



Ingot

ALCAN PRIMARY METAL BRITISH COLUMBIA

For Alcan employees, retirees and their families



▲ Teresa Guest embraces the opportunity to interact with people. Read our profile on page 5.

HoT ToPICS



2

Our 50th Anniversary draws closer and plans are coming together. Read pages 2 and 3.



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A group of employees successfully completed the air line project. Read pages 6 and 7.



9

Read our people page 9 to find out more about the Northern Spirit dragon boat team and Alcan activities.



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The kids art contest during NAOSH week was one of several activities held. Read page 10.

DIRECTOR'S THoUGHTS: A snapshot of APM-BC activities and challenges

Focus must remain on safety and cost control

We have reached the half-way mark in 2004 but challenges confront us in a number of areas.

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It's June already and we have many challenges both internally and externally, says director of operations Paul Henning.

Financially, 2004 is ahead of plan due to the higher than forecast metal price. Demand for sheet continues to be strong but billet remains less predictable. Fortunately, maximizing DC-4 sheet production is paying off as we're reaping higher premiums from this product.

External events continue to serve as a distraction. Recent reports in the press about investment in new smelter technology are unfounded. There is not an announcement in the wings. We're continuing to review available technology so that we can develop the best cost / value option for Kitimat's future. Our focus must remain on safety and costs, not on events or actions beyond our control.

We have our business unit objectives set for 2004 and we are renewing our five-year plan. However, we are below plan in safety and potroom performance. We need to improve in these two areas or we won't meet our objectives.

Worse yet is the likelihood of people being injured. As I write this, we have suffered eight lost time injuries. Although the severity of the injuries have been low, it remains an unacceptable statistic. I doubt we will continue to be so

lucky. **Table I** shows that we're moving in the right direction but we're not meeting our goals.

I've been told that this is due to a number of reasons including crew levels and a drive for production. I must challenge this view. I will not accept safety being ignored to force production. Every one of us has the ability to stop. If you're in doubt or unclear of a procedure, or if events around you are beyond your control — STOP. **Continued on page 2**

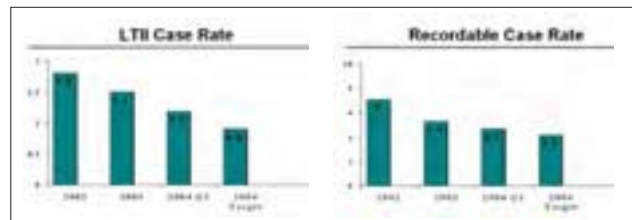


Table I

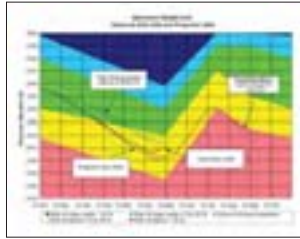
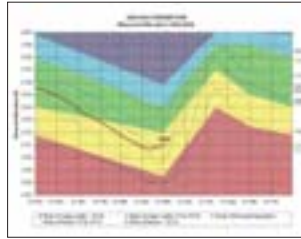


Table II

In terms of production, low current efficiency in the potrooms means we're short an average of 400 tonnes per month. To meet customer demand we are remelting third party *ingot*. This affects our costs negatively but allows us to supply our customers. However, we now have customers not able to take our metal due to high iron content.

The cold metal we are bringing in lets us "sweeten" our own metal so that we can meet our customer's volume and alloy specifications. This is not sustainable in the long term; we must get our process back under control.

In terms of power, if you refer to **Table II**, you'll note that reservoir inflows are below the long-term average. We reduced power generation in mid-February to conserve water and all third



party sales have stopped. We have seen a small recovery in recent weeks but until we see the level at the end of June into July we will continue our strategy of reduced generation to protect the smelter. The snow pack is the second lowest recorded in our 50-year history so recovery depends on next winter's snowfall rather than rainfall this autumn.

Unfortunately, this affects our 2004 revenue. Our plan was based on sheet *ingot*, billet and power sales.

Table III shows the contribution by product to our revenue base in Kitimat.

Once again, adhering to the budget is critical because if our planned revenue is challenged then cost control will be key. Returning to planned current

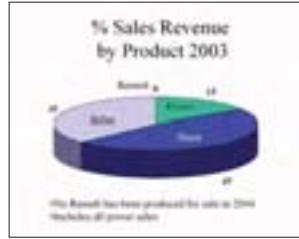


Table III

efficiency levels would help considerably.

It's not all doom and gloom. We are performing well on many fronts and we have pockets of excellent safety performance.

Environmentally, April's roof emissions were extremely high due to process problems and the impact of being behind in our work. This will result in a major incident.

In labour relations, I feel we are making progress. We now have a Letter of Understanding, which allows us to move forward together and to review the organization throughout the plant as well as specific projects and initiatives.

I'm looking forward to progress from the representative groups working in the plant. The sub-committee working on



contracting out is growing and although we have plenty to do, the dialogue is excellent and encouraging. Additionally, we completed our continuous improvement sponsor training.

To close, priorities and topics for next month for me are:

- Safety performance and completion of *EHS First* role out to all;
- Potroom current efficiency;
- Building on the excellent visit by our new Business Development colleagues, Louis Delage and Nigel Steward, by creating a position here in Kitimat;
- Potroom redeployment / organization; and
- Validation of our five-year-plan.

