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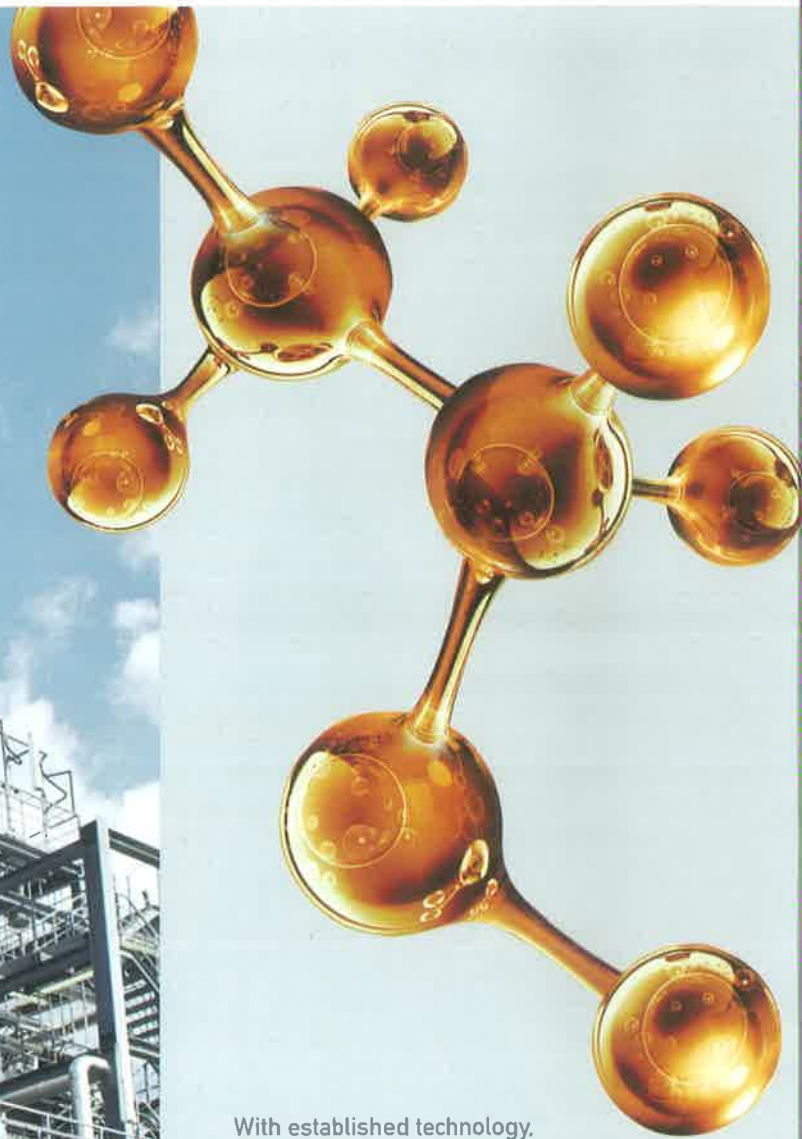
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With established technology, proven know-how and backed by decades of industry experience, VOGELBUSCH Biocommodities designs and constructs highly specialized bioprocess plants.

Review of the 75th Annual Convention of Sugar Technologists' Association of India held in Kochi, August 2017



Lamp lighting ceremony, R to L, Sanjay Awasthi (President, STAI), Suresh Rana (Minister for Sugarcane Industry and Cane Development Dept., Government of Uttar Pradesh), Narendra Mohan (Director, National Sugar Institute), P. Sathasivam (Hon'ble Governor of the State of Kerala), Rajshree Pathy (Chairperson, Rajshree Sugars & Chemicals), and (Ranjit Puri, Chairman, Isgec Heavy Engineering)

The three-day Sugar Technologists' Association of India (STAI) flagship event was attended by nearly 850 delegates. These included STAI members from across India as well as delegates from Australia, Germany, Kenya, Spain, Sudan, UK, USA. The annual convention and international sugar expo was held at the state-of-the-art convention facility at the picturesque Hotel Le Meridien in the town of Kochi, Kerala,

The convention was inaugurated by His Excellency Justice (Retd.) Mr. P. Sathasivam Hon'ble Governor of the State of Kerala in the presence of the Guest of Honour Mr. Suresh Rana, Hon'ble Minister for Sugarcane Industry and Cane Development Dept., Government of Uttar Pradesh, India. Other dignitaries included Mr. Ranjit Puri, Chairman, Isgec Heavy Engineering Ltd., Ms. Rajshree Pathy, Chairperson, Rajshree Sugars & Chemicals Ltd, Mr. Shivajirao Deshmukh, Director General, Vasantdada Sugar Institute, and Mr.

Narendra Mohan, Director, National Sugar Institute.

The event was ably led by the President of STAI - Mr. Sanjay Awasthi (also the Business Head of Isgec Heavy Engineering Ltd.).

The International Sugar Expo attracted 80 technology providers from India and abroad. They showcased their technologies and products relating to

the manufacture of raw/refined sugar, specialty chemicals, alcohol and fuel ethanol, biomass and/or biogas based cogeneration power plants, pollution control technologies and bio-manure. Isgec was the Principal Platinum Sponsor, and dominated the expo with an impressive exhibition stall. Other major sponsors included SS Engineers & Sintech Pumps.



Launching the event proceedings



Guest speaker Geoff Kent receiving a silver plaque from Sanjay Awasthi



Dignitaries at the inauguration

During the event, 79 research papers were presented and deliberated by renowned experts on the latest innovations in five technical sessions on *Sugarcane Agriculture, Factory Engineering, Factory Processing, Co-products and Management*.

Renowned international thought leader Dr. Geoff Kent, Principal Research Fellow at Queensland University of

Technology, Australia and Member ISSCT Factory Commission delivered the S.N. Gundurao Memorial Lecture on "Bagasse moisture content and the factors that influence it".

Mr. M.S. Sundaram, Managing Director, J.P. Mukherji Associates, Pune, India delivered The Mangal Singh Memorial Lecture on "Integrated Project Model with Advanced Technological

Options". There was also a Plenary Session to discuss the 'Highlights of the 29th ISSCT Congress' held in Chiang Mai, Thailand in December 2016.

The 'Isgec-STAI Engineering for Excellence' certificate and gold medal in the category of process engineering was awarded to Mr. J. P. Srivastava, while that in the category of process technology was awarded to Mr. R. V. Dani.