Prosperity of Leather

AC TECH LEATHER & FOOTWEAR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION [ALFA] – REGD.

Central Leather Research Institute Campus, Chennai 600 020, India

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On the 5th October 2012, it was held at the Nayudamma hall of CLRI the first Executive committee meeting of the newly sworn-in Executive Committee (2012-2014). The following is the minutes of the meeting:

The following members of the EC attended the meeting:

- 1. Shri. C. R. Mohan, President
- 2. Shri. P. Gopalakrishnan, Vice President
- 3. Shri. A. V. Chander, Vice President
- 4. Dr. B. Chandrasekaran, Vice President
- 5. Shri. Ma. Sivakumar, Joint secretary
- 6. Shri. M. Vinodhkumar, Joint secretary
- 7. Shri. C. M. Karthikeyan, Treasurer
- 8. Shri. P. Dhilip, Member, EC
- 9. Shri. M. Palanisamy, Member, EC
- 10. Shri. A. K. Venkatesan, Member, EC

The following were the special invitees:

- 1. Shri. Gnanasekaran, The outgoing President, ALFA
- 2. Dr. N. K. Chandrababu, Head, Leather process technology area, CLRI
- 3. Dr. Swarna V. Kanth, Principal scientist, CHORD, CLRI

The agenda had the following broad items:

- Alumni Networking & Chapter
- Cultural & Sports sub committee
- Publication & E-News
- CLRI-ALFA Interaction
- Industry Academia Interaction
- Students' Welfare

The deliberations under each item are listed as follows:

Alumni networking& Chapter:

Formation of Subcommittee for networking was suggested. Mr. A. K. Venkatesan suggested that Nodal persons for each batch can be identified and requested for networking of alumni. The networking job will become easy by this way, he felt.

Then, Student-Alumni linkage through Mentorship/teaching was seen as a strong and futuristic way to establish networking of alumni.

Dr. B. Chandrasekaran suggested an SMS server with all the mobile numbers of alumni will help in getting all the alumni informed of each activity that is conceived and organized by ALFA. He said SMS server will be more reachable than even e-mails. Shri.



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Ma. Sivakumar requested for Remote access into actechalfa.in so that events can be updated conveniently and swiftly by the members. Shri. Ma. Sivakumar and Shri. P. Dhilip have been handed over the responsibility to have remote access into ALFA website other than the web administrator. The fact that the facebook group account of ALFA should be utilized effectively was felt by the members.

Having regional chapters was a difficult and energy-consuming move, it was felt. Strengthening the current system is of immediate concern, it was understood.

Cultural& sports subcommittee:

Then, the formation of a Cultural& sports subcommittee was as well recognized. Shri. A. K. Venkatesan and Shri. C. M. Karthikeyan were handed over with the responsibility. Dr. Swarna.V. Kanth was invited to contribute as well in this subcommittee.

Publication & E-news:

Under this item, publication of newsletter, souvenir or calendar by ALFA for leather industry was discussed. These were seen as both for popularization and fund generation for ALFA. In that context, ALFA getting the 80 G certificate renewed was a point of concern. For this, a cordial relationship with the auditor of ALFA was essential; it was recognized by the members. A sub-committee consisting of Shri. C. M. Karthikeyan, and Shri. M. Vinodhkumar was given this role. Dr. Swarna.V. Kanth was invited to help in the same.

Content issues were discussed. Events organized by ALFA should be the focal coverage. Annotation of any useful information in Knowledge world can be included as suggested by Dr. B. Chandrasekaran, it was felt.

Dr. Swarna.V. Kanth suggested advertisement in leather journals of activities of ALFA as a way to gain popularity in the leather industry. It was appreciated by most of the members.

CLRI-ALFA interaction & Industry – Academia interaction:

In general, it was felt that Special Get-Together should be targeting everyone. To engage people, cultural programmes were suggested to be part of Special Get-Together. New entrants i.e. every final year B.Tech/M.Tech batch may be inducted during the Special Get-Together, it was suggested. The involvement of Association of Leather



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Technologists, the student level body in the Department of Leather Technology as a youth wing/arm of ALFA was contemplated.

