

Greetings from China, WCSB9

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On 7–9 May 2019, 555 delegates from 23 countries gathered in Beijing for the 9th World Conference on Sampling and Blending. WCSB9 took place in the Beijing International Conference Center and had the highest attendance of any previous conference, the highest number of accepted papers in the Proceedings and the highest number of exhibitors as well. This event marked a welcome culmination of the first 20 years of organised activities for the International Pierre Gy Sampling Association. WCSB9 was hosted by BGRIMM Technology Group and jointly organised by BGRIMM MTC Technology Co., Ltd and Unismart Events Ltd, with support from China Mining Association, China Association for Instrumental Analysis and The Chinese Society for Metals. A full report on WCSB9 can be found at <http://bit.ly/WCSB9Report>

Prospects in China

As an important world economy and a major goods manufacturer, China has realised that there is a critical need for proper sampling and blending technologies to assist in global trade, product quality control and environmental protection. As well as carrying on the well-established scientific objectives of the WCSB series, the 9th conference also had a national aim, to contribute more to promoting further development and communication of sampling and blending technologies. The organisers spared no efforts in order to facilitate a constructive synergy between all these goals.

WCSB9 promoted the International Pierre Gy Sampling Association and the Theory of Sampling for the first time in China. More important was the establishment of China's first academic organisation for sampling—the CSTM Material Sampling and Blending Technical Committee, which will pave the way for Chinese professionals in the sampling field to connect with the international sampling community.

In addition to the traditions of previous WCSB, WCSB9 had a new event, a focus discussion on the “Differences between



The inaugural CSTM Material Sampling and Blending Technical Committee, which includes three international members.



The Pierre Gy Sampling Gold Medal committee awarding the WCSB9 (2019) Medal to Dr Geoff Lyman.

China and Other Countries in Sampling and Blending Theories and Practices for Bulk Commodity Trading”, which aimed to enhance the understanding among the parties involved in sampling for international commodity trading.

The WCSB10 conference will take place in Kristiansand, Norway, in June 2021 (depending on the status of the coronavirus pandemic). China will continue to send representatives to the world conference series,

and will in particular present an invited contribution: “The state of organised sampling work in China since WCSB9” at WCSB10. China wishes that WCSB continues to have a bright future, and hopes WCSB10 will be successful. We are looking forward to seeing you again next year in Norway.

TOS forum is a free publication for the sampling community, providing a

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The forum focusing on “Differences between China and other countries in sampling and blending”.



Hand over from WCSB9 conference chairman Dr Han Long to WCSB10 Conference Chairperson Mrs Elke Thisted. At opposite ends, the chairmen of two scientific committees (right: Dr Li, WCSB9, left: Dr Kim H. Esbensen, WCSB10)—presided over by IPGSA President Dr Ralph Holmes.

communications platform for all interested in the theory and practice of representative sampling and blending. We hope this publication will help more and more Chinese

academicians, technicians and managers to understand sampling theory and to appreciate representative sampling procedures and equipment from all over the

world. Equally, we hope that international readers can draw lessons from the development in sampling approaches and technology in China.