

President's Message
Don Kaiden, Ballou Construction Company

As the construction season is now fully upon us, I hope this newsletter finds your business busy and profitable. Our members' thoughts turn to scheduling, suppliers' deliveries, material specifications, fuel prices, production, safety, machinery and equipment, labor, and on and on; we are focused on our businesses. That's why I would like to thank the board of directors, who recently met in Kansas City, for their time and commitment in serving our association.

As you have already been informed, we are continuing the process on the expansion of ISSA to include other thin surface treatments. You can read more about this in the upcoming newsletters. I want to thank Past President Mike Buckingham (Strawser) and his committee for their efforts in assisting the board in moving this issue forward. Mike has graciously agreed to continue on the Expansion Committee which reflects his dedication and support to our association. This is a major undertaking by our association. I am confident that ISSA will become the recognized leader in the thin surface treatments of the future. The slurry seal/microsurfacing disciplines will remain a driving influence of our association as our members have always been in the forefront of this industry. I believe with your support, we as members of this expanded association will have a stronger organization to serve us.

Your board of directors is also looking at and planning to support a 2010 World Congress in Lyon, France. The Asian market continues to grow and has the potential to become a major market area for slurry and microsurfacing; we are staying abreast of activities to make sure ISSA can have a role in that development. Our research director, Bob Jerman (MeadWestvaco), is finalizing the proofing and editing of the 17 technical bulletins in digital format. And the Board has signed an agreement with the National Center for Pavement Preservation to develop a class on slurry seals and microsurfacing, to include a class manual and power point presentations.

I am happy to report that the financial condition of ISSA is vastly improved from 2001, the year of our last dues increase. Since then we have made steady improvements to our net worth by having profitable years of operation. Kudos to Mike Krissoff and his staff for their efforts in managing our operations. The Slurry Systems Workshop, headed by Tim Harrawood (Vance), and our annual conventions have been the profit drivers on our road to a better financial position.

So as you can see your board of directors has had a busy year so far and will continue to do so as we move forward.