KITIMAT WORKS 50 YEARS Events and activities come together for the 50th Anniversary weekend

Here is the latest information *ingot* has received from the 50th Anniversary Committee about events and activities being planned for our celebration weekend.

Alcan's 50th Anniversary plans

The 50th Anniversary Committee meets weekly and based on the strength of their individual and diverse backgrounds, planning and fine-tuning of the events for the 50th Anniversary celebrations are coming together quite nicely.

Ingot is delighted to present the latest information to Alcan employees and retirees so that you have an opportunity to make your plans to help us celebrate our 50th year of production in Kitimat.

The Committee would also like to welcome our newest members who have accepted a role or are planning an event or are volunteering their time to make this celebration the best ever.

"We certainly appreciate any help that we can get and if you are interested in volunteering to help us out during the weekend, please let us know," says

corporate affairs and community relations manager Colleen Nyce.

Highlights of the weekend Kitimat River races

In the tradition of the Delta King Days, which is the theme for the 50th Anniversary, there is one event that requires participation and organizer Mike Stekelenberg would welcome expressions of interest by employees, retirees and the community at large.

"We would like to re-ignite one of the most popular Delta King events – the Kitimat River raft races. However, we need to know if people are interested in participating," says Mike.

Give Mike a call at home 632-6882 or email him at mike.stekelenberg@alcan.com and let him know if you would be interested in entering a team

in the Delta King raft races.

Memory Lane

"We are looking for memorabilia, any kind of Alcan or Kitimat memorabilia to put on display in our Memory Lane exhibit," says Alcan retiree and organizer Eleanor Kendall.

If you have anything that you feel would be interesting to display, which represents Alcan or Kitimat from the early pioneering days, please contact Eleanor at 632-2550 or email her at ekendell@telus.net.

Nazareth Concert and Gala Dance

"We are very fortunate that classic rockers Nazareth are able to join us for our 50th Anniversary. Their performance on the Saturday night with back up from local band Semi Chronic is

sure to be an evening to remember," says Colleen.

Tickets will be offered to Alcan employees and retirees first and then will be available to the public. More information will be advertised once details are finalized.

Information

Information about the 50th Anniversary plans are being communicated in *ingot* and on Alcan's web site at www.alcaninbc.com/kitimat/index.html.

A final and confirmed Calendar of Events special will be published in *ingot* in early July as well as being available in local newspapers and advertised on local radio stations. You can also contact the corporate affairs team of Colleen Nyce and Teresa Guest.

Stay tuned!

Recognized for outstanding work in print media competition

ingot and Kitimat Adventures Game wins Communicator Awards

Alcan Primary Metal – BC’s *ingot* newsletter for employees and retirees has won three Communicator Awards for outstanding work in the communications field.

Award of Excellence

The Communicator’s Award of Excellence is presented to entrants whose ability to communicate, places them among the best in their field.

Ingot entered Alcan’s Kitimat Adventures Game and supporting *ingot* tear sheets (articles) explaining the game in the Video/Film/Multi-Media/Other category and it has won the prestigious Crystal Award of Excellence.

The *Kitimat Adventures Game* was the creative partnership between Alcan Primary Metal-BC, the CAW, Local 2301, the KKOHS committee, the Kitimat Search and Rescue, the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce and the District of Kitimat. Numerous Alcan employees and community individuals also contributed. As a result of tragic hiking and boating incidents during the summer of 2002, the game developed to promote safety and outdoor awareness for Alcan employees and for the community of Kitimat.

Human resources manager Michel Roy spearheaded discussions, while human resources advisor Tanya Stevenson managed

the project. *Ingot* congratulates everyone who was involved in the creation of *Kitimat Adventures Game* and for winning the award.

Two Awards of Distinction

Ingot editor Cathie Stevens and contributing writer Ralph Reschke have won two Awards of Distinction. One for the October 2003 issue, featuring Alcan’s Risk Management System, reducing gas consumption and the modernization of the Strathcona Plant. Employee coverage included Alfie Galamini’s experience fighting fire in Kelowna; an *ingot* profile with senior cell operator Earl Reid; the carpenter shops review of work standards; safety recognition for the employees of Strathcona Plant, and Kitimat / Kemano power operations.

Ingot’s second Award of Distinction was won for the December 2003, Christmas issue of *ingot*, which contained Alcan’s 2004 EHS 50th Anniversary Calendar gift to employees and retirees. This submission was entered in the Marketing and Promotion category.

“It’s gratifying to know that your work is recognized,” says *ingot* editor Cathie Stevens. “It’s a team effort and we certainly appreciate the collaboration with our design and production partners MPA Communication and Stripe Graphics.”

Michel Roy adds, “Congratulations to the communication team for the quality of their work and recognition. Excellent, continue your good work!”



