IBRG

Functional Fluids Group **Document No: IBRG FFG25/002**

INTERNATIONAL BIODETERIORATION RESEARCH GROUP

Functional Fluids Group (FFG): Annual Report 2024 **Report No: IBRG FFG25-002**

The Functional Fluid Group met twice in the 2024 period. The first meeting, which was the 50th FFG meeting, was held on the 24th of April 2024 online. The 51st FFG meeting took place on the 5th of November 2024 and was held in Burgdorf, Switzerland with an option also to attend online. International delegates from Europe, USA, China, Australia and Japan were welcomed at both meetings, representing companies from industry, academia, consultancies and testing institutes.

James Redfern was elected as the Chairperson of the Group following the retirement of Ina Stephan who had held the role for 23 years. Thanks were given to Ina for the excellent leadership of the group during this period.

The group's primary research activities are focused on:

- Issues arising from Guidance on Consortia for PT 12 Oil and Gas Preservation against Anaerobic Contamination (Planktonic and Sessile).
- Wood Treatment Preservation
- Leather Processing Solutions (Soaking baths for Raw Hides)
- Curative Action against Fungi in Cooling water (Planktonic and Sessile).

In 2024 the Function Fluids Group updated and re-issued the following methods:

- **IBRG FFG16/001**: A Method for Determining the Basic Efficacy of Biocidal Active Substances used in Aqueous-Based Metalworking Fluids for their Protection in Use

The IBRG Functional Fluids Group produced a position paper (FFG 24/004) This position paper describes clarification needs related to the ECHA efficacy guidance framework. Clarification is urgently needed to support upcoming BPR efficacy testing for PT 12 O&G applications by multiple IBRG members. The main areas for clarification were Table 33 of the ECHA efficacy guidance where no established method and where the use of consortia is unlikely to result in growth of all species due to different requirements for growth (temperature, nutrients, time etc.).

The Functional Fluid Group continues to sell:

- **IBRG FFG23/005.2** : A Method for the Evaluation of Biocidal Compounds in Aqueous-Based Lithographic Fountain Solutions
- **IBRG FFG21/011**: A Method for Determining the Basic Efficacy of Biocidal Active Substances used as Curative Agents against Anaerobic Planktonic Bacterial Populations and Biofilms in Aqueous-Based Systems..
- **IBRG FFG21/010**: Efficacy of Products used as Preservatives of Fluids Used in the Oil and Gas Extraction Industries.
- **IBRG FFG21/009**: Efficacy of Products used as Preservatives of Fluids in the Oil and Gas Extraction Industries (Anaerobic Planktonic Populations – Preservative Action)
- **IBRG FFG21/008**: A Method for Determining the Basic Efficacy of Biocidal Active Substances used as Curative Agents against Aerobic Planktonic Bacterial Populations and Biofilms in Aqueous-Based Systems.
- **IBRG FFG19/008:** A Method for Determining the Basic Efficacy of Biocidal Active Substances used as Slimicides in Aqueous-Based Paper Pulps.
- **IBRG FFG19/007:** Method for Determining the Basic Efficacy of Biocidal Active Substances used in Aqueous-Based Cooling Fluids to Prevent the Formation of Biofilms.
- **IBRG FFG19/006:** A Method for Determining the Basic Efficacy of Biocidal Active Substances used in Aqueous-Based Cooling Fluids for their Protection in Use.

It is anticipated that these methods will be updated and re-issued in 2025. The Functional Fluid Group will meet again in 2025 online on the 21st of May and in Cologne, Germany on the 6th of November.

Chairperson: James Redfern **Technical Secretary: Gillian Iredale**