



Alan Lorimer

PROFILE

Has worked in the Engineering Research and Engineering support groups of Blue Circle Industries since graduation from university in 1973. In the course of this has worked in the UK, USA, Canada, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, India, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia – both on Blue Circle cement sites and with external consultancy projects. Site visits were also made to plants and suppliers in several European countries. Areas of technical expertise developed during a career in the cement industry include plant optimisation, kiln process control, flames, use of waste fuels, development of novel cement clinkers, high efficiency classifiers, kiln chains, process design, plant commissioning, plant assessments and development of works improvement plans and general problem solving. A significant input was also made to the technical training programmes within Blue Circle. In later years was responsible for the management of work programmes and technical and personal development of a group of engineers.

EDUCATIONAL AND PERSONAL

Date of Birth: 21st March 1950

Qualifications: BSc in Chemical Engineering, Bradford University

Professional Experience Resume

April 2002 Independent Consultant

Following the take-over of Blue Circle by Lafarge, became an independent cement industry technical consultant.

2000 – 2002 Manager – Alternative Fuels, Applications.

In late 2000, the Blue Circle technical Centre was re-organised to prioritise its resources to focus on the overall strategic aims of the business. At that time an alternative fuels group was formed with the aim of assisting the business units to achieve zero fuel costs. Was appointed the manager of a group of 8 engineers targeted with assisting sites in the application of alternative/waste fuels. In addition,

continued to be responsible for the co-ordination, identification and supply of the required technical support for the Blue Circle plants in North America.

1998- 2000 Principle Process Engineer

Led a team with special responsibilities for kiln processes world wide, and for co-ordinating all technical assistance to seven kiln plants (and two grinding facilities) in North America. In this period continued to work in the cement industry around the world, but with an increasing emphasis on input to North America.

1992-1998 Senior Engineer

Took on a greater responsibility for training and development both of young process engineers and within the formal BCI training courses. These training courses included those intended to develop the knowledge base of personnel from BCI world wide, and also courses tailored to the needs of individual sites. During this period work also paid more emphasis to problem solving on individual sites, and to assisting the sites develop long term improvement plans. This includes the initial assessment and development of the improvement plans for three sites brought into the Blue Circle group during this period, one in Canada, one in the USA and one in Malaysia. Also supervised the commissioning of a new large scale (6,000tpd) plants in which the clinker production was based on pre-calciner process. Took part in consultancy projects, assisting outside organisations within cement industry world-wide.

1973-1992 Process Engineer

Initial employment was in the Research group, with a major contribution to the commissioning and optimisation of the LINKMAN kiln control systems of seven plants in the UK, USA and South Africa. Subsequently joined the Engineering Support function providing general plant assessments (in the UK, USA and Africa) and, with the plant teams, preparation of site improvement plans.

Additional Skills

During the course of my career in Blue Circle has co-written and/or presented a number of external papers on the subjects of alternative fuels, firing systems, Expert systems, and general kiln improvement. These include (but are not limited to):

Burning of Solid Waste in Flames, TM Lowes and AD Lorimer, Institute of Energy, Energy from Waste Burning Symposium, Portsmouth , 20th Sept 1979

Waste as a Fuel, TM Lowes and AD Lorimer, International Energy Management Conference, National Exhibition centre, Birmingham, England.- Oct 1979.

Solid wastes as Auxiliary Fuels with Specific Reference to Cement Manufacture, TM Lowes and ADJ Lorimer, International Conference on Combustion of Tomorrows Fuels, Santa Barbara, California, November 1982.

Sensors in the cement Industry, Institute of Ceramics, Imperial College, June 1984

An expert System for Kiln Control, M Hislop and A Lorimer, India, 1989

Blue Circle High level Kiln Control – DW Haspel, ADJ Lorimer, CJ Southan, RA Taylor – IEEE, San Francisco, May 1987

Presented the following paper: A Low Cost Plant Up-Rating, by PL Dover and LP Evans, at AFCM 11th Technical Conference, Bangkok, March 1990.

Since retiring from Blue Circle I have had the following paper published:
Modern Grate Coolers. International Cement Review, May 2002.

Project Involvement

The most notable of these was the preliminary plant design and process engineering support for new calciner plant in Saudi Arabia. Lead the process engineering input in the second phase of this modernisation, in which the various bids were assessed, the eventual supplier selected, and weaknesses in this bid identified and corrected. The eventual contract was for a complete 2.16million tonne per annum cement production line. Also supervised the initial commissioning phases.