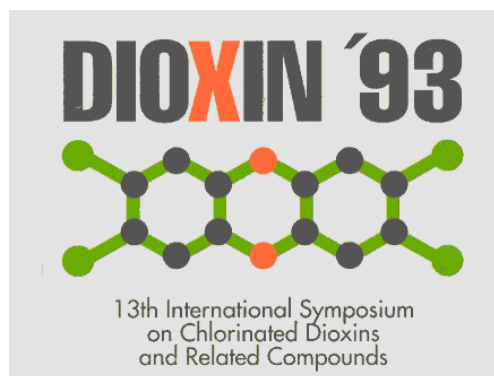


13th International Symposium on Chlorinated Dioxins and Related Compounds

Technical University Vienna/Austria
20-24 September 1993



Introduction

The 13th International Symposium on Chlorinated Dioxins and Related Compounds was organized in Vienna / Austria in September 1993. The conference center was the Technical University of Vienna. The Symposium was jointly organized by the **Austrian chemical Society** and the **Federal Environmental Agency, Austria / (UBA)**.

With 750 delegates from 35 countries, it was one of the truly successful meetings in the 25-year-history of the Dioxin Symposia.

The detailed organization of Dioxin '93 was entrusted to 3 committees, i.e. the

International Advisory Committee

Otto Hutzinger, Germany (chairman); Ulf G. Ahlborg, Sweden; Antero Altio, Finland; Lind S. Birnbaum, USA; Ray E. Clement, Canada; Heidelore Fiedler and Hartmut Frank, Germany; Josef F.K. Huber, Austria; Frank W. Karasek, Canada; Yoshito Masuda, Japan; Larry L. Needham, USA; Christopher Rappe, Sweden; Alarich Riess, Austria; Stephen H. Safe, USA; Alfred Schmidt, Austria.

National Advisory Committee

Albert E. Hackl (chairman) Werner Landvoigt, Ralf L. Lindbauer, Hans Nohl, Rolf Schulte-Hermann, Friedrich Wurst.

Organizing Committee

Frank A. Battig, Secretary General of the Austrian Chemical Society, and Alarich Riess, UBA Vienna (Chairmen); Heidelore Fiedler and Hartmut Frank, Germany; Wolfram Parzefall, Austria.

The program began on Sunday evening September 19 with the traditional welcome reception at the Technical University and ended on Friday noon 24 September.

The opening ceremony was held at the Golden Hall of the world famous Musikverein: it started with the Divertimento by Wolfgang A. Mozart and ended with the Frühlingsstimmenwalzer and the Vergnügungszugpolka by Johann Strauss, performed by members of the Technical University Orchestra.

Welcome addresses were presented by Otto Hutzinger (Symposium Series Organizer), Alfred Schmidt (President of the Austrian Chemical Society) and Maria Rauch-Kallat, Federal Minister of the Environment, youth and Family Affairs.

The plenary lecture was given by Agnes Husslein (Manager of Sothebys Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia), who reported on “From Klimt to Freud – Reflections on the Fascinating Dimension of Cultural Life in Vienna at the Turn of the 19th Century”.

The scientific meeting was held in three parallel sessions and included the topics: Analytical Methods; Formation and Sources; Risk Assessment and Management; Short Chain Aliphatic Halocarbons; Toxicology; Polyhalogenated Biphenyls and Other Halogenated Compounds; Environmental Levels and Ecotoxicology; Human Exposure; Transport and Fate; YU-CHENG: Neurotoxicity; Epidemiology. All sessions were introduced by keynote lectures of eminent scientists in their field.

The complete Proceedings of the symposium were published in September 1993 by the Federal Environmental Agency, Spittelauer Lände 5, A – 1090 Vienna, Austria, as Volumes 11-14 of the series “Organohalogen Compounds” (ISBN 3-85457-129-1); The Proceedings had a total volume of over 1700 Pages and 1200 complete sets were printed.

A precise summary of the more important scientific results presented at the meeting were published in 1994 (1).

Throughout the Symposium an exhibition (35 companies) introducing new technologies reference standards and books was presented on the symposium premises.