Students' welfare:

Frequent popular/invited lectures can be the co-curricular ways the students will be benefited the most, it was recognized. Mr. A. K. Venkatesan suggested that the entrepreneurial alumni can bring the industrious foreign visitors to their firms on business visits to meet up with students.

Requests for financial support can be put forth in the EC for approval to help the needy students. Shri. Gnanasekaran recalled earlier interventions of ALFA for several needy students. Shri. M. Vinodhkumar was volunteering to help in identification of such needs amongst students in the future.

After these discussions on the items in the agenda for the meeting, the following issues were taken up:

- 1. The need to elect two more EC members: It was decided to co-opt suitable alumni from the pool of alumni.
- 2. The services of the auditor: It was proposed by the Vice President Dr. B. Chandrasekaran that the same auditor can continue for the current term 2012-2014. It was seconded by Shri. C. M. Karthikeyan.

Thus, the first EC meeting ended successfully. The president thanked all the attendees for their valuable presence and contribution for the discussions.



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Dear EC members,

Please find below the minutes of second meeting of the current Executive Committee of ALFA:

Meeting called by: Mr. C R Mohan, President

Type of meeting: Monthly

Date: November 30, 2012

Facilitator & Note Taker: Ma Sivakumar, Joint Secretary

Attendees

Mr. C R Mohan

Mr. Gopalakrishnan

Mr. A K Venkatesan

Mr. C M Karthikeyan

Mr. R Aravindan

Mr. Dhilip

Special invitees Mr. C S Gnanasekaran and Mr. Sadhashiv had conveyed their inability to attend due to other commitments. Mr. Thanikaivelan also conveyed his leave of absence as he is out of country. Secretary Nishad and Joint Secretary Vinodh Kumar have taken leave of absence.

Discussion

President Mr. C R Mohan thanked everyone for joining the meeting. Joint Secretary Ma Sivakumar conveyed the messages from Mr. Sadhashiv and Mr. Gnanasekaran about their leave of absence.

Mr. Mohan proposed the name of Mr. Premkumar of 1980 batch to be added as EC member. The proposal was approved by the members. The president requested other members to suggest one more alumni to be added to the EC as member.

Mr. Karthikeyan proposed that in view of the plan to publish a ALFA newsletter, Dr Sadulla be invited for a special editorial role which is approved by the members.

Mr. Karthikeyan informed the meeting that we will sort out the society registration issues with the auditor soon.

Mr. Venkatesan proposed that ALFA create a lapel pin/badge for its members. Mr. Gopalakrishnan seconded the idea and agreed to co-ordinate preparation of the same. All members present enthusiastically approved the plan. It was felt that this will give mutual visibility to alumni members at public events and promote networking.



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Plans for the annual special get together were discussed. It was proposed and accepted that the SGT will be held at Madras Race Club as last year. The following activities are planned for the event:

- 1. Awards to be presented for those alumni members who have made significant achievements during the year. One awardee each will be selected from Vaniyambadi, Ambur, Ranpet, Chennai and Erode regions. Scientific achievement and student achievement will be honoured.
- 2. Mr. Gopalakrishnan proposed to host a mimicry program to entertain the members during the get together.
- 3. Special efforts should be made to contact and invite alumni working in banking sector, IT industry and other areas. Mr. Dhilip agreed to co-ordinate within CTS.

Mr. Aravindan handed over invitations for forthcoming LERIG. It was resolved to request Director, CLRI to extend concessional registration fee to ALFA members for this year LERIG as in previous years. Mr. Aravindan agreed to co-ordinate this.

The next meeting of EC will be held at CLRI on December 21, 2012 at 4 pm in Nayudamma Hall. Mr. Aravindan agreed to make necessary arrangements for the meeting.

President said that alternative EC meetings would be held at CLRI and an outside venue to provide a change of venue to the members.

The meeting was followed by dinner hosted by president C R Mohan.

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Dear EC members,

Please find below minutes of third meeting of the current Executive Committee of ALFA.

