

## Q4-2006

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- SI-COAT OFFERS AN ECO-FRIENDLY SOLUTION TO A NATURAL PHENOMENON
- CSL ACTIVITIES IN PORTUGAL
- 2007 INMR WORLD CONGRESS & EXHIBITION ON INSULATORS, ARRESTERS & BUSHINGS
- T&D SUMMIT: "INDUSTRIAL SPEED DATING AT ITS BEST"
- APLEIN: AUTHORIZED SI-COAT APPLICATION SUPERVISORS
- CSL'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

## Si-COAT Offers an Eco-friendly Solution to a Natural Phenomenon

As theoretically promising as any product may be after laboratory development, practical and commercial viability dictate the success of an invention. Therefore, testing and validation in the field are as critical as bench-scale experiments.

In October 2006, reports from the field on Si-COAT 530 Anti-Graffiti Coating were presented to CSL. The findings were interesting and, in fact, exceeded the product's design specifications, which in turn have yielded an innovative niche application for the technology.

Si-COAT 530 Anti-Graffiti Coating was a market-driven invention through the efforts of **John KNADLER**, CSL's representative for the Texas, USA region, and TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation), the validation partner on the project. The product designed by CSL's R&D staff was formulated to resist graffiti adhesion and



**Si-COAT**<sup>®</sup>  
a CSL Innovation  
TECHNOLOGY THAT STICKS™

to be easily cleaned without damaging the coating. Prior to the development of Si-COAT 530, the most effective coatings were wax-based. These waxy coatings certainly did resist graffiti, but would become damaged or removed when cleaning off the graffiti. Further details on Si-COAT 530 can be found in the Q2 2005 edition of *Coverings* at [www.si-coat.com](http://www.si-coat.com).

Apart from graffiti, TxDOT also faced another nuisance on their infrastructure. In meeting with Mr. Knadler early last year to discuss the matter, it was learned that swallows (a bird common to North America) were taking up residence on infrastructure by building their nests of mud on bridges and in the corners of culverts.

There are three species of swallows in Texas; they are considered a protected species because they cross international boundaries on their annual migratory flight. According to TxDOT, "The presence of nesting swallows and their flightless young in those mud nests is reason to postpone the demolition of [an old] culvert or bridge until the birds migrate south for the winter. Such a postponement or the remobilizing of a contractor is potentially very expensive."

To TxDOT, the swallows and their mud nests were a tricky problem. In no way did they want to harm the creatures, nor make their living spaces in culverts and bridges "uninhabitable to [these] beneficial, insect-eating critters. We [did], however, want to restrict their use of these structures prior to and during the demolition of the structures in order to keep [our projects] on schedule." In addition, they didn't want to prevent the return of the swallows to the new culverts



*Messy business but someone has to swallow it*

*(continued on page 2)*



## Eco-friendly Solution (continued)...

or bridges when they flew back into Texas the next summer.

In the past, the company would completely cover the old bridges and culverts with netting to prevent the birds from building their nests. In seeking a more efficient solution it dawned on them they could perhaps employ CSL's Anti-Graffiti Coating, Si-COAT 530, which they had already evaluated for its non-stick properties. The concept was that if the coating could provide a surface slick enough to prevent adhesion of the swallows' mud nests, the birds would become discouraged and find other more suitable areas to construct their homes. TxDOT deemed it critical that any product employed in discouraging the swallows should not cause harm to

the creatures. Si-COAT's post-curing non-toxic and non-stick nature made it an ideal material with which TxDOT could experiment.

In March 2006, the trial was initiated with both Si-COAT 530 Anti-Graffiti and Si-COAT 579 Anti-Corrosion Coatings. The test site was 300 miles west of Austin, Texas. Each test size was first water-blasted clean and allowed to dry before being coated with either one or two coats of the 530 or 579. A test area similar in size was left uncoated, to note comparisons. Three months later, the results spoke for themselves. An inspection in June showed that all Si-COAT coated areas (regardless whether 530 or 579) were completely free of mud nests.