50th Anniversary Weekend Events

Friday, July 30th

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
5 p.m. all weekend	Soccer Tournament Contact Donald Pacheco	Riverlodge fields
5 to 7 p.m.	Wine & Cheese Reception (invitation)	To be determined
5 p.m.	“Meet & Greet” - Registration	Outside Riverlodge
5 p.m.	Memory Lane	Community Room
8:00 p.m.	Contact Eleanor Kendall Opening Ceremony	Tent
8:30 p.m.	Haisla Traditional Blessing Live Music-Midnight Sun (50s theme)	Tent
10 p.m.	Fireworks	Tent
		Riverlodge fields

Saturday, July 31st

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
8 a.m.	Alcan 50th Anniversary Run Contact Jerry Skitcko/ Al Marleau	Riverlodge
9 a.m. all day	“Meet & Greet” - Registration	Outside Riverlodge
9 a.m. all day	Memory Lane	Community Room
9 a.m.	Cribbage Tourney Contact Jim Linton	Activity Room
9 a.m.	Bridge Tourney Contact Rob and Marilyn Taylor	Activity Room
10 a.m.	River Races Contact Mike Stekelenberg	To be announced
12 noon	Haisla Salmon Barbecue & Food Booths	Tent
1 p.m.	Chess Tourney Contact Mike Bateman	50+ room
	Bingo - Legion Auxilliary Millie Carson	Riverlodge Gym
1 p.m. - 6 p.m.	Delta King Family Days & Karaoke	Tent
8 p.m.	Nazareth Concert & Gala Dance	Tamitik Arena

Sunday, August 1st

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
11 a.m.	Interdenominational Church Service	Tent
12 noon	“Meet & Greet” - Registration	Outside Riverlodge
12 noon	Memory Lane	Community Room
12 noon	KWSA Picnic Contact Doug Linton	Rod & Gun Club
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Retiree High Tea Contact Dave Rootham	Riverlodge Gym
12 - 6 p.m.	Gathering Place	Tent
10 a.m.	Alcan Ceremonial Ingot Pour (Video of ceremony will air at Riverlodge)	Alcan plant site
12 noon	Alcan tour video and historical videos	Community Room
12:30 - 6 p.m.	Alcan Plant Tours	Alcan
12 - 6 p.m.	Food Booths	Riverlodge
	Concerts by local musicians	Tent
6 p.m.	Award Ceremony & Closing	Tent



Alcan retirees **Joe Flegel**, left, and **Rene LeBlanc** visited *ingot* recently. Rene kindly presented us with four albums of Alcan photos and a copy of the ‘Pioneers of Kitimat – 1997’ video. He’s very pleased to pass on this memorabilia to Alcan retiree **Eleanor Kendell**, as she is organizing the 50th Anniversary Memory Lane Exhibit.

Protecting people, assets and the environment

Hazardous materials training

Learning about emergency response skills in the event of a hazardous materials spill pays off for employees, industry and surrounding communities.

Employees of Alcan, Eurocan and Methanex and the Kitimat, Terrace and Prince Rupert fire departments recently complimented their emergency response skills by successfully completing Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations training courses.

Under NESTA, the Justice Institute of B.C. (JI) hazardous materials instructors Bryan Callowhill and Perry Schnarr provided instruction. Two groups attended four-day sessions of classroom, examination and practical exercises / scenarios in awareness and operations held at the Kitimat Valley Institute the week of April 12.



▲ Responders and victims are washed down with soap and water before they can leave the Decon area.

Incident command officer
Andrew Rowsell, Alcan
Safety officer
Laura Taylor, Alcan
Resource officer
David De Medeiros, Methanex

Emergency response team:
Ken Isaac, Alcan
Bruce Fisher, Eurocan
Meach Oswaldini, Eurocan
Frank Verde, Eurocan
Rob Larmour, Terrace Fire Department

During the scenarios, the JI instructors evaluated student's implementation of scene and response management skills, including surveying the scene, gathering information, assessing and evaluating risks, public protective actions, selecting appropriate physical protection, decontamination, preparation and implementation of incident action plans and performing safe physical spill control tasks.

"The team's task during one of two scenarios was to evaluate the scene, assess the hazards, rescue the victim and safely get in close enough to identify the hazards and assess the best and most simple control technique," explains JI instructor Bryan Callowhill. "As well as other tasks, these were the initial phases and expected actions."

A critical part of the exercises also involved teaching the responders how to safely manage the scene using the Incident Command System, with an incident commander, a safety officer, a resource officer, an entry team officer and a decon officer.

One important focus of the second exercise involved implementing safe procedures to decontaminate victims and contaminated and injured first responders by managing the decontamination area (Decon). The responders and victims are washed down with soap and water after the event and before they can leave the Decon area.

The final stage of HazMat spills response exercise was the debriefing session, where the emergency response team discusses how well the situation was managed and makes recommendations for future events.

The Decon procedure involves identifying/ wearing clothing and protective equipment

> **Level D**

Ordinary street clothes provides splash protection only.

> **Level C**

Chemical protective clothing with respirator provides splash protection only.

> **Level B**

Chemical protective clothing but wearing self-contained breathing apparatus.

> **Level A**

Splash and vapor protection with self-contained breathing apparatus.

RECOGNITION

Alcan and Eurocan employees earn water treatment certification

Certification adds to employee's skills

Alcan and Eurocan employees successfully achieved certification as level one water treatment operators.

The latest group of Alcan and Eurocan employees achieved Water Treatment Certification Level I after four days of instruction delivered by the BC Water & Waste Association and a rigorous examination conducted by the Operators Environmental Certification Program (OECF).

Alcan's utility employees began this course of study to diversify and complement their developing skills as power engineers. Also, Alcan's Class IV permit to operate its water treatment plant requires that its utility operators achieve at a minimum Water Treatment Certification Level I and continue working towards Level III and IV by 2006.

