ALFED sponsors manufacturing exhibition

A major new exhibition at Think Tank, the innovation and technology museum in Birmingham, UK is to be sponsored by the Aluminium Federation. Featuring five exhibition spaces the new project focuses on ‘How Things are Made’ with an emphasis on Midlands, UK manufacturing. Opening at the end of 2012, the new exhibition covers key areas including transport, packaging, engineering and manufacturing.

“We are very pleased to be able to support this innovative new exhibition at Think Tank,” said Will Savage, Chief Executive of ALFED. “Aluminium plays such a fundamental part in UK manufacturing and this exhibition is a way for people to understand just how good the UK can be at making things. There will be lots of interactive displays and lots of ways for people to participate and get an idea of how things are made.”

Health & Safety Workshop

Focussed on the needs of the aluminium industry and featuring many industry specific speakers, the latest ALFED Occupational Health and Safety Workshop was a great success. Jop Groenweg, a Dutch psychologist who has made a name for himself as an expert on the human aspects of safety led the way at the Workshop. He succeeded in engaging his audience with a flowing 90 minute address that was a combination of entertaining, informative and topical.

Another highlight was the demonstration of the use of ‘real’ casualties in First Aid training, using actors and make up. Rather gory, and not for the faint-hearted, this succeeded in showing how useful this can be for the first Aider volunteers who may actually have to deal with such incidents.

At the Workshop Dinner in the evening, delegates were entertained by ex International Rugby Referee, Rob Davies, whose effortless stream of anecdotes brought tears of laughter.

The ALFED Occupational Health & Safety Workshop is a regular event and the date for the next workshop will be posted on the ALFED website – www.alfed.org.uk

Non-ferrous Environment Forum

Presenters as varied as the Environment Agency, DEFRA, Eurometaux, academics, specialist contractors and, unusually, Greenpeace, gave their perspective on Environment and Metals at the Non-Ferrous Alliance’s latest Environment Forum.

They were able to give delegates opinions and different viewpoints on industry and regulation.

With all metals industries affected by most aspects of environmental regulation, it was an opportunity to hear from regulators, policy makers and experts, and to question them and discuss matters of concern.

The next Non Ferrous Alliance Environment Forum will be held in Q1 2012 on a date to be announced on the ALFED website.

Aluminium in Automotive Conference

OEM’s, leading academics and component producers will be coming together to speak at ALFED’s Aluminium in Automotive Conference this September.

Looking at current and future trends the conference will discuss the OEM’s strategies in ‘lightweighting’ and recyclability.

The conference is being jointly organised by ALFED and the Aluminium Alloy Manufacturing and Recycling Association (AAMRA).

The event will feature speakers including Professor Garel Rhys OBE, Emeritus Professor at Cardiff University Business School’s Centre for Automotive Industry Research and one of the country’s experts on the automotive industry; representatives of Audi, Nissan’s Technical Centre Europe and Jaguar Land Rover; plus Gunter Kirchner from the Organisation of the European Aluminium Recycling Industry (OEA); K Wlazly from Metal Bulletin and a range of others.

“It gives the automotive industry the chance to get together with the casting industry and discuss the fundamental questions based around weight and recycling and the role of aluminium within that discussion,” said Tony Franchina of ALFED who is organising the event in Birmingham, UK on September 28-30, 2011. It is important to bring everyone together to look into the fundamental issues and ways forward for aluminium in the automotive industry.”

For more information or to book places visit www.alfed.org.uk/conference2011 or call Tony Franchina on +44 (0) 121 601 6386