

WAXMATTERS

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Blayson Open Day

On July 27th 2005 Blayson held an open day to mark the opening of the new Conference Suite at its Cambridge manufacturing base. Representatives from customers, suppliers, universities, technical and trade associations, from both home and abroad attended.



Visitors were greeted by Administration Manager John Evans and Sales Office Supervisor Kelie Lanham (pictured above).

The programme included an introduction by Managing Director Ron Williams who explained that over recent years, Blayson has continued to develop and grow to become the leading specialist manufacturer of wax materials for the investment casting process. This had only been possible with the co-operation and support of customers and associates. In recognition of this it was felt it would be beneficial to invite representatives from this key group to view Blayson as it is today, and to give an idea of the company's ambitions.

This was followed by an overview of The Blayson Group Ltd and its activities by Sales & Marketing Manager Richard Hirst.



Blayson's new conference and meeting facility is pictured above.

The 40 delegates then separated into 3 groups for a comprehensive tour of the production facilities by Operations Manager Keith Batchelor and Production Manager Gavin Starr.

Quality Supervisor Michele Cranwell and Project Engineer Phil Hancock gave a tour and a detailed explanation of the work carried out in the Technical Centre. This includes both day-to-day quality control of wax production as well as Research and Development procedures and projects into wax developments.



Finally delegates received an in-depth presentation by Richard Hirst on the World Investment Casting Market, and the Investment Casting (Lost wax) process.

The day concluded with a relaxed buffet lunch that proved a useful vehicle for informal meetings and discussions amongst delegates and Blayson staff.

Presentation to S African Casting Association

Dave Morson, Blayson's Director and General Manager made a visit to South Africa in July.

Accompanied by representatives of Metallurg, Blayson's agent to the important South African investment casting industry, Dave made visits to the majority of foundries.



Pictured above right, with Colin Botha of Metallurg, Dave made a presentation to the South African Casting Association at their annual dinner.

The presentation covered a complete overview of the World Investment Casting market, highlighting the important role Blayson plays within this. It also included a section on the advantages of the investment casting process compared to sand casting. This was seen as important for the South African casting community as the pressures on sand casters are making many consider changing to the investment process.

H&S - Michele Passes NEBOSH Test

Michele Cranwell, Quality Supervisor has successfully completed the National Examination Board of Occupational Safety and Health course.



The fully certificated course was held over 10 days at the West Anglian Training Authority and is designed to keep companies up to date with all aspects of health and safety legislation.

Agents Seminar

Blayson's agents and representatives from around the world will attend a 2 day seminar on the 11th and 12th October 2005 at the company's new conference suite in Cambridge.

A comprehensive programme of lectures covering a wide range of topics is arranged coupled with a social evening at a local hostelry.

These events are seen as being extremely valuable in bringing the wider Blayson family together. As well as ensuring that the latest developments and products are introduced and their benefits explained they are an excellent opportunity for everyone connected with the company to meet and exchange views and news.

Forthcoming Papers

Members of the Blayson team will present papers in the near future at industry gatherings.

Ron Williams will present a market update on the European and North American investment casting industry at the Japan Foundry Society's seminar in Tokyo on the 15th and 16th September 2005.

Dave Bond, Technical Director, is scheduled to make a presentation outlining the latest understanding

and position on the subject of colophony. This will take place at the cmf Technical Meeting to be hosted by Blayson in the company's new conference facility at Cambridge on Thursday 27th October 2005. Anyone interested in attending should contact David Critchley at the cmf, 0121 6016393.

EICF Conference in Bilbao

The European Investment Casting Association is organizing a technically based international conference to be held at the Euskalduna Conference Centre in Bilbao, Spain on 21 –23rd May 2006. The Euskalduna centre was voted World's best conference centre 2003.

The theme of the conference is "Promoting Excellence in Investment Casting" and will cover a range of topics covering :

- Markets
- Efficiency Management
- Quality Initiatives for Process Excellence
- New Processes and Materials for Cost Reduction
- New Opportunities for Investment Casting.

Additionally there will be a full social programme for delegate's partners including visits to the beautiful Basque country and a private viewing at the Guggenheim museum shown below.



Full details on the conference and exhibition can be obtained from the EICF by contacting Julie Boyce julieboyce@eicf.org