



ATIEL president steps down after guiding lubricants technical association through period of rapid change

July 2008 - David Pipe, president of ATIEL – the technical association of the European lubricants industry - stepped down at the end of June 2008 after more than nine years in the post.

He joined ATIEL in 1996 as a result of a career with oil companies Texaco, DEA and Fuchs. He became president in 1999 and has helped guide the association through a period of rapidly changing environmental regulations and engine specifications that have impacted the European lubricants industry.

ATIEL represents Europe's leading lubricant manufacturing and marketing companies. It promotes and coordinates cross-industry dialogue with the lubricant additive and automotive industries, and develops responses to technical issues, regulatory programmes and market trends.

During his time as president, he was responsible for overseeing the development and updating of the ATIEL Code of Practice, a quality management system that sets standards and best practice for the production of lubricants that meet European automotive industry specifications.

ATIEL's technical committees have also addressed technical issues relating to emissions, fuel efficiency, catalyst compatibility and the chemical content of engine lubricants. More recently, they have focused on emerging trends such as the increasing use of biofuels, the EU REACH chemicals legislation, used oil initiatives, and the impact of rising global demand on lubricant base stock supplies.

Under his leadership, ATIEL membership has grown to reflect the enlarged European Union and been widened to incorporate companies from outside the EU, but with affiliates in the European economic area.

He is also credited with efforts to raise the profile of ATIEL, and to promote better understanding of its role in ensuring that changes to lubricant specification are technically sound and relevant to real-life applications.

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As ATIEL's representative on the management board of CEC, which develops engine test procedures, he has also been a driving force behind moves to improve the professionalism and work of that organisation.

A process to appoint David's successor is underway.

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