



ANNA 2013

By Enrique Madrigal Araujo

The ANNA meeting in September set a new attendance record. Over 400 engineers from more than 40 countries met in Benidorm, Spain, for the Ammonium Nitrate/Nitric Acid conference (ANNA). Fertiberia hosted the meeting and a team headed by Fertiberia's Francisca Galindo helped make the event a great success.

Alloy Engineering, Espindesa, Kao, and Prosim y Umicore led the 50 companies that participated on the vendors' side. The program focused on safety, environmental awareness, and technical excellence. The agenda included 21 presentations on ammonium nitrate, 20 on nitric acid, and a round-table discussion of ammonium nitrate safety. Karl Hohenwarter of Borealis won best ammonium nitrate paper

with his presentation, "Eliminate Risk of AN Backflow." Dyno Nobel's Sam Correnti took the prize for best nitric acid paper with "Material of Construction Changes: Improved Reliability in Concentrated Acid Production."

For recreation, the attendees played in the traditional golf tournament, raced go-carts, or went sightseeing in Benidorm. A field trip to Fertiberia's nitric acid and ammonium nitrate plants in Sagunto capped the week-long event. In closing the conference, Orica's David Hind, the chairman of the ANNA executive committee, announced that Tucson, Arizona, will be 2014's venue and Apache Nitrogen Products will be the host.

Enrique Madrigal Araujo is Espindesa's Commercial Director in Madrid, Spain.