

FPD Highlights – August 2006

SPI Activities in Support of FPD

NATURAL GAS SUPPLIES – SPI is delighted to report that the plastics industry's aggressive grassroots campaign has achieved a major victory that will benefit plastics manufacturers and consumers alike. On 8/1, the US Senate made a decisive vote of 71-25 to pass the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act, which opens leasing in 8.3 million acres of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico to environmentally safe natural gas exploration that potentially could make 5.83 trillion cubic feet of natural gas available.

LOOKING FOR A NEW MARKET? – Then consider joining the SPI Global Business Council's (GBC) US Plastics Mission to Central Europe. SPI will lead a delegation of plastics industry representatives to the Czech Republic and Poland on September 25-29, 2006. During this business development mission, you'll get a firsthand view of a variety of plastics operations, network with Czech and Polish plastics industry participants, and meet key US and Polish government officials that can be great resources to facilitate your business activities in the region. Regardless of your company's size, or whether you are interested in exploring export or investment opportunities, this mission is designed to be a worthwhile investment. For more details, check [SPI's web site](#), or contact SPI's Director of International Trade, [Gennie Ross](#). The registration deadline is September 1, 2006. Space is limited, so don't delay, register today!

EXPORTING TO/INVESTING IN BRAZIL? US Commerce Department officials are holding meetings with their counterparts in Brazil's Ministry of Foreign Trade to discuss areas of mutual cooperation that would strengthen economic ties between the two countries. Currently, the scope of this "U.S.-Brazil Commercial Dialogue" includes business facilitation (movement of goods and services across the respective borders), export and investment promotion, standards, and protection of intellectual property rights. Please contact [Karen Toliver](#) to discuss your issues or concerns on a confidential basis.

TRADE LEADS – The Commerce Department's Commