

The tank storage world meets in Houston, Texas

Between 6-8 June this year, the 25th Independent Liquid Terminals Association's (ILTA) International Operating Conference and Trade Show takes place. This year will mark the second occasion that the event will have been held at the more spacious George R Brown Convention Centre and the Hilton Americas in Houston, Texas.

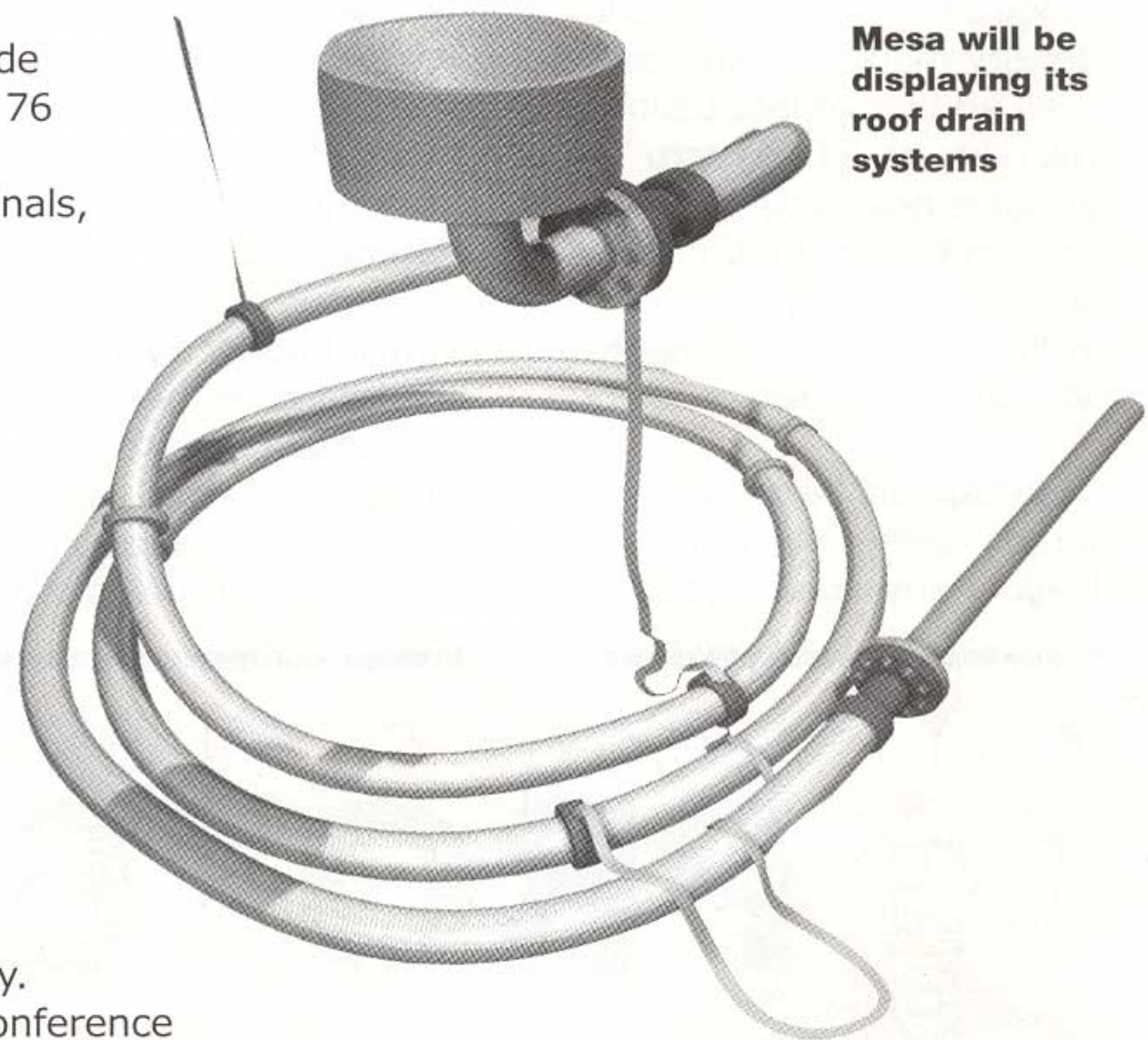
ILTA is an international trade organisation representing 76 independent owners and operators of bulk liquid terminals, above ground storage tank facilities, plus pipeline companies. In addition, ILTA has more than 300 supply and service company members. The association's members operate over 500 facilities consisting of around 9,300 tanks located in the US and 39 other countries worldwide.