Alcan now has 15 dually certified employees as qualified power engineers and water treatment operators. Congratulations to the latest group of employees who achieved certification in March: Gary Cook, Dave Harper, Mike Langegger, Dan Levesque, Bryan Lundstrom and Kevin Sullivan.



▲ The second group of Alcan and Eurocan employees to achieve Water Treatment Certification Level I in March gathered for a group photo at the Alcan tour building.

Pioneering experiences living in Kitimat

Building community relationships

When Teresa Guest and her family arrived in Kitimat in the 1950s the town was a wilderness receding with the swing of an axe and a vision of the future.

Snow. A childhood memory wrapped in the passage of time. Coordinator, corporate affairs and community relations Teresa Guest, remembers the piles of snow outside her family home. Growing up in Kitimat, she remembers the snow was drier, a soft powder instead of wet clumps, and there was more of it, or at least that's how she recalls the snowfalls. It seems fitting that one of her greatest memories of childhood in Kitimat coincides with the Tsimshian translation of the word, which means 'people of the snow'.

However, before Teresa saw the snow of Kitimat her Canadian journey started in Montreal. Her family first arrived in Montreal when they emigrated from England in 1954. Upon arrival, her father soon learned that that the Aluminum Company of Canada was recruiting workers for a project in the northern wilderness of British Columbia.

The family headed west, across the Rocky Mountains, to the town of Kitimat. Her father, John Ross, went to work in the potlines, but until a house could be made available, Teresa and her mother, Jean Ross, lived in Terrace. Her father lived on the beached riverboat the Delta King, which was purchased by the company as temporary housing during the construction years.

After a year, he acquired a house in Sagamat on the hill across from the Alcan beach and Teresa and her mother moved to Kitimat. After working in the potlines for a few years he joined the ranks of the first Kitimat entrepreneurs by starting his own business, an electrical repair shop.



▲ Teresa Guest

Teresa attended Mount Elizabeth Secondary School and after graduation she worked for various companies and organizations in Kitimat, Whitehorse and Prince George. The common link between all her jobs was building relationships and public interaction.

Teresa joined Alcan 16 years ago in the human resources department. She continued developing her relationship building skills and would continue diversifying her skill set in human resources, security and industrial hygiene.

In her current position working with Colleen Nyce in corporate affairs, Teresa is embracing the opportunity to work and interact with people both inside and outside of the plant.

"As I take on more duties I feel my job growing and changing daily, the opportunities are endless. It is a different focus from my other jobs which were internal, but the core fundamentals of building, establishing relationships and interacting with people is still the foundation of my job," explains Teresa.

Teresa coordinates the community investment program, including sponsorships, the community incentive program, special events, advertising and administration of the Kitimat Works tour program.

"The most rewarding part of my job is the interaction with people. I really enjoy the pace of corporate affairs work which is quick, fast and furious," says Teresa, "and presents yet another chance to learn."

Teresa believes in learning. She received her adult instruction diploma from Vancouver Community College and is currently part of the cohort program through Simon Fraser University, after taking two years of university online through the Open Learning Agency. She will receive her degree in Liberal Arts in 2006. "I believe in life long learning and personal growth. We never stop learning, and the more you learn about the outside world the more you learn about yourself," concludes Teresa.

AT-A-GLANCE

Nechako Reservoir Update



▲ Skins Lake Spillway

Monthly physical measurement of the snow packs surrounding the Nechako Reservoir was conducted on May 1.

According to those measurements, the average of the Snow Water Equivalent for the three high mountain snow packs was 65.5 per cent of the long-term average (LTA).

The key measurement site, Mount Wells, was measured at 46.3 per cent of the LTA.

The inflow forecast for the period of May through August is 60 per cent of the LTA.

As of May 13, the reservoir elevation was 2791.96 feet above sea level. The long-term-average for this time of year is about 2791.35 feet above sea level.

Current discharge at the Skins Lake Spillway is 53.1 cubic metres per second to comply with Nechako Fisheries Conservation Program requirements for spring flows.

Employees work together to repair air lines in the potrooms

Improving health & safety of employees

Through persistence and cooperation, a group of employees completed a compressed air line project in the potroom basements to improve the health and safety of employees.

In January 2004, an air line committee was formed through the reduction organization health and safety committee, they worked with several members of the pipe shop crew to create a cost efficient solution to install air lines in the potroom basements.

The members of the committee were: OH&S representative for reduction services John Demedeiros, OH&S representative for lines 7 & 8 Dave Lamke, OH&S representative for lines 3 to 5 Gualbert Carrita, CAW safety representative Larry Blackmore, chief area representative for reduction Doug Bork, potroom health and safety coordinator Alfie Galamini, reduction services supervisor Dwight Magee, supervisor air conditioning/ pipe shop Scott Blackman, and supervisor pot maintenance Ron Leibach. The pipefitters were Richard Bruhn and Tony Fernandes and apprentice pipefitter Doug Young.

Air lines are the life-blood of many maintenance tools used in the potrooms. Pneumatic (air powered tools) are used for repairs. When the valves or hoses aren't working employees need to connect their tools to ones further away and drag the hoses, which are heavy and cumbersome, further distances. It's like dragging an extension cord from your garage into your house because you don't have any electrical outlets inside. The installation and repair of the air lines creates a more efficient work environment where access to air for powering tools is

easily available and minimizes safety hazards.

The air line conditions were originally surveyed by an engineering consultant. The committee felt the project could be done for less by repairing the air lines in-house.

