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GLOBAL STONE TECHNOLOGY FORUM INTERNATIONAL STONE TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

POST SHOW REPORT

January 9 - 10, 2025, Kishangarh

Global Stone Technology Forum (GSTF) 2025

The Global Stone Technology Forum (GSTF) 2025, held at Kishangarh Marble Association, Kishangarh, Rajasthan, brought together industry leaders, experts, and stakeholders to discuss advancements and innovations in the stone sector. The event featured insightful sessions, networking opportunities, and exhibition showcasing the latest technology. With participation from key stakeholders such as industry pioneers, technology providers, subject specialist of IIT Delhi, MNIT Jaipur and government representatives who highlighted Govt. policies, regulations etc. the event provided a comprehensive overview of the industry's future directions and challenges.

Inauguration Ceremony

The event commenced with an inaugural ceremony graced by distinguished guests, including the Chief Guest Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, Hon'ble Minister for Industry & Commerce, Government of Rajasthan, and Guest of Honour Shri Suresh Singh Rawat, Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources, Government of Rajasthan. The ceremony began with the traditional lighting of the lamp, followed by a welcome address, key dignitaries addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of technological advancements and sustainability in the stone industry.



(Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, Hon'ble Minister for Industry & Commerce lighting the lamp in the Inauguration Ceremony)



(Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, Hon'ble Minister for Industry & Commerce meeting with stone industry's trade members)



(Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, Hon'ble Minister for Industry & Commerce addressing the gathering)



(Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, Hon'ble Minister for Industry & Commerce inaugurating the exhibition)



(Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, Hon'ble Minister for Industry & Commerce visiting the exhibition)



The ceremony concluded with a ribbon-cutting event, marking the official opening of the exhibition showcasing cutting-edge innovations in stone processing and manufacturing.

Key Event Details:

A total of 425 delegates registered for GSTF 2025, representing various segments of the stone sector, including mining, processing, engineering, technical expertise, and machinery manufacturing. The event, held on January 9-10, 2025, at the Kishangarh Marble Association Bhawan, Kishangarh in Rajasthan, featured 20 speakers - 3 international and 17 national experts.

The conference included six technical sessions covering sustainability, waste utilization, technological advancements, export promotion, and environmental considerations. An exhibition with 25 stalls showcased advanced machinery and sustainable stone products, attracting over 500 industry professionals from India and abroad, along with approximately 700 visitors.

Technical Sessions:

Session I:

Innovations in Value Creation: Transforming Stone Industry Waste into Opportunities



(Dias for Technical Session I)



(Mr. Inderjeet Singh, IAS, Managing Director, RIICO addressing the gathering)

Mr. Rajesh Kumar Sharma, Sr. Scientist from CSIR-CBRI, Roorkee, presented his insights on sustainable technology innovations in stone waste utilization. He highlighted the potential of converting stone waste into eco-friendly building materials, improving profitability, and reducing environmental impact.



(Mr. Rajesh Kumar Sharma delivering his presentation on “Sustainable Technology Innovations in Stone Waste Utilization and Advanced Material Development”)

Dr. Ravindra Nagar, Professor from MNIT Jaipur discussed the practical applications of utilizing stone cutting waste to produce sustainable building materials, emphasizing its role in reducing construction costs and enhancing structural durability.



(Dr. Ravindra Nagar delivering his presentation on “Utilization of stone cutting waste to produce sustainable building materials”)

Mr. Hari Mohan Sharma, Director, Siri Maharaja Granites provided an in-depth analysis of advanced surface transformation techniques, showcasing their impact on aesthetics and market value.



(Mr. Hari Mohan Sharma delivering his presentation on “The art of surface transformation of natural stones”)

Session II: Advanced Technologies in Stone Processing: Machine & Tools for the Future



(Dias for Technical Session II)

Mr. Yashwant Sharma, MD of Shri Bhagwati Machines Pvt. Ltd. Ajmer, presented insights into multi-wire machinery, explaining its advantages in precision cutting, minimal wastage, and

cost-effectiveness. This session featured a comprehensive discussion on cutting-edge technologies revolutionizing the stone processing industry.



(Mr. Yashwant Sharma delivering his presentation on “Multiwire machinery and other latest processing machinery”)

Mr. Immanuel D Walker, Business Head – South Asia, Celanese, spoke about the latest surface finishing technologies, emphasizing their role in enhancing durability and aesthetic appeal.



(Mr. Immanuel D Walker delivering his presentation on “The Latest Surface Finishes and Technologies for Achieving Superior Results”)

Dr. Piero Bettini, an international consultant from Italy, provided valuable inputs on dimensional stone prospecting and the integration of robotics in processing lines to boost productivity.



(Dr. Piero Bettini delivering his presentation on “Dimension stone prospecting and development”)

Mr. Sam Javadi, Sr. Representative from Pedrini, Italy, highlighted the advantages of robotic lines and microwave resin technology, showcasing how automation is driving efficiency and sustainability in the sector.



(Mr. Sam Javadi delivering his presentation on “Innovation in stone processing- Robotic Line, Multi Wire Microwave resin lines and its advantages”)

Session III:

Global Growth: Export Promotion, Policies, and Skilling in Stone Industry

The session provided valuable insights into the role of government initiatives and policy frameworks in boosting the export potential of the stone industry.



(Dias for Technical Session III)

Mr. Pankaj Rao, General Manager at Rajasthan Export Promotion Council, outlined government schemes and incentives aimed at enhancing global competitiveness.



