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National Physical Laboratory

Wrap-Up

6 September 2006

Advice Sought

Discussions:

- Most useful way to run an Industrial Advisory Group
- Measurement ‘challenges’ facing you business/industry

Industrial Advisory Groups
Plastics, adhesives, polymer matrix composites

- Currently 4 ‘groups’
  - Polymer Performance (www.npl.co.uk/performance/polymer_performance_iag_home)
  - Polymer Processing (www.npl.co.uk/materials/polyproc)
  - Composites (www.npl.co.uk/materials/cog)
  - Properties at Multi-Length Scales

  Each meets roughly every 6 months

  Is this the best arrangement?

  other groupings?

  themed meetings?

  other formats?

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Balance of Meetings?

- Presentations
  - More or less time allocated?
  - Wider scope or greater depth?
  - Talks from industry?
- Discussions
  - More or less time allocated?
- Networking
  - More or less time?
- Timing
  - Start and finishing times?

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Other Options?

- Split IAG

  different meetings for different projects?

  Pros

  - More focus & more time on individual projects
  - Greater opportunity for discussions

  Cons

  - More meetings = more time away from office
  - Fixed project budgets – potentially more meetings = less science

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Other Options?

- Larger combined IAG
  - Joint meeting with parallel sessions
  - Pros
    - More focus & more time on individual projects
    - Greater opportunity for discussions
  - Cons
    - Not able to hear about all projects of interest

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Other Options?

- Application Focused Meetings
  - Focus on a particular application or industry or measurement issue rather than projects?
  - Pros
    - More focus & more time on applications
    - Greater opportunity for discussions
    - Problem solving opportunities?
  - Cons
    - Narrow coverage
    - Sufficient interest?

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Different Formats

- Talks from industry

  Focus on applications?
- Laboratory tours / demonstrations

  Hands on experience?
- Alternative venues

  Industrial site?

  Different part of the country?

Rolling Formulation

- New projects sought each year
- Unlikely to be a full formulation each year
- Looking for a ‘bank’ of project ideas
  - Fit on long-term strategy or roadmap
  - Timely
  - Arise from technology developments or existing projects

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Formulation Contacts

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http://www.npl.co.uk/formulation/materials/2007plus/

Further opportunities to contribute to the survey

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Any Other Business?

Reminders:

Website

http://www.npl.co.uk/materials/programmes/characterisation/

User Name: multiscale

Password: iagmember

Laboratory tour of Nanomechanical Facility (optional)

Now where did I leave my car?

Bushy House

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