One of the first steps to complete the project was the task of surveying the conditions of the existing pipes, hoses and valves in the basements by John, Dave and Gualbert.

"We went into the basements, starting in 3A, and we had to find all the air valves to see if they were working. We then discussed where we would like the air lines installed," explains John.

"I call it the postman story. These guys endured all kinds of weather but they were driven to complete their survey and assessment of the air line conditions in the basements," comments Alfie.

When the survey was complete the committee met with pipe shop planner Graham Anderson. "After the meeting we did what we could and came up with a plan to install the air hoses in the basements in a relatively short time frame," says Graham.

Richard, Doug and Tony started working on the project on February 9 and finished on April 2. While trying to improve the health and safety of the employees they had to be aware of the safety risks to themselves. They wore protective clothing, taking special care to avoid electrical hazards and to be aware of

the safety risks presented from the potrooms above.

The crew rerouted, installed, and rebuilt many air lines. Valves and hoses were brought back to the shop to be repaired by pipe shop serviceman Jim Yeager. Many of the valves were outdated and new valves and hoses were installed, but those that could be repaired were rebuilt to reduce costs.



▲ A bronze Cleco air line valve from the potroom basements that has been rebuilt and repaired.

A matter of safety

One aspect everyone involved in this project agrees on is improving the safety of employees; they hoped to eliminate some of the potential safety risks the lack of air lines presented. The air hoses had to be brought in from other areas, dragging hoses caused physical strain on employees, and there was shorting potential when it rained.

"My main reason for becoming involved was safety. People were crawling under the cathodes to provide air. There were operators running air lines from one building to the next and from upstairs to downstairs. This concerned me because, during the winter with more rain, there was a shorting potential," comments Dave.

"By getting input from what the employees wanted we were able to create an environment that was more efficient and safer," adds Tony.



▲ In the line 5 potroom basement Scott Blackman points out one of the new air lines installed by the pipe shop crew.



▲ Pipefitter Tony Fernandes puts together an air distribution T used to split air lines so they can be routed to different sections of the potroom.



▲ Pipe shop serviceman Jim Yeager works on a Cleco air line valve for the project.



▲ From left, John Demedeiros and Dave Lamke survey the situation in the potroom basement of line 7.

Comments from some of the crew:

Pipefitter Tony Fernandes says, "We tore out the existing air supply hoses and valves in the basements and replaced them with safer equipment. The old air lines had gotten to such a poor state that it was unsafe. We finished off by adding more valves and more hoses. We thought it was better to replace the whole system and give production what they wanted."

Health and safety coordinator Alfie Galamini comments, "A unique thing we did was relieve Dave from his normal duties as a senior cell operator and put him specifically on this project to work side-by-side with the maintenance crews. That got us big results because they were able to communicate ideas or concerns while on the job. Also, we really appreciate the work done by Richard and the other pipefitters. Once the project got started they took the ball and ran with it. It was a good team effort."

OH&S representative for lines 7 and 8 Dave Lamke says, "We had a lot of cooperation from the pipe shop crew. We threw ideas back and forth about how we could do things differently. We ran into a lot of archaic air lines, some deteriorating, and

at one point we came to a standstill and had to pull out all the old hoses. With help from the pipe shop crew we decided to completely replace some of the hoses, it will probably make them last longer. As for the potroom crews they were really good to us and made it easy for us by explaining the minimum requirement they needed."

OH&S representative for lines 3 to 5 Gualbert Carrita comments, "We're hoping with the work we've done that the air lines can be maintained. Dave was devoted to help out the guys and make sure they knew what we wanted in the basements and Alfie also helped out a lot on the project."

Reduction services supervisor Dwight Magee says, "This is an example of a committed group working together to see the project through to the finish. We ended up with a solution that was significantly cheaper than originally estimated and one that was implemented quicker, resulting in a major benefit to all users. This success clearly demonstrates the benefit of pulling together to solve problems. We need more of this type of activity to bring out the best in our employees."

Powerline technicians train 'live line' on Alcan's 287 kV line

Live line techniques

Kitimat Works five-powerline technicians get hands on training in 'live line' while working on Alcan's energized 287 kV line, as they replace 4,000 insulators.

Alcan replaced 900 insulators on the 82-km (51-mile) transmission line between Kitimat and Kemano in 1998, when Tim Remfert of BC Hydro instructed the first group of powerline technicians in 'live line and bare hand' techniques, which led to certification.

After a five-year project hiatus, the insulator replacement program is once again in full swing. The intention is to replace 4,000 insulators this year, allowing two powerline technician apprentices the opportunity to train 'live line', while three veteran powerline technicians upgrade previously learned skills.

The focus of the insulator replacement program is to upgrade Alcan's current hardware configuration known as the 'pin, clevice and cotterkey type system' to the 'ball and socket type system' – the same insulators that BC Hydro uses.



BC Hydro's hardware configuration uses equipment so that its line crews are able to work on an energized line using 'hotsticks' (epoxyglass sticks which are insulated working tools). The 'ball and socket' type is conducive to live line work on 287 kV transmission line, which Alcan and BC Hydro are familiar with.

Work crew

The Alcan powerline technicians receiving training consists of team leader **Trevor James**, veteran linemen **Kevin Gerrard** and **Jeff Nelson**, and apprentices **Ryan Back** and **Terry Zaporzan**, as pictured on the towers..