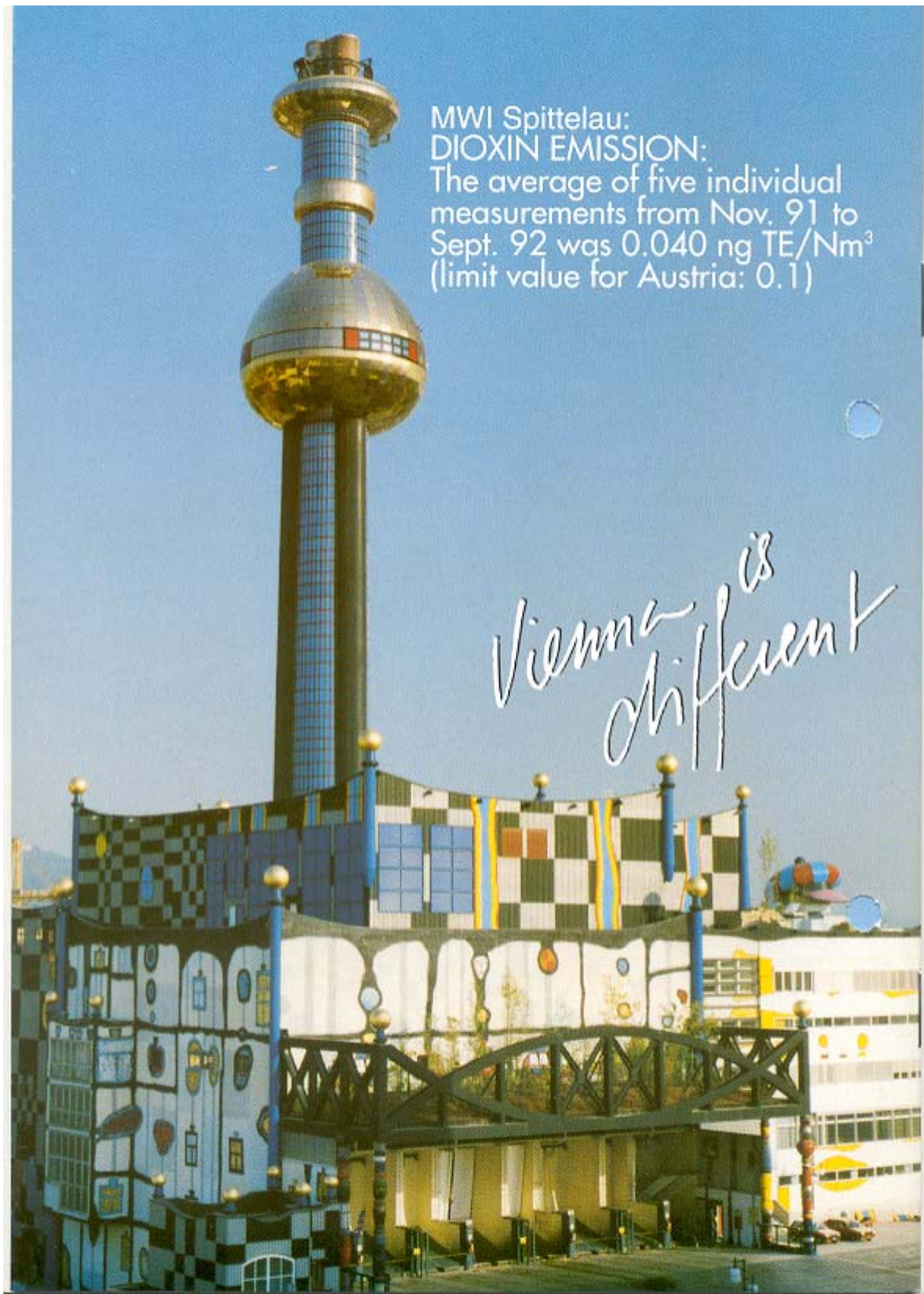
All participants had the opportunity to visit the two by far most important waste incineration plants, EbS for dangerous waste and Spittelau for normal municipal waste, in which the latest state-of-the-art technologies were applied. The Spittelau plant is unique in its appearance, since – at least to my knowledge - it was the first incineration facility worldwide the outer shell of which was designed by an artist, i.e. the world famous Austrian Friedensreich Hundertwasser (see picture) in an attempt to transform a purely technical and normally quite unattractive waste disposal plant into an extremely attractive building which is visited annually by many tourists as a special attraction of Vienna. In this context it is important to understand that the plant is located rather centrally in the city.

The social programme included, amongst others, a visit to a typical Viennese “Heurigen; this is a traditional country side tavern, typical for eastern Austria, where wine growers sell their own wines and traditional foods and snacks. Following a further charming Viennese tradition all participants and accompanying persons were invited to the Formal Reception of the City of Vienna at the old City Hall. Furthermore, on Sunday Sept. 19th and on Saturday, Sept. 25, the participants were offered the opportunity to visit the unique nature reserve Danube-March (the name of a river)_Wetlands.

I hope this brief summary provides some useful information about the Dioxin '93 Meeting in Vienna, and I sincerely wish the Toronto 2005 Meeting all the success it deserves.



Frank A. Battig
Secretary General (retired) of the Austrian Chemical Society, and
Chairman of the Dioxin '93 Organizing Committee



MWI Spittelau:
DIOXIN EMISSION:
The average of five individual
measurements from Nov. 91 to
Sept. 92 was 0.040 ng TE/Nm³
(limit value for Austria: 0.1)

*Vienna is
different*