(Mr. Pankaj Rao delivering his presentation on “Government initiatives for export promotion”)

Mr. Aditya Singh, Branch Manager, from Export Credit Guarantee Corporation Ltd. (ECGC) discussed risk mitigation strategies to support exporters and minimize financial exposure.



(Mr. Aditya Singh delivering his presentation on “ECGC: Augmenting exports through credit risk mitigation”)

Mr. Mohammad Kalam, Regional Head, West, from National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) elaborated on various skill development initiatives to upskill workers and improve workforce efficiency.



(Mr. Mohammad Kalam delivering his presentation on “Skill development initiatives of NSDC”)

Ms. Shilpa Gokhuru, Joint Commissioner, Industries Department, Rajasthan, highlighted key benefits of the Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme (RIPS) 2024, focusing on financial support and ease of doing business.



(Ms. Shilpa Gokhuru delivering her presentation on “Benefits and salient features of RIPS 2024”)

Session IV: Technology and Innovation: Pioneering the Future of Stones: This session brought forth revolutionary advancements in stone processing technology.



(Dias for Technical Session IV)

Mr. Arun Shetty, Managing Director of Wilber Impex, presented insights on the recovery and advantages of epoxy systems in natural stones, emphasizing their role in enhancing durability and reducing waste.



(Mr. Arun Shetty delivering his presentation on “Recovery and Advantages of Epoxy System on Natural Stones”)

Mr. Mateo Vanni, Technical Expert at Tenax, Italy, shared international best practices in marble and quartzite processing from quarry to slab, providing key takeaways for Indian stakeholders.



(Mr. Mateo Vanni delivering his presentation on “Processing of marble and quartzite from quarry to slab”)

Mr. Harry Sidhwani, Executive Director at Samrat Chemicals, spoke about cost reduction strategies and the importance of innovation in enhancing product value.



(Mr. Harry Sidhwani delivering his presentation on “Unlocking Hidden Value: Cost Reduction and Innovation through Advance Stone Technologies”)

Session V: Efficiency in Operations: Standardization and Technology in Stone Processing



(Dias for Technical Session V)

Dr. Shashank Bishnoi, Professor (Civil Engineering), IIT Delhi emphasized the critical role of standardization in maintaining quality and consistency in stone processing.



(Dr. Shashank Bishnoi delivering his presentation on “Standardization in stones”)

Mr. Vijay Malpani, Technical Director at Petrelplus, discussed the significance of using specialized lubricants to optimize the performance of stone processing machinery, enhancing operational efficiency and extending machine lifespan.



(Mr. Vijay Malpani delivering his presentation on “Lubrication for stone processing machinery”)

Mr. Kalpesh Vaghela, MD of DK Tech solutions, provided insights into the latest advancements in CNC technology and its potential to revolutionize the stone processing industry.



(Mr. Kalpesh Vaghela delivering his presentation on “Advancement in CNC Technology”)

Session VI:

Mining with Responsibility: Balancing Resources and Environment

The final session focused on the importance of sustainable mining practices to ensure long-term viability.



(Dias for Technical Session VI)

Mr. Mahesh Mathur, Additional Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Rajasthan, detailed the new policies under Rajasthan's Mineral Policy 2024 and M-Sand Policy 2024, aiming to promote sustainable resource utilization.



(Mr. Mahesh Mathur delivering his presentation on "Rajasthan Mining Scenario- Mineral Policy 2024 and M Sand Policy 2024")

Mr. Bhuvanesh Mathur, Additional Chief Engineer, RSPCB, highlighted the environmental challenges faced by the mining sector and proposed regulatory measures to mitigate their impact.



(Mr. Bhuvanesh Mathur delivering his presentation on "Environmental issues in Mining")

Dr. I Satyanarayana, Director, Ajmer Region-2, DGMS, discussed modern mining technologies that strike a balance between economic gains and environmental conservation.



(Dr. I Satyanarayana delivering his presentation on "Technologies in Stone Mining")

Participation and Audience

The forum witnessed participation from over 500 attendees, including exhibitors, industry professionals, and government representatives. The exhibition area showcased stone machinery, tools, consumables, chemicals, various products made of stone waste etc. attracting visitors from stone trade and industry.



Valedictory Ceremony

The valedictory ceremony of GSTF 2025 marked a grand conclusion to the event, celebrating the achievements and contributions of all stakeholders. The ceremony was graced by the presence of Shri Bhagirath Choudhary, Hon'ble Union State Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, and Shri Sanjay Sharma, Hon'ble State Minister (Independent Charge) for Forest Department, Government of Rajasthan.



(Shri Bhagirath Choudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, addressing the gathering at Valedictory Ceremony)



(Shri Sanjay Sharma, Hon'ble State Minister (Independent Charge) for Forest Department addressing the gathering at Valedictory Ceremony)

The dignitaries commended the efforts of organizers and participants in fostering innovation, sustainability, and growth in the stone industry. Key takeaways from the event were highlighted, including advancements in technology, successful collaborations, and the need for continued industry-government synergy. The ceremony concluded with a formal vote of thanks



Outcome and Future Directions

The GSTF 2025 effectively served as a pivotal platform for fostering knowledge sharing among various industry stakeholders, emphasizing the critical importance of integrating advanced technologies and adopting sustainable practices in order to secure long-term growth and resilience in an ever-evolving market landscape. Looking ahead, it is essential for participants to continue collaborating on innovative strategies that not only enhance operational efficiency but also promote environmental stewardship, ultimately driving both economic progress and ecological sustainability.