Works power employee's

Dieter Guldin and Jeff Burkitt supports the linemen and helicopter pilots at the tower sites and at the fly yard.

Canadian Helicopters pilot Tony Walker and Craig Kendall provides airlift support, enhancing the safety aspects while the crew works on the tower.

Twin River Power line technicians Wade Watson and Dave Bjorkman make up the full compliment of linemen on the tower, adding flexibility to the completion of the project.

BC Hydro's trades training instructor Fred Hogman offers instruction.

Before the hands-on training

tower structure types and work procedures for both ground and helicopter access.

In a letter to general supervisor Mike Smith, Fred Hogman says, "This was one of the most pleasurable projects I have been involved with. The focus of the crew, their commitment to safety, the way they interacted with each other, the equipment and the techniques they used were 'top notch'. From the day we arrived in Kitimat to the last day in Kemano, things could not have gone better."

He further adds, "Twelve of the 14 days the weather cooperated, which was the first key. The

conductor using 'hotsticks' (epoxyglass sticks).

Prior to 1998, when the first group of powerline technicians were trained in 'live line and bare hand' work, Alcan had never performed this type of work. Routine maintenance work on the transmission line would require taking a line out of service and de-rating the system.

"Live line training for our powerline technicians is rewarding, it simplifies, streamlines and enhances their skills, knowledge and ability," says general supervisor power operations maintenance Mike Smith.

The reasons why Alcan began upgrading the insulators using live line methods:

1. Because it's costly to Alcan and BC Hydro to take a line out of service to do routine maintenance.
2. Because it's costly to Alcan in the event of possible failures, such as a trip caused by outages



▲ From left, **Ralph Braun**, **Mike Smith**, **Paul Henning**, **Dave Dhaliwal**, **Jeff Burkitt** and **Dieter Guldin** inspect the old insulators in the fly yard.

could begin, Trevor and Fred developed classroom instruction, familiarization and reintroduced live line and safety techniques to the men in Kitimat. Trevor also organized a pre-job booklet, equipment, logistics and access to the tower sites. The crew was then able to focus on the work methods and procedures of live line while changing insulators.

The actual 'live line' work in Kemano began in mid-April. Prior to work beginning, the group reviewed equipment and participated in a detailed pre-job orientation, which included safety and job procedures, job location,

second larger key was the crew cooperation and determination. To have a private crew, a contractor crew and a public utility trainer working together, worked very well and I think most of the credit is due to the efforts of Alcan and Twin River linemen."

Why 'live line'? Why upgrade insulators?

Live line work means the powerline technicians work on the 120 to 150 foot transmission line towers using ladders, harnesses and rigging and fall arrest equipment to change the insulators on an energized



or a lightning strike on the single-line configuration. The smelter could quite possibly shutdown without power.

3. Because upgrading to the ball and socket type to perform live line work will simplify changing insulators in the future.

The future...

A random sample of insulators will be removed and sent to the Power Tec laboratory to determine their condition. Depending on results, this will set the future direction, as to the number of insulators and the speed in which they will be changed.

Alcan and its employees involved in community

It's been a busy month as Alcan and many of its employees and family members got involved in KWSA activities and community events. Here are a few scenes from the past month.



Arnaldo De Melo

Industrial welder **Arnaldo De Melo**, above left, retired after 33 year of service with Alcan. On Friday, April 30, his co-workers gathered to wish him the best in the future.

Reduction services superintendent **Bill Taylor** presented Arnaldo with his retirement plaque. Followed by CAW president **Rick Belmont** offering his congratulations and presenting Arnaldo with CAW memorabilia and a cheque for \$200.

Potshell repair supervisor **Ron Perrier** gave a small speech about how grateful he was to have an employee like Arnaldo who was so safety conscious and knowledgeable about the job. He also stated that Arnaldo was always there for the group and always willing to give other people a hand. His co-workers shared stories about working with Arnaldo over the years and fellow co-worker **Joe Da Costa**, above right, presented him with retirement gifts from everyone, including a jacket and mug.

After his co-workers congratulated him on his retirement Arnaldo cut his retirement cake that was decorated with a very special message from his daughter, 'Dad, I love you'.



The Northern Spirit team, consisting of 27 Kitimat women will be Dragon Racing at Alcan's 50th Anniversary Dragon Boat Festival in Vancouver at False Creek from June 18 to 20. They are, back row, from left, **Delphine Thompson, Iris Wagner, Shirley Boudreault, Marian Thomson, Barb Webster, Rena Correia, Richard Watt** (coach), **Nancy Phillips, Cynthia Cridge and Cheryl Brown**. Middle row, from left, **Caroline Watt** (coach), **Mary Pat Paterson, Sam Rego, Melanie Lapointe, Michelle Paulin, Ruth Mills and Pat Moulard**. Front row, from left, **Wanda Ouwehand, Kathy Bell, Marilyn Villeneuve and Josee Goupil**. Missing were **Rachel Thomson, Jean Rego, Joan Lewis, Kim Alm, Carol Gagnon and Anita Oliveira**. Alcan is but one of several Kitimat businesses sponsoring the team. The community and sponsors are invited to an open day at Minette Bay Marina on June 5 from 1 to 5 p.m. to meet the team.



