

GHG: A Global Issue

IQNet partners working globally to reduce GHG

Most headline issues are global nowadays; banking, trade and greenhouse gases would be those most topical at this time. IQNet provides clients with access to global certification networking but also provides IQNet partners an opportunity to benchmark and compare their work and identify best practices so that clients can be best served wherever they do business.

A very good example of this was recently seen in the visit to Ireland by a top level delegation from South Korea to witness a strategic evaluation of greenhouse gas emissions in Ireland. The Korean delegation comprised representatives from the IQNet partner KFQ (Mr. BY Lee and Ms. Lee Mi Jung) and KEMCO (Mr. Han Seung Ho and Mr. Jeon Chang Ho). Both KFQ and KEMCO are verifiers under the Clean Development Mechanism and also work verifying GHG emissions under a voluntary Korean programme operated by KEMCO. KEMCO is a Korean Government body responsible for energy management and other environmental initiatives.

The National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) have been accredited as a verifier from the inception of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme in 2005 and have recently been accredited to audit energy management systems under National Standard I.S. 393:2005. I.S. 393:2005 is the precursor of European Standard EN 16000 (due to be published in 2009) and ISO 50001 (due to be published in 2010).

The Irish Government have appointed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to manage the National Allocation Plan for CO₂ emissions and for providing guidance on verification. Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI) foster energy management incentives for large enterprises as well as national schemes such as the Building Energy Rating scheme.

NSAI are presently offering certification under the UK's recently published Publicly Available Specification (PAS) 2050 (Carbon Foot-printing) and for companies providing testing of buildings for air-tightness.

The visitors witnessed a two day strategic review of the CO₂ emissions from Premier Periclase (PPL), part of the CRH Group, who manufacture high purity magnesium oxide pellets from seawater and limestone in their facility beside the river Boyne in Drogheda. Their product is used in the linings of high temperature refractory vessels such as would be found at steel mills. PPL are one of NSAI's first and most loyal clients and were most generous in providing this exceptional opportunity. The permit held by PPL is unusual in that it covers emissions both from combustion and from the calcination of lime. The fuels used are extensive and include coke, heavy fuel oil, natural gas, diesel, kerosene and LPG. High quality limestone is brought from local quarries and the fuels used at any time vary to take advantage of the ups and downs of international markets.

The verification of 2008 emissions is particularly challenging as this is the first year of monitoring under Phase 2 with amended rules (M&RG2). Uncertainty now has to be calculated for all major emissions and the monitoring has to be carried out to the highest tier approach.

The visitors toured the site (thankfully during a particularly pleasant spell of Irish winter weather – although Seoul had its first snow at the same time) and saw the

very detailed and intricate process of establishing the probity of the emissions monitoring process.

The visit was concluded by a meeting in NSAI's new offices in Dublin to understand the accredited management systems behind the on-site processes and to introduce NSAI's other energy management schemes. Although the GHG monitoring system in Korea is currently voluntary, it is hoped that this benchmarking visit will help the Koreans to understand the approach being taken in Europe and enable KEMCO to establish a similar system under the Kyoto Protocol within Korea; learning from the strengths and weaknesses of the European approach.



From left to right: “BY” Lee (KFQ), Lee Mi Jung (KFQ), Jeon Chang Ho (KEMCO), Han Seung Ho (KEMCO) - *PPE removed only for the photo!!*

KFQ: www.kfq.or.kr

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