

The first SAPEC fuel treatment was launched in 1985. The product was invented in the UK by Mr Len Hardy. Len who was 61 at the time and a fellow of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers had spent most of his working life involved at senior levels in Power stations and energy related businesses. For the previous 5 years he had been an independent consultant working with British Coal amongst others on fouling problems in coal fired boilers, during this time he worked with several coal additives.

SAPEC was mainly used for coal fired plant and very quickly it was established and used at most of the British coal boiler-plants as well as the likes of British Aerospace, Pilkington glass and Rover group. Len's two sons Kelvin and Iain joined the business in 1985. Len retired in 1994. Alan Smith joined the business in 1996 and helped to establish the business in RSA. (Len, Alan and Kelvin are seen below)



SAPEC was originally launched in the RSA market by Colpan CC . Managing Director Dave Collinge.

SAPEC AFRICA(PTY) LTD was formed in 1999 through which all Africa business is now conducted. Paul Combrink had worked for Colplan in the early days helping to establish the RSA customer base. Paul has worked in all aspects of boiler/maintenance, water treatment re-joined SAPEC Africa in 2011 as Sales Director.

Kelvin and Paul are seen below with service Technicians Simon and Sean



SAPEC has continued to develop new markets in many parts of the world. Our traditional coal-based business has grown to include waste to energy plants, clinical incineration and

biomass power-plants. All of which are affected by boiler fouling.

Len Hardy continued to contribute to the business after retiring until he was 80 and developed Parkinson's disease. He died in 2011. We are very proud of his legacy and what SAPEC has achieved in 30 years.

People and companies are far more willing to try fuel additives and are no longer so dismissive. However, with companies being more responsive there are a number of people who wish to cash in. We are never afraid of competition especially when none of the companies operating in South Africa are offering any new products. Some of the claims do appear to be new, focusing on environmental aspects such as SO₂. It would be a shame to return the bad days of the 70's and 80's when everyone was offering a new wonder chemical that will solve all boiler problems. Especially when these products are the same products that were sold then but disappeared for 25 years.

SAPEC is not a magic powder and we do not make claims that we can't substantiate. It is not a substitute for good boiler house practice, it is a very effective catalyst that will prevent the formation of bonded deposits and aid combustion.

Kelvin Hardy
Managing Director
Sapec industrial Chemicals Ltd