Your Standards Your Say' website.

NSAI introduces standards website

The NSAI has launched a web-based initiative 'Your Standards, Your Say', with the aim of making vital information on standards in development easily accessible, giving business and the public a chance to have their say on standards prior to them being finalised. The website, www.nsaie/yourstandardsyoursay, will also serve as a vehicle for Irish business to engage in the standardisation process as companies can access Irish, European and international standards open for comment and it will also have a facility to allow users to suggest changes to these standards before they are published. The NSAI says the website will be especially advantageous for small businesses, which unlike large organisations, may not have the resources to actively participate in standard's development, especially international and European standards.

Maurice Buckley, CEO, NSAI, said: "NSAI have launched this website so that we can develop effective and appropriate standards drawing on the wealth of experience and expertise of the people that need them, implement them and are affected by them day to day."

Seal Systems achieve Irish Agrément Certification



Irish Agrément Certification has been awarded to Seal Systems Ireland Ltd a coating product for multiple concrete structures including roofs and podiums. This is a first in Europe for a seamless polyurea sprayable membrane, according to Ray Brennan, managing director of Seal System Ireland Ltd (pictured left). The Elastocoat C 6335/101 coating, manufactured

by BASF Polyurethanes, has a 25-year-plus life expectancy and extraordinary mechanical characteristics, coupled with vital crack bridging capability, he states. Specifiers can see clear cost benefits, Ray states: "The arrest of endemic failure of membranes to date can be assured by this IAB approval, which takes the risk out of onsite application with BASF Elastocoat C 6335/101. BBA certification is now imminent for UK applications."

Revisions to I.S. 3218

I.S. 3218 has undergone a full revision and the resulting draft was made available for public comment from August 10 until September 23. The Standard Title is Fire Detection and Alarm Systems for Buildings – System Design, Installation, Commissioning, Servicing and Maintenance. The aim of this standard is to promote wider understanding of the different types of fire detection and alarm systems and modes of operation which may be employed. It also aims to encourage uniformity of application, based on providing enhanced safety to persons in the event of an outbreak of fire and having due regard to the hazard level and degree of familiarity and alertness of occupants within particular buildings. Fire detection and alarm systems are an integral part of the overall protection of the building. The draft revision includes numerous changes including false alarm rates, certificates to be issued, radio systems and design considerations.

New PM Group CEO takes up position



PM Group has appointed Dave Murphy as its new chief executive officer. Pat McGrath, Chartered Engineer, FIEI, outgoing CEO, will remain with the Group as deputy chairman – international development. Pictured (l-r): Pat McGrath, deputy chairman, PM Group and Dave Murphy, the new chief executive officer.