The Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining
Hong Kong Branch
材料礦物及採礦學會
香港分會

# Technical Meeting

# "Shape up & Ship out"

**Date, Time & Venue**

Wednesday 24 January 2006, 6:30pm, 3/F, The Mariner's Club, Middle Road, Tsimshatsui, Kowloon.

**Synopsis**

Producing high quality aggregate is a tough job, both for the quarry operator and the crushing equipment. Day in and day out quarry managers run their crushing plant in the most demanding of conditions, often under tight maintenance budgets and with limited operational information to allow machine optimisation and resultant product quality. As the aggregate industry strives one hand to meet the challenge of increasing quality standards required by ISO 9001:2000, European Standards and it's own customers' materials performance expectations, it's products also have to balance society needs on the other in terms of 'whole life value' and sustainable development concepts.

We know that just as the mineral properties of aggregates are important to the performance of concrete and asphalt pavements, so equally are the effects of aggregate shape on inter-particle mechanics well established. The asphalt materials market as one example has changed significantly over the past 5 years, especially in respect of wearing course materials. Once widely accepted proprietary wearing course mixes have now almost entirely been replaced in new and overlay road construction by a range of thin surfacing materials largely based on European mixes. These stone mastic asphalts (SMA) require quality control standards from their constituent materials with almost twice the accuracy of the old designs. In 2002, the application of SMA on Hong Kong roads was less than 10,000 tonnes, but the ensuing four years has seen a dramatic ten fold increase. This growth in 'high performance' materials is set to continue, and will inevitably result in higher demand for premium aggregates, and more stringent controls at every stage of the production process.

For the aggregate producer, the business case is clear; process optimisation of existing crushing circuits must be achieved in order to maximize production of premium aggregates, and minimize unwanted by-products.

**The Speaker**

**Nick Lewis (FIQ)**
Head of Engineering & HSE
K.Wah Construction Materials Ltd

**Registration and Enquiries**

No prior registration is required. For enquiry, please contact Mr. Howie Cheung at 2428 8866 or by e-mail at howie.cheung@scottwilson.com.hk. An attendance certificate will be provided.