DISCUSSION GROUP T14
MAGNETIC BEARINGS

Hans P. Weyermann is a Principal Rotating Equipment Engineer in the PM&IE department of ConocoPhillips Upstream Technology Group. In his current position, he is providing support to all aspects of turbomachinery in existing business units, as well as grass roots capital projects. He is also responsible for following the machinery related areas of corporate initiatives within the ConocoPhillips Upstream Company. Mr. Weyermann attended the College of Engineering in Brugg-Windisch, Switzerland. After receiving a B.S. degree (Mechanical Engineering), he joined Sulzer Escher Wyss Turbomachinery in Zurich, as an application/design engineer in the turbocompressor department. Prior to joining the Phillips Company, he was the supervisor of the Rotating Equipment department at Stone and Webster Engineering in Houston. Mr. Weyermann is a member of ASME, the API SOME, and has served on various API Task Forces.

Kazim Akhtar is the Director for Mechanical Engineering of CB&I in Houston, Texas. His department is involved in the specification, design, selection, shop test acceptance, and startup coordination of rotating and static (Heat transfer, Vessels and Material handling) equipment for major refinery, petrochemical, and oil and gas projects. Mr. Akhtar received a B.S. degree (Mechanical Engineering) from Texas A&M University and an M.S. degree (Industrial Engineering, Management) from the University of Houston. He is an active member of API, AICHE, ASME, a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas, and a member of the Turbo machinery Symposium Advisory Committee.

Stan Uptigrove has worked for ExxonMobil Upstream Research Company for the past 6 years as a Senior Machinery Engineer and Team Lead for the Machinery, Automation and Power Group. He started his 30 year career at Nova Corporation in Canada where he was responsible for many of the world’s first application of both gas seals and magnetic bearings to turbomachinery. Mr. Uptigrove was one of the founders and senior management of Revolve Technologies (now SKF Magnetic Bearings) who developed the first digital magnetic bearing systems and consulted on the application of gas seals and magnetic bearings globally. Mr. Uptigrove has conducted many training courses and published numerous technical papers on turbomachinery, magnetic bearings and dry gas seals and has chaired a number of turbomachinery conferences. Mr. Uptigrove graduated from the University of Calgary with a BSME.