The 5th annual KWSA fun spiel held on April 18 attracted close to 50 Alcan employees and family members who spent the afternoon curling, receiving prizes and enjoying a meal together at the conclusion. Organizer **Ron Correia** says everyone had a wonderful time and was looking forward to the next KWSA event. From left are **Harry Eisenberger, Scott Blackman, Harvey Hartmann, Anne Berrisford and Steve Stinson**. (We're not sure who that is standing behind Harvey.)



Alcan participated in the Terrace Trades Fair on the weekend of April 23. Public response was exceptional, as people milled around Alcan's display booth completing an Alcan fact contest and receiving an EHS 50th Anniversary calendar. Corporate affairs and community relations manager Colleen Nyce says participation by the public and the many employees who helped during the weekend was wonderful. Pictured is **Roy Hartmann**, middle right, and **Yvan Morrisette** in the background, as they chat with the public about Alcan in BC.



The procurement team and friends known as **The Lifesavers - Procure A Cure** participated in the 5th annual Relay for Life - Kitimat's signature fundraising event for the Canadian Cancer Society, on May 8. Kneeling, from left, are **Julie Cloutier, Pauline Yakiwchuk, Patricia Gabel and Heli Skitcko**. Standing, from left, are **Deanna Smith, Robin Cloutier and Renata Cole**. Missing from the photo were **Lor Dacosta, Wayne Perepelitz, Robyn Iannarelli, Eduarda Martel, Heather Masch, Liliansa Carvalho, Judy Pirrotta and Barb Taylor**. By hosting fundraising events - a bake sale, a hotdog day and a garage sale as well as grouping their individual pledges together, The Lifesavers raised \$3,136.34, in pledges.

Obituaries

Since our last report, the following current and retired employees have died. We extend our condolences to family members, relatives and friends.

Ken Ball, aged 51
Joined Alcan in August 1977
Worked as a Senior Cell Operator
Died on January 26, 2004

Gordon Knight, aged 81
Joined Alcan in October 1968
Retired as a Rebuild Planner in December 1984
Died on March 7, 2004

Bill Prosser, aged 67
Joined Alcan in October 1975
Retired as a Senior Project Technician in December 1998
Died on March 24, 2004
Ken Fredrickson, aged 54

Joined Alcan in May 1972
Worked as a Pipe Shop Technician
Died on April 15, 2004

Ken Cobbs, aged 65
Joined Alcan in September 1969
Retired as a Steel Fabricator in May 1999
Died on April 20, 2004

Stan Green, aged 73
Joined Alcan in January 1954
Retired as a Project Technician in November 1992
Died on April 30, 2004

Joe Caetano, aged 84
Joined Alcan in April 1956
Retired as a Serviceman in September 1984
Died on May 5, 2004

Leif Madsen, aged 66
Joined Alcan in July 1957
Retired as a Shift Foreman in Casting in December 1994
Died on May 20, 2004



NAOSH Week turns focus on safety

Employees pitch in

Alcan employees got together in a collective effort to recognize the importance of safety in the workplace.

The joint committee responsible for organizing North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week May 2 - 8 at Kitimat Works promoted safety events that employees could participate in.

Safety specialist Celeste Raposo, says that the 'meet and greet' activity on May 4 saw members of the Kitimat/Kemano Occupational Health and Safety handing out breakfast bars and NAOSH week information.

"We wanted those members to promote the week to our employees and invite them to participate in the activities being offered," explains Celeste.

Activities included a graphic film on young worker safety shown to grade 11 and 12 students at Mount Elizabeth Theatre and a presentation by reduction safety coordinator John Hall and CAW Local 2301 health, safety and environment council chairman Gord Lechner. CAW Local 2301 safety representative Larry Blackmore and occupational safety advisor Art Emmerson also assisted.

At the plant site, the first of two safety demonstrations began at the north end of the plant. First was the 'impaired vision' obstacle course led by area chief OHS&E rep Ed Silveira and industrial hygiene supervisor



▲ Casting operator **Sean McGourty** is seen here taking in a fire extinguisher demonstration led by plant protection supervisor **Judy Mosher**. **Fred Pelley** stands between the two in his turnout gear.

Marc-Andre Lavoie. Employees navigated through a set of safety cones, read a set of instructions on a lockout keybox and then followed the instructions to reach the prize ... and they had to do this while wearing a choice of glasses that simulated the effect of a blood alcohol level of 0.08 or 0.17.

Fire extinguisher demonstrations held on Monday through Wednesday were led by members of the plant protection department. In these demonstrations, participants learned about the various classes of fire extinguishers and how they're used. It

ended with a live-fire demonstration of each extinguisher type.

A plant-wide clean-up was also scheduled for NAOSH week and was coordinated by senior environmental technologist Ken Maitland. Delta-based recycling company Clean Harbours, represented by Fernando Fiero and Otis Reckord, participated. By day's end on May 5, there was enough material to fill a flat-deck trailer. The material collected included hypochlorite solution, sodium bisulfate, aerosol cans, caustic cleaners, cement additives and dry cells containing nickel cadmium.

Also on May 5, Patrick Simpson, Gord Lechner and Ralph Reschke led the Kitimat Adventures game demonstration. They appreciated warehouse employee Gerald Neilly's input into their presentation. He won a copy of the game.

May 6 and 7 saw NAOSH activities shift to Terrace to the Canadian Society of Safety Engineers two-day conference. Various management and OHS&E representatives from Kitimat Works were in attendance at the conference at which Dr. Vern Davis made a presentation. The conference was organized by OHS&E rep Jim Robertson and claims administrator Bonnie Thomson.

