

Great Britain

Informing the Refractories Market: IMFORMED in 2016

IMFORMED Industrial Mineral Forums & Research Ltd, was launched just over a year ago in January 2015, as the new source of professional networking opportunities and market research expertise for the global non-metallic minerals industry.

Founders Mike O'Driscoll and Ismene Clarke, formerly of Industrial Minerals magazine, have brought together in-depth experience, highly regarded reputation, and a proven track record gleaned from a combined 40-year career in devising, managing, and commercialising industry leading events, and original editorial and information products for the industrial minerals business.

Among other services, IMFORMED has launched a series of Forums providing intelligent and topical business networking for the industrial minerals world including a focus on raw materials for the refractory, foundry, and ceramics markets.

These conferences are thoughtfully programmed, and run by knowledgeable chairpersons, to engage with and serve the industrial minerals supply and user industries.



Fig. 1 Mike O'Driscoll and Ismene Clarke

Forthcoming events for 2016

Mineral Recycling Forum 2016

14–15 March 2016, Rotterdam/NL

Sourcing, supply, processing, and markets for secondary raw materials

As the minerals industry strives towards sustainable development, Secondary Raw Materials (SRM) have emerged as an important source of industrial minerals for a range of consuming markets, including refractories.

Developments in sourcing, processing, and quality control, as well as rising primary raw material prices, have enabled economic recycling of minerals contained in certain industrial waste products.

Recycling of spent refractories is being pursued with particular vigour, with refractory majors such as RHI AG/AT declaring raw

material substitution and recycling as an integral part of its Strategy 2020.

Meanwhile, refractory recycling processors are upgrading and expanding their facilities, such as Horn & Co. Group, in Germany, employing an automated sorting system supplied by Secopta GmbH; and new plants, such as LKAB Minerals' Moerdijk refractory recycling facility in the Netherlands.

Mineral Recycling Forum 2016 brings together an expert panel to discuss the latest trends and developments in SRM sourcing, supply, processing, quality control, logistics, and crucially, their market applications.

The conference will be of interest to all those active in the SRM supply chain, and especially established refractory mineral suppliers and buyers keen to assess the outlook for competitive and substitute materials.

Topics include European Union strategy, waste refractories, steel slag, aluminium salt slag, silica fume, cenospheres, and waste water.

Mineral Logistics Forum 2016

11–13 April 2016, Rotterdam/NL

Challenges and solutions for industrial mineral supply chain logistics

The most vital link between mineral suppliers and customers is logistics – economically and successfully getting your minerals from mine to market. Without due care and

attention in securing optimal logistics systems and supply routes, the future of a budding refractory mineral project is challenged right from the start.

With mineral transportation costs accounting for as much as 70 % of the final delivered cost of the mineral product it is amazing how often the role of logistics is overlooked.

This one-day conference, hosted in Rotterdam, one of Europe's main port gateways, is followed by a Field Trip to mineral facilities in the Port of Rotterdam.

Topics include the importance of logistics strategies, mineral supply from the USA and China, Vienna as a transport hub, and evaluating the full chain of mineral handling options.

MagForum 2016

9–11 May 2016, Vienna/AT

Magnesium minerals & markets supply & demand outlook

In response to market demand, IMFORMED is delighted to announce its inaugural MagForum 2016 – the biennial conference for all those active in the development, supply, processing, logistics, and market application of magnesium minerals.

Preceding the conference is a Field Trip to lead sponsor and refractory major RHI AG's facility in Veitsch/AT. In 2016, the plant cele-

brates its 135th anniversary and is the world's oldest magnesita processing facility. Since 2013, the plant has undergone a major EUR 18 million upgrade, scheduled for completion in 2016, to improve productivity, product quality, and reduce environmental impact. The plant has an output of 220 000 t/a refractories, with steel and cement markets the key consumers.

MagForum Day 1 focuses on magnesita supply, with an executive discussion panel, regional supply reviews from around the world, what it takes to bring on a new source of supply, and developments in calcination.

MagForum Day 2 focuses on market trends and outlook, including refractories, welding, ceramics, environment, chemicals, and flame retardants.

Graphite Supply Chain 2016

13–15 November, Newport Beach/US

The world's meeting place for the natural graphite industry

Three days of presentations, workshops, and networking events dedicated to examining the present and future of the natural graphite industry, from mine to market.

Graphite users are closely monitoring the emergence of the new generation battery market as its market share grows, and which now vies for the second largest market share after refractories.

The evolution of Li-ion batteries and their growing application in electric vehicles, utility storage facilities, and consumer-led electronic devices has led to this market to taking a major share of world flake graphite supply: tight competition with refractory consumers in the future looms large.

For speaker and programme enquiries please contact: Mike O'Driscoll, Director, +44(0)7985 986 255; mike@imformed.com
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Fig. 2 RHI's Veitsch plant, hosting a field trip for MagForum 2016 (Source: RHI AG)

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LINGL – PARTNER OF THE CERAMIC INDUSTRY



LINGL has been active all over the world as supplier of machines and plants for the production of refractory products for more than 40 years. Especially with regard to the fields of drying, tempering, firing and handling systems LINGL offers individual machinery, process engineering as well as complete solutions.

Service is an important and essential point for LINGL. Our worldwide service offices ensure that our customers are provided with the best support.

LINGL – Quality made in Germany.