With such incontrovertible evidence of

Si-COAT's success, TxDOT outlined the market potential for a coating product that could be the be-all and end-all solution for the ongoing mud nest problem; mud nests are nuisances not just restricted to Texas, but are causing problems in many other southern US states as well. In Texas alone, there are 50,000 bridges plus an additional 170,700 cross-road culverts.

After the success of this first round of testing, plans are underway for a second round with hopes that a program to combat mud nests using Si-COAT can be started soon thereafter. With the success of the initial tests, it is likely that Si-COAT will soon earn a further reputation as the friendly solution to southern swallows and their mud nests.

## CSL Activities in Portugal

CSL Silicones Inc. was busy in November with ventures in Portugal, creating a new market for Si-COAT products there.

Under the direction of **Panos MELETACOS** (Director, Mediterranean Operations) Si-COAT technology was introduced to the Portuguese petrochemical tank operations industry. Serious interest was expressed for the reduced installation costs and dramatically lower life cycle costs offered by Si-COAT. The current technology employed by the industry in Portugal is of conventional formulation sourced from within Europe. The merits of employing Si-COAT were substantial enough over their current practices that the decision was quickly taken to include Si-COAT products in their supplier's list after technical and testing documentation is received. As Mr. Meletacos says,

"there is a great opportunity to work with this [industry]."

CSL has begun to develop the Portuguese pulp & paper market as well. Portugal is an important player in the European pulp & paper industry in which anti-corrosion and power reliability are of paramount concern. Visits with engineers responsible for tank installations and electrical substations resulted in an initial order for the coating of insulators for a 66 kV station. The application will be conducted early this year.

Mr. Meletacos notes that in the visits with the engineers, the opportunity was also taken to pitch the Si-COAT anti-corrosion technology to Plant Managers. The same pulp & paper company owns several plants with corrosion issues unresolved by their current methods.

## 2007 INMR World Congress & Exhibition on Insulators, Arresters & Bushings

This year, as in 2005, CSL will be co-sponsoring the 2007 INMR World Congress & Exhibition on Insulators, Arresters and Bushings. The congress will be taking place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from May 13th to 16th, at the Rio InterContinental Hotel.

The CSL delegation will be comprised of **Faisal HUDA**, General Manager of CSL Silicones Inc.; **Nilton dos SANTOS FILHO**, Maintenance Electric & Electronic Engineer of CEMIG, Brazil; and **Armando Isaac NIGRI**, retired Engineer of FURNAS, Brazil. The delegation will present three papers in the subject of RTV coatings. Mr. Huda will present on the topic of the Economics of RTV Silicone Coatings. Mr. dos Santos Filho will speak on "CEMIG's Experience with RTV Silicone Coating in

(continued on page 3)

Extreme Service Conditions," and Mr. Nigri will present his experience on the "Selection of and Experience with RTV Silicone Coatings on the FURNAS Itaipu HVDC System."

For more information on the Congress & Exhibition, please visit: [www.inmr.com/2007WorldCongress.htm](http://www.inmr.com/2007WorldCongress.htm). Full CSL coverage of the conference will be available in a future issue of Coverings.



Left to right: Armando Isaac Nigri and Nilton dos Santos Filho

## T&D Summit: "Industrial Speed Dating at its Best"

This past November, CSL co-sponsored with Energy Northwest of Washington State, USA, the annual Marcus Evans Transmission & Distribution (T&D) Summit. This year's summit was held in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico, USA.

As the summit organizers describe, in order to maintain the required power industry levels of reliability and availability, today's industry executives are being forced to adopt strategic management methods to cope with the challenges of aging workers and infrastructure, budgetary and regulatory constraints. The annual T&D Summit is designed to bring together the key

industry players to set the boundaries and create new guidelines for effective and efficient delivery, while maintaining and enhancing the bottom line.

With dozens of one-on-one meetings between CSL and prospective clients across the North American power industry, the event was no less than "industrial speed-dating." The outcome was very positive for CSL with a great deal of interest generated for Si-COAT technology in the US market.