NAOSH Week ended on a

happy note on May 7 for 12 young Alcan artists whose names were drawn as part of the NAOSH safety poster contest organized by Sylvie Tremblay and occupational health nurse Kathie Bock.

Some disturbing facts gathered by the Workers' Compensation Board:

- **One in four** young workers will be injured on the job before age 24;
- **Only 40 per cent** of young workers receive adequate safety training before doing the job they were hired for;
- **Thirty-four** young workers are injured each day in B.C.; and
- **Five young workers** are disabled each week in B.C.



▲ Delta-based recycling company Clean Harbours sent managers **Otis Reckord** and **Fernando Fiero** to run the hazardous materials collection site during the plant-wide cleanup on May 4 and 5. The clean-up netted enough material to fill up one flat-deck trailer.



▲ Safety superintendent **Rick Hynes**, centre, is shown with some of the winners of the NAOSH Week art contest. Posing for the camera are, from left, **Julie Gagne**, **Michael Brais**, **Julia Piroso**, **Trevor Harness**, **Victoria Duff** and **Kendra Kirkpatrick**. Other winners included **Jacob Murdoch**, **Kaylen Kallio**, **Alexandra Galamini**, **Erik Westergard**, **Justine Doniak** and **Nelson Prest**.



▲ OHS&E rep **Ed Silveira**, right, watches as mobile equipment operator **John Ribeiro** attempts to unlock a lockout keybox during the Impaired Vision demonstration. Looking on in the background are co-op student **Jennie Hogan-Aalbers**, centre and Career Edge Intern **Sylvie Tremblay**.

Alcan co-sponsors Kitlope Field Course

Visiting the Kitlope

For the second year in a row Alcan has jointly sponsored the Kitlope Field course with Northwest Community College and the Na'na'kila Institute.

The Kitlope Field Course, a combined study of human geography and anthropology, was designed to offer students first-hand experience in the field by visiting the Kitlope Valley.

Alcan's manager of corporate affairs and community relations Colleen Nyce greeted students enrolled in the course, May 5, when they visited Kitimat Works. Environmental engineer Shawn Zettler gave a presentation on the construction of the smelter, the Nechako Reservoir, the Kenney Dam and Kemano in the 1950s. He also spoke about Alcan's goal of being proactive and working towards a beyond compliance approach to environmental standards.

"We have an influence over a large area and my function is to make sure we have the smallest impact on the environment," explains Shawn to the students.

After the presentation, the students toured the plant with tour guide Anne Berrisford.

On May 26, the group started their tour at the Kemano powerhouse and Shawn explained the environmental aspects surrounding the powerhouse and the Kenney Dam. On May 27, the students continued their trek into the wilderness and learned about the Haisla culture and the traditional significance of the valley.

The Kitlope is the largest intact coastal



▲ The Northwest Community College students pose with Alcan's Colleen Nyce and Shawn Zettler, far right, at the Kitimat Works tour building before touring the plant.

temperate rainforest in the world and encompasses 321,000 hectares. The valley is part of the ancestral lands of the Haisla Nation, known as 'Hushuwashdsu' or 'source of the milky blue water'.

It was designated a protected area in 1994 after West Fraser Timber Co. voluntarily relinquished their timber rights to the area. The

valley contains 800 year old trees and supports a variety of wildlife including the marbled murrelet and an endangered seabird.

A Haisla tradition that continues today is the washing of one's face to introduce oneself to the spirit of the Kitlope and to ensure a harmonious and safe journey.



EVENTS

KWSA annual 9-hole golf scramble

Saturday, June 19, 2004 at 8:00 am starting on the back nine.

**Entry Deadline**

Monday, June 7,
limit 200 golfers

Cheques & Entry Form to
Donald Pacheco MDP #89

Price \$45 per person
(includes 9 holes
of golf, buffet dinner, dance
and prizes)

\$20 per person (includes
9 holes of golf only)

Dinner at the
Royal Canadian Legion

Cocktails 6:30 pm

Dinner 7:00 pm

Extra dinner & dance ticket
\$25 (limited to 170 people on a
first come, first serve basis)

Music by Ken Demiris

ENTRY FORM

Please clip this entry form and return it with your cheque payable to DONALD PACHECO at MPD #89.

If you have any additional questions please contact Donald Pacheco at local 8365 or Doug Linton at local 8490. Teams are made up of four to six players per team. If you need golf rentals or want to rent a cart, call the Hirsch Creek Golf and Winter Club's Pro Shop at 632-GOLF to arrange before the scramble.

Team Name _____

Contact Person _____

Home Phone _____

Work Local _____

Home Address _____

Team Members (list all names) _____



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Please respect *ingot* deadlines for copy, revisions and photographs. The deadline for the next issue is June 11th.

Please recycle

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The **2003 Annual
Environmental Report** is
now available on the Alcan
in BC web site:

<http://www.alcaninbc.com>

This report details Kitimat
Work's environmental
performance during 2003 with
respect to the Multimedia
Operating Permit.

To increase transparency
of reporting and access to
information on Kitimat Work's
environmental performance,
the Environmental Services
Department changed the format
of the report to an electronic
Internet based document.

We hope you will find the report
informative and if you have
comments, please contact the
Environmental Services
Department.