Meeting called by: Mr. C R Mohan, President

Type of meeting: Monthly

Facilitator & Note Taker: Ma Sivakumar, Joint Secretary

Venue: Nayudamma Hall, CLRI

Date: December 21, 2012

Attendees

Mr. C R Mohan

Mr. S Premkumar

Mr. R Aravindan

Mr. C M Karthikeyan

Mr. A V Chandar

Mr. P Gopalakrishnan

Mr. A K Venkatesan

Mr. P Dhilip

Mr. Ma Sivakumar

Special invitees

Mr C S Gnanasekaran Dr K J Sreeram

Dr. P Thanikaivelan, Mr. M Palani Samy, Mr. L Nachiappa and Mr M Vinodh Kumar had conveyed their leave of absence through email.

Discussion

President Mr. C R Mohan thanked everyone for joining the meeting. Mr. Mohan welcomed Mr. S Premkumar to the EC.

1. ALFA financial support to LERIG

From 2011 onwards, ALFA provides Rs 25,000 to LERIG as a key stakeholder. It was decided to continue to the practice for this year's event also.

CLRI extends a concessional registration to all ALFA members at 50% of registration fee. Dr Sreeram informed the meeting that last year 15 ALFA members availed this concession and the year before last about 60 members made use of the facility.



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Dr Sreeram stressed that ALFA members should take active part in LERIG forums and discussions as an important stakeholder of Leather Technology.

2. Cricket match

Mr. Mohan informed that the proposal to conduct a cricket match among ALFA members received enthusiastic response. Since Mr. Vinodh Kumar and Dr Swarna were not available, formalities for getting permissions for the ground could not be completed. Mr. Venkatesan said that we will conduct atleast one match before March 2013.

EC members approved the suggestion by Mr. Chandar that children/family members of ALFA should be allowed to take part in the matches

3. Lapel Pin for members

Mr. Venkatesan informed that the pins will be made ready before the Special Get Together on February 2nd.

President Mr. Mohan suggested that we should release the pin in a formal launch function. It was decided to approach conveners of LERIG to provide a small time slot for the same.

The design for the pin is discussed – ALFA logo with leather background is proposed and accepted. Mr. Venkatesan will circulate the designs among EC members for final approval.

Each EC member will be provided with 20 pins for distribution to authenticated ALFA members after collecting their name, address, phone number and email address.

The EC expressed its appreciation for the efforts of Mr. Venkatesan and Mr. Gopalakrishnan towards preparation of lapal pin.

4. Venue for Special Get Together

The Special Get Together on February 2nd will be conducted at Madras Race Club. Mr. Gopalakrishnan came forward to make the booking at the earliest. It was decided to invite all current final year students to the Special Get Together.

It was agreed to arrange a mimicry program of about 45 minutes duration for the get together.

5. Advertisement about Special Get Together

It was decided to place advertisements in Chennai city edition of leading English dailies on February 1st (as done during last year) about the Special Get Together to reach more ALFA members.

6. Special Awards for exceptional performers during 2012



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It was proposed by President Mr. Mohan that ALFA members who won

- a. CLE export awards
- b. Modeurop awards
- c. Best young scientist award
- d. Award by respective corporates in IT/non leather sectors

should be felicitated by ALFA at the Special Get Together. This was approved by the EC and it was decided to draw up criteria for honouring practicing leather technologists in tanneries and technicians working in chemical companies separately.

7. Annual award to CLRI KV school

Rs 5,000 is already paid by Dr Sreeram to the school. EC thanked Dr Sreeram for the same and will reimburse the amount to him.

8. Financial requirements

- a. Mr. Gopalakrishnan agreed to sponsor the cost of entertainment (about Rs 17,000) event for the Special Get Together
- Mr. A K Venkatesan agreed to sponsor the cost of Lapel Pin (about Rs 15,000) for ALFA members.
- c. The cost of dinner for the Get Together works out to Rs 60,000/-
- d. The cost of advertisements is about Rs 17,000/-

The EC thanks Mr. Gopalakrishnan and Mr. A K Venkatesan for their generous contribution.

EC also thanks Mr. Palanisamy who has agreed over phone to give Rs 10,000 towards Special Get Together expenses.

The EC thanks Mr. Aravindan for making necessary arrangements for the meeting. It is proposed that the next EC meeting will be held on January 18, 2013. Request all members to make themselves available for the meeting. The venue and time will be conveyed later.