



CIA Inspection Inc.

Volume 1, Issue 1

December 1998

# The Profiler

A NEWSLETTER OF INFORMATION FOR COKE DRUM OPERATORS

## Hot Off the Press...

Welcome to the first edition of *The Profiler* - a newsletter of information for coke drum operators published by CIA Inspection Inc.

CIA Inspection provides a remote coke drum inspection service that inspects the interior of delayed coke drums without requiring blinding or scaffolding. Our service includes a



A familiar site - coker at night fall

detailed interior profile of the vessel, utilizing state-of-the-art laser range imaging, along with a detailed video of the entire vessel, and can be per-

formed in a short time window between coking cycles.

Since 1994, we have been performing this service throughout North America and have recently started to expand into Europe and Asia. To date, we have scanned more than 150 drums and have collected some very interesting data with regards to trends amongst different types of vessels. (More on this in a future issue of *The Profiler*).

Our goal, with this publication, is to keep our growing list of customers up to date with our inspection service and pass along information that we hope you will find both interesting and valuable in maintaining and operating your cokers. We will be publishing *The Profiler* several times a year and welcome your input at any time.

## Check us out - we're on the Web!!!

You can find CIA Inspection Inc. on the web at [www.cia-inspection.com](http://www.cia-inspection.com).



We have tried to make our web site a center for coke drum related information for the entire industry. You will find technical papers written by our staff as well as other industry related papers and links to industry organizations. We are constantly updating and enhancing our web site so if you have a site we should link to, a paper or other coke drum related info, please let us know. We welcome your input on improving our site and look forward to hearing from you!!!

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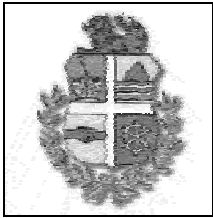
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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We wish all our customers and their families a very safe and happy holiday season. We look forward to working with you in 1999.



# Aruba...More Than Just Beaches



Coat of Arms

Last summer, CIA Inspection had the opportunity to perform an inspection at the Coastal Oil Refinery in San Nicholas, the second largest city located on the southeastern tip of Aruba.

Aruba lies just 18 miles off the coast of Venezuela and 42 miles west of Curacao. The westernmost of the Caribbean islands, Aruba covers an area of 70 square miles, 20 miles at its longest and 6 miles at its widest. Approximately 81,000 people reside in Aruba full time but more than 540,000 people visit during the course of a year.



Scuba diving – one of the favorite past times

The native language is a Creole dialect called Papiamentu which is made up of elements of Dutch, Spanish, English, French, Portuguese, a number of different African languages, and Arawak Indian. Most people on the island can speak English and Spanish, in addition to Dutch, which is the official language. For our inspection team, it was strange for their "North American ears" to hear so many languages over the refinery radios!!

The refinery was originally built in 1928 and was known as the Lago Refinery; a subsidiary of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey. It was built to process oil from the Maricaibo oil fields of Venezuela. What started out as a modest refinery grew to become, at the time, one of the world's largest refineries, capable of producing 400,000 bbd.

Exxon, through the acquisition of Standard Oil assets, acquired the Lago Refinery but it was closed in 1985. However, in 1989, an agreement between the government of Aruba and Coastal Corporation of



Map of the Island

Texas allowed the refinery to go back into production.

While doing the inspection, our team learned some interesting tid bits about the island:

- ◆ unlike some Caribbean locations, Aruba has excellent fresh water produced by the world's second largest water desalination plant - the largest one is in Kuwait;
- ◆ Aruba never gets hurricanes - it is too far south to be in the path of hurricanes;
- ◆ food prices are high, since all food is imported to the island - so if you're planning a vacation, go all inclusive.

## New Face on Board



Jacqueline Cameron joined the CIA Inspection team in October. Jacqueline has a B.A. from McMaster University and brings with her extensive experience in technical marketing, sales and support. She has worked in the industrial manufacturing sector for the past several years, most recently with a polyurethane manufacturer servicing the oil and gas industry.

She will be responsible for our newsletter, customer support and various marketing endeavors. As well, you will see Jacqueline on site performing coke drum inspections. Welcome aboard, Jacqueline!



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