The organisers claim that the event is the largest annual expo dedicated to the bulk liquid terminal and storage industry. Registration for last year's conference and workshop attracted 485 participants, an increase of 33% over the 2003 figure. Nearly 2,300 attended the trade show, which also showed an increase in the number of booths – rising to 318, some 86 more than the 2003 total.

This year's conference and trade show will be integrated with a crossover day on Tuesday. Other events will include training and short courses and supplier membership presentations.

The conference starts on Monday 6 June with a general session, which takes the form of a regulatory update roundtable. Following this, the conference agenda splits into three parts- one session taking in operational and industry updates, another involves environmental and regulatory issues, while the third discusses management business issues. These sessions reconvene on Tuesday morning continuing until 11.45.

On Tuesday, the day starts with a featured speaker who this year is Dr Nancy Yamaguchi of Trans-Energy Research Associates. She will talk on petroleum product flows –changing markets and new opportunities. Then, following the three morning sessions, the



Mesa will be displaying its roof drain systems

keynote speech will be given by Gene Kranz who was flight director of the Apollo 13 mission. Kranz will give a presentation entitled 'Failure is Not an Option', speaking about the NASA employees who formed his mission team.

The first two days will be followed by post-conference workshops on Wednesday addressing such issues as API 650 and API 653 overview, cathodic protection and coatings and SPCC overview and update.

EXHIBITORS

Among the 220 plus exhibitors is **Allied Energy Corp**, based in Birmingham (Alabama). This company provides petroleum reclamation services. It claims it can provide a cost effective risk-free and environmentally friendly management of tank bottom material.

Material is reclaimed, which was formerly considered to be waste, and changed into a petroleum product through the petroleum reclamation facility.

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Once the material reaches the company's criteria and is received by the facility Allied assumes full responsibility for its reclamation and disposal.

Caldon will be displaying the LEFM 240C and LEFM 220C ultrasonic flow meters designed for custody transfer, line balance and to check metering of petroleum liquids. Also on display will be the SoundTrack ultrasonic pipeline interface detector along with supporting literature of all Caldon's products range. Dick Mathers tells *Tank Storage Magazine (TSM)* that

Calibron will be displaying a range of meter provers and density meters at Houston.

As an innovation, Calibron will have an S15 Syncro Trak portable flow prover mounted on a trailer on the booth, which Dick claims enthusiastically, "it is really something to see".

CLA-VAL will be showing a meter, control valve and loading arm combination in

partnership with Liquid Control Meters.

Consolidated Fabrication & Construction is a mechanical contractor offering petrochemical concerns engineers, project managers, craftsmen, inspectors and field specialists able to handle an entire project as a turnkey operation.

The company offers services from storage tank inspection and repair to new tank design and construction. To date, thousands of manufacturing and retrofit projects have been completed on time and within budget.

Coppus Portable Ventilation will be showing the RF-24, RF-20, CP-20 and Jectair Venturi air horns, as well as other portable ventilation systems for tank maintenance.

Coppus is a subsidiary of Tuthill Energy Systems and manufactures heavy duty, industrial fans and accessories for a variety of ventilation applications. For more than 90 years the

company has provided air moving equipment for confined space ventilation, equipment and process cooling and also personnel cooling for safety and increased production purposes.

Corrosion Control Inc will display its techniques for controlling and monitoring corrosion on both existing and new storage tanks plus underground piping. Procedures and case studies with regard to API-570 pipeline inspections will also be on display.

Dan Boley, president of **DJA Inspection Services**, tells *TSM* that the company will be exhibiting an API-653 tank inspection systems, a web-based data storing facility and Title V compliance inspection and audits program.

DTN DiamondControl will have details of its DTN Guardian3 customised terminal automation system, which uses a Windows-based operating system and

integrated Oracle database.

The company claims that its user friendly interface minimises operator training, while Oracle allows for easy compatibility with existing and future software systems, such as service access points (SAPs) and back-office applications.

All load and driver activity is logged electronically, enabling any problems to be identified and rectified. The DTN PASSController interface at the loading rack protects access to metered products and reduces the terminal's risk.

Other products and services include DTN Data Connect, which is claimed to be the industry's largest value-added communications network; DTN Integrated Services, which is a value-added data integration, automation and retrieval service for wholesalers; DTN FastRacks, which are electronically-gathered rack price discovery reports and DTN TABS, which is a robust online terminal administration and billing system.

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