



The Newsletter of the  
Fluid Sealing Association

Fall 2014

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**FSA Fall Meeting**  
**October 7-9, 2014**  
**Miramonte Resort & Spa**  
**Indian Wells, California**

Email [hope@fluidsealing.com](mailto:hope@fluidsealing.com) if you have not received the meeting notice. It was sent by email only, and it is also available on SharePoint.

**Deadline to register and make hotel reservations is September 6, 2014.**

## FSA Interim Meetings

September 16-19, 2014  
Hilton Garden Inn  
Houston, Texas

Email Hope Silverman if you did not receive the announcement and you are interested in attending.

## FSA SharePoint Update

Have you signed up to have access to FSA's SharePoint site? The purpose of the site is to improve Division and Committee collaboration and to also facilitate information sharing between

meetings. This is THE place for members to share information, newsletters, meeting notices, publications, minutes, and working documents.

The meeting notice for our October meeting is available there, and all of the agendas will be posted there prior to the meeting.

If you haven't accepted the invitation that was sent to you, send an email to [hope@fluidsealing.com](mailto:hope@fluidsealing.com) and the invitation will be sent to you again.

## President's Message

PROGRESSIVE activity continues on several fronts for the Fluid Sealing Association in recent months related to various committees. We will hear much about these at our upcoming meetings in October. A considerable amount of extra effort has been taking place with our Membership, Government Affairs, Bylaws and Technical Coordinating Committees. Additionally, many technical issues related to our five divisions are continually being discussed through GoToMeeting conferences.



**Greg Raty**

Since our Board of Directors meeting in Chicago and another in June, extra effort has been put forth by our Membership Committee to create two new membership categories, one being a ***Distributor/Channel Partner*** and the other being a ***Standards Partner***. Details have yet to be finalized, but should be complete in early September, after another Board meeting is held. We are excited about the possibilities this will bring to the association in both networking as well as external exposure to the markets we service as an association. Of course, our bylaws along with our policies and procedures manual will also be revised in order to accommodate these possibilities.

[Read the article.](#)

## New FSA Board Members

### **Phil Mahoney**

is currently the Design Engineering Manager for Compression Packing and Mechanical Seals for the A.W. Chesterton Co. in Groveland, MA.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Engineering Management. With over 24 years of experience in the sealing industry, Mr. Mahoney has held various engineering positions including Applications Engineering, Product Management and New Product Development.



Mr. Mahoney currently also serves the FSA as Chair of the Compression Packing Division and Vice Chair of the Membership Committee, as well as a member of the Government Affairs Working Group, the Marketing Committee, and the Technical Coordinating Committee.

**Bob Rutherford**

is the Chief Executive Officer of EGC Enterprises, Inc., in Chardon, Ohio.



Bob, a California native, began EGC with his friend and partner Bernie Casamento. Both had worked for other companies before, but this opportunity represented a brand new challenge for a brand new material ... flexible graphite. It also opened up an entirely different world for Bob that, with few exceptions, has been extraordinary.

"Flexible graphite is an exceptional product, but it was brand new and we had to show companies how it could be used for fluid sealing," said Bob. "Getting started was tough. But we didn't approach the market like others. We were real honest and, instead of giving them what they wanted, we told them what they needed. I believe we did what was right and it's paid off."

Bob is a jet pilot, a dream that began while he was enlisted in the Air Force and has lasted ever since. For the past four years he has been President of the Cleveland National Air Show, the longest running air show in the country. A former college football player, he now plays golf, participates in triathlons and is an avid cyclist.

Bob is a graduate of California Polytechnic State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Manufacturing Engineering . He holds 7 US Patents. Bob is married with two adult children and five grandchildren. He lives in Kirtland, Ohio but has a beautiful home in Hilton Head, South Carolina, for when (or if) he retires.

## Technical Director's Report

This will be the first edition of this report from your newly appointed Technical Director. The transition from Pete Petrunich has been well executed, with little disruption to the association's technical activities. Pete was very kind in handing over to me all the necessary documents, as well as instructing me on the most important duties of the position. Although it has taken me a few tries to get certain projects back under way, it appears that good progress is being made. I want to thank all the technical committee chairs for helping and assisting me during this transition.



**Henri Azibert**

I knew that Pete was quite busy assisting all the technical activities of the association, but I did not realize how much was actually going on. Even the most active members are only involved in one, maybe two divisions, and perhaps one other committee. You then only see the participation of the Technical Director in these activities. But the function covers all the divisions, and many projects of common interest. The versatility required is quite surprising, and can almost be overwhelming at times.

[Read the entire Report.](#)

## Running Effective Meetings (part two)

By Mike Shorts, Membership Committee Chair

*Missed part one? Click [here](#) to read it.*

In the first part of this article I started with why I feel so passionate about running effective meetings. I discussed setting agendas, seating arrangements, timing, presentation materials, and just getting right to the heart of the matter. This article will continue the discussion with my experiences on how to run an effective meeting.



**Mike Shorts**

Inevitably you will have a topic whereby consensus cannot be reached for moving forward. Sometimes it is necessary to hold a separate meeting in order to get these topics resolved but whenever possible try to find a resolution. This is where you as the meeting leader get to show what you're made of. Can you break the stalemate, come up with a solution, or coordinate a compromise? Given the input you have, create a quick action plan and assign specific people tasks for resolution and make sure to include an expected completion date.

[Read the article.](#)

## Press Release: Henri Azibert Joins *Pumps & Systems MENA* Editorial Advisory Board

*Pumps & Systems MENA*, the new magazine for pump users in the Middle East and North Africa, announced that Henri Azibert, the technical director of the Fluid Sealing Association (FSA), has joined its Editorial Advisory Board.

"I look forward to working with the staff at *Pumps & Systems MENA*," Azibert said. "The global pumps market is very important to our members."

As an Editorial Advisory Board member, Azibert will be consulted on the latest trends and challenges in the MENA pumps market.

This summer, he was appointed to FSA technical director. A longtime member, he previously served as chairman of the mechanical seal division and of the mechanical seal and mechanical packing technical committees. He also held the office of vice president for the last two and a half years.

[Read the press release.](#)

## **New Members**

### **Chemical Engineering Magazine**

(Affiliate Member)

1831 E. 71st Street  
Tulsa, OK 74136  
Phone: 918-877-2662  
[www.che.com](http://www.che.com)

### **Donit Tesnit**

(Regular Member, Gasket Division)

Cesta komandanta Staneta 38  
Medvode 1000  
Slovenia  
+386 (0) 582 33 00  
[www.donit.eu](http://www.donit.eu)

## **FSA Calendar of Events**

### **Fall 2014 Interim Meetings**

September 16-19, 2014  
Hilton Garden Inn  
Houston, TX

### **Fall 2014 Meeting**

October 7-9, 2014  
Miramonte Resort & Spa  
Indian Wells, CA

### **Spring 2015 Meeting**

April 2015  
Airport Hotel TBD  
Houston, TX

### **Fall 2015 Meeting**

October 6-8, 2015  
Hotel Monteleone  
New Orleans, LA

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