



**Terry Dicken**  
**ELGI Chairman**

## **Podium Eurogrease 2 - April/May/June 2006**

It is always a pleasure to write the podium letter following an AGM and this year is no exception. Our recent 18<sup>th</sup> AGM held in the beautiful city of Prague was again well supported with 260 attendees from 27 different nations. The city and hotel provided the ideal setting for delegates to network, discuss the latest issues affecting our industry and listen to up to date technical developments.

On behalf of the board I would like to thank all those who gave paper presentations, the grease course lecturers, the sponsors and of course the delegates who make this event such a success and look forward to your continued support in the future.

One of the main focus points of the AGM were the requirements of the forthcoming REACH regulations. As many of you are aware these regulations will have a major impact on grease producers. ELGI have been involved with the REACH debate for sometime now and is committed to helping companies understand what they need to do to comply with the regulations. I am pleased to announce that under the auspices of the ELGI a Consortium for grease manufacturers and importers is up and running. This is intended to facilitate the working together of companies in order that they may gather the necessary data for the registration of their products.

This consortium is being chaired by our technical consultant Mike Morris and will work under a proper constituted legal framework agreed by the Consortium members and currently being prepared by our lawyers.

The REACH regulations will compel companies to work together and share information. Any companies who feel they would like to be part of this Consortium should either contact Carol at the ELGI office or Mike Morris directly. His contact details are given on the first page of Eurogrease

Since our AGM in 2005 your board has taken up many of the suggestions raised at the members forum held during that AGM, this year saw another forum well attended and a lot of new ideas put forward, we will try and implement as many of these as we can over the year. One proposal we have incorporated is the Best Paper Award. We are pleased to announce the first winner Alun Williams from Airbus for his paper on Aviation Greases. The award will be presented at next year's AGM.

Despite there being a number of similar conferences taking place in the first half of the year, research amongst our members indicate that we should continue to hold our AGM in April/May. Since ELGI was formed and in line with our constitution our AGM has been held at this time of year and it is our intention to continue with this policy, we look forward to your continued support and anyone interested in presenting or exhibiting please contact Carol at the Amsterdam office.

Next year our AGM will be held on the Mediterranean island of Cyprus, this is fast becoming a major conference venue and we have managed to secure first class facilities for our conference but please book early to guarantee a place and to arrange flights, if visas or other documentation are required please contact the ELGI office well in advance, even as early as January to enable us to provide assistance in time for the meeting. Several delegates were not able to attend this year as there was simply not enough time for communication with the appropriate authorities.

It remains only for me to thank Carol and Ingrid for all their hard work in arranging the conference and for putting up with the office move!! Thank you ladies.