

IME(I) Mumbai Branch Hosts Seminar on Minimizing Environmental Impact of Maritime Transport Through Fuel Additives

The Institution of Marine Engineers (India) Mumbai branch successfully hosted a highly informative technical seminar on a very critical topic, **“The Role of Additives: To Minimize the Environmental Impact of Transporting Goods by Sea.”** The event, held at The Kohinoor Continental Hotel on 31st August 2024, brought together industry experts, maritime professionals, and environmental advocates to discuss innovative solutions for reducing the ecological footprint of marine transport.

The seminar commenced with an insightful introduction by **Mr. Shobhit Kapoor**, who underscored the growing relevance of fuel additives in addressing recent challenges faced by fuel pumps, filtration systems, and purifiers. He highlighted that fuel stability and compatibility are pivotal factors contributing to these issues. Setting the stage for an in-depth exploration of the subject, Mr. Kapoor introduced the evening’s distinguished speaker, **Ms. Ritu Chaudhri, Director of Enmarol Petroleum India Private Limited.**

Ms. Ritu Chaudhri, an MBA graduate from the University of Connecticut, USA, and a seasoned expert in the marine fuel, brought a wealth of knowledge to the seminar. Having founded Enmarol Petroleum India Pvt. Ltd. in 1996, Ms. Chaudhri has been at the forefront of importing heavy fuel and white kerosene through Nhava Sheva Port, in 2002 ventured into fuel additives, distributing marine fuel additives in collaboration with Innospec Limited (UK). Her extensive experience and exceptional speaking skills made her the ideal candidate to address the seminar’s theme.

Thereafter **Mr David Birwadkar, Chairman of IME(I) Mumbai Branch** welcomed Ritu Chaudhri and requested her to commence the presentation.

During her comprehensive presentation, **Ms. Chaudhri** delved into the multifaceted role of fuel additives in minimizing the environmental impact of maritime transport. She began by introducing marine fuel additives as essential tools for improving onboard fuel efficiency and reducing emissions. Highlighting the Octamar™ marine fuel treatment chemicals distributed by Enmarol Petroleum India Private Limited, she emphasized their effectiveness in stabilizing Very Low Sulfur Fuel Oil (VLSFO) and controlling fuel aging and waxing issues.

Ms. Chaudhri’s presentation covered a range of critical topics, including the stability challenges of various fuels such as Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO), VLSFO, Marine Gas Oil (MGO), and biofuels. She

discussed the issues of asphaltene instability, sludge formation, and oxidative stability, providing valuable insights into the complexities of fuel management. Furthermore, she explored the environmental impact of biofuels, particularly those blended with Fatty Acid Methyl Ester (FAME), and the associated performance issues.

Through case studies and trials, **Ms. Chaudhri** demonstrated the significant fuel savings and improved efficiency achieved with the use of Octamar additives. She highlighted the economic and environmental benefits of using combustion catalysts like Octamar Ultra HF C Octamar Complete, which can possibly reduce fuel consumption up to 2-3%, thereby offering substantial cost savings and reducing emissions.

In her concluding remarks, **Ms. Chaudhri** provided a fuel treatment guide and proposed solutions for decarbonizing shipping. She advocated for regular testing and monitoring of fuel performance, along with the application of appropriate fuel additives, as essential measures to enhance fuel efficiency and minimize the environmental impact of maritime transport.

This was followed by a very passionate QCA session which really demonstrated thorough knowledge of the subject by Ms Chaudhri.

The seminar concluded with a heartfelt memento presentation to **Ms. Ritu Chaudhri by Mr. David Birwadkar and Capt. M.P. Bhasin, Master Chairman of CMMI**, in recognition of her exceptional contribution. **Mr. Rajesh Kasargod, Hon. Treasurer, delivered a vote of thanks**, expressing gratitude to all attendees for their participation and making the event a meaningful and productive gathering. The evening culminated in a cocktail reception, drinks, and dinner, providing a fitting end to a successful and enlightening event.