Since US consumption amounted to about 30% of the world's demand for electricity in 2003, there is naturally a sizeable need to maintain

the reliability of their power supply. This is further compounded by a historical underinvestment in power infrastructure that has been overshadowed by the growth in demand since the 1950s. From the information gathered and the high level of interest expressed in the Si-COAT offering, CSL and Energy Northwest intend to ramp up sales and marketing activities in the US market. The time for much wider adoption of RTV insulator coating technology is fast approaching, and based on feedback from the summit, we may see the inflection point of rapid growth even sooner than expected.

## APLEIN: Authorized Si-COAT Application Supervisors

Following the supervision of the Union Fenosa project that took place in Huelva, Spain, APLEIN INGENIEROS was certified by CSL and officially recognized as the Si-COAT Authorized Supervisor for job inspections in Spain and Portugal involving the use of Si-COAT 570, 579 and 587.

As the Union Fenosa job illustrates, proper application of Si-COAT products is key to CSL's performance guarantee on its coating products. Without correct application and

usage, customers would not see the vast benefits, quality and durability synonymous with the Si-COAT name.

Last October, Panos Meletacos, along with a three-man application crew and personnel from APLEIN and Muhlhan SA (an authorized Si-COAT applicator for the Mediterranean region), attended the job site in the southwest region of Spain on the Atlantic coast. Union Fenosa is one of CSL's newest customers and is one of the biggest private electricity producers in

Spain. This particular plant, incorporating two 400 MW natural gas fired units, faced serious salination and condensation issues on their insulators due to the proximity of the sea and adjacent cooling towers.

The application crew was supervised by APLEIN and instructed by Mr. Meletacos and Muhlhan SA. Advice was given and corrections and suggestions made during the application process. Key issues addressed included the use of appropriate equipment and surface preparation


(continued on page 4)

## APLEIN (continued)...

methods and practices. As well, in training and educating the application crew and APLEIN, methodology was shared on the number of passes to achieve 400 microns DFT and how to avoid 'icicles' and drip marks of coating. The resulting Si-COAT application, completed at the end of October 2006, had excellent adhesion and a very smooth surface finish.

With their newly achieved status as Authorized Si-COAT Application Supervisors, APLEIN is now able to conduct inspections at job sites on behalf of CSL in order to validate the performance guarantee of Si-COAT products.

As part of the performance guarantee,

CSL also has a touch-up maintenance program for Si-COAT customers. At the midterm point of the guarantee period, CSL will send applicators to the site to touch up the coating if necessary, to ensure the optimum performance of Si-COAT technology. 

## CSL's Christmas Party

During this past frantic festive season, CSL employees and their significant others paused long enough to gather at the Guelph Country Club to get an early start celebrating the holiday season.

The evening, organized by the Social Committee, went off without a hitch. To kick off the evening, Faisal Huda, General Manager, recounted CSL's numerous significant achievements and accomplishments from the past year.

Then, Rosalind Scantlebury, Social Committee President, warmly welcomed everyone to the Christmas party and delighted us with a poem that she had written specially for the evening.

John Barr, initiator of the Creative Suggestion League, presented the winner of the 2006 Suggestion

of the Year award to Farooq Ahmed. Farooq, Research and Development Manager, had made a suggestion that would significantly increase the safety of those working at and visiting CSL Silicones.

Just before the dancing began, Lindsay Sproule, another member of the Social Committee, played host to CSL's version of "Let's Make a Deal." The game brought out good natured competitiveness and plenty of laughter. The night then carried on with quite a bit of dancing.

The party was the end to a remarkable year and it was wonderful to gather and celebrate the season together.

We would like to thank the Guelph Country Club for hosting us and providing us with a delicious meal. 



Rosalind Scantlebury and Seraj Huda sharing a laugh at the Christmas Party



Q4-2006

© 2007 CSL Silicones Inc.  
All trademarks registered.  
All rights reserved.

### csl silicones inc.

144 Woodlawn Road West  
Guelph, ON N1H 1B5  
CANADA

tel: +1 (519) 836-9044  
fax: +1 (519) 836-9069

### SUGGESTIONS:

Suggestions and comments are always welcome. Please send to: [info@cslsilicones.com](mailto:info@cslsilicones.com)