

# IPE VANCOUVER BRANCH



Issue 3

November 24, 2009

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BOILER REGULATION

Peter Rubben and I met with the Boiler Safety Manager on Oct. 8, 2009. We expressed the concerns Power Engineers have with the number of experienced Boiler Safety Officers leaving the employment of the BC Safety Authority in the past year.

We also expressed the concern Power Engineers have about not being informed of variances that are awarded. The Boiler Safety Manager gave an explanation of why a variance was awarded to a thermal fluid plant, which is nearly twice the size of one that requires a Power Engineer in attendance.

Two weeks later we were notified that proposed amendments to the regulation had been submitted removing staffing requirements for low pressure thermal fluid plants and the qualifications for Boiler Safety Officers.

Eric Steinson, PE

NATIONAL AGM—WINNIPEG OCT 3, 2009

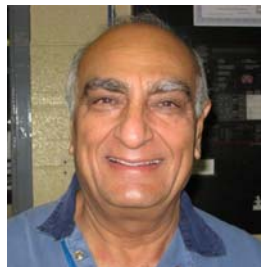
I presented B.C.'s report highlighting the activities of the Professionalism Committee to the National AGM. Also, I was successful in mak-

**Interview with Rogers Sugar employee Nirmal Singha, October 9, 2009**

People Profile

**How long have you worked for the company?**

I have worked for Rogers Sugar for 34 years.



**What is your full job title, what group do you work for, where, and what kind of work do you do?**

I have been employed in the power House for the past 30 years, and have been a 2<sup>nd</sup> class shift engineer for the past 20 years. Rogers operates on a

24/7 schedule and I'm one of 5 shift engineers who look after two power boilers, a turbo-Generator producing 3 mw's of power, and all the associated equipment within the power-house. The process runs 5 days a week so every Friday we shutdown a boiler and the TG, and then on Sunday nights we start up the boiler and TG. We are also connected to BC Hydro power for weekends and back-up power.

**What are some of the challenges you face or have faced in your job?**

Power outages from hydro or a loss of the TG are always challenging as there is only one engineer on shift and so it becomes a bit hectic.

On the feedwater side, we occasionally will get sugar into the condensate system, and this requires numerous boiler tests and chemical addition to maintain a good pH in the boiler water.

See back...

ing the change in per capita. Now, when any branch membership exceeds 300 members, the branch will receive a greater amount

back from National for each member. The amount increases from \$15 to \$20 at 300, \$25 at 400 and \$30 at 500 members, etc.

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### Special points of interest:

- We continue to try to partner with the BCSA!
- Amendments submitted without consultation.
- Success at National AGM!

Check the website, [www.ipevancouver.ca](http://www.ipevancouver.ca) for an update on the Professionalism Committee's Action Plan. Do not hesitate to call the Area Director for B.C. for more information.

You can call Eric at **604-880-7472**,  
esteinson@hotmail.com

**What do you enjoy most about your job/working for the company?**

The different personalities of the work mates make it a great place to work. I have had some trying times in the past with one of the chief engineers, but it has been a good place to work.

**What is your background in the company and before coming to the company?**

Before coming to Rogers, I worked as a general laborer in an interior sawmill. I started as a laborer at Rogers and then posted into the powerhouse. I progressed through the system to obtain my 2<sup>nd</sup> class steam certificate.

**What are some of your interests outside of work?**

First and foremost is my family. Looking after the grandchildren is especially rewarding.

I have also obtained my real estate license and may dabble in the industry once I have more time.

**What is one of the big projects you are currently working on?**

The biggest thing right now is preparing for a successful retirement and passing on some of my experience to the newer fellows before I retire. Off the job, I'm preparing my knowledge for the real estate market.

**Which of our company's short-term priorities (safety; reliability (customer); energy security (supply); climate change and environmental impact; energy conservation and efficiency; financial targets; customer satisfaction; and people) means the most to you and why?**

From my point of view, safety issues are quickly addressed and resolved.

Being able to work mutuals with my work mates also makes the job a better place to work as you can now plan events around the shift schedule.

**Describe one of the most memorable, frightening, exciting or embarrassing experiences you've had with the company.**

Qualifying and obtaining my second class certificate is my most memorable. It was sometimes frightening but also very exciting.

**What are some of the most interesting changes or occurrences that have happened over your tenure here?**

When I came to the powerhouse we had more people on shift. Now one engineer is responsible for the plant.

The control station was located in front of the boilers and was all pneumatic. Now we have an air conditioned control room with an up-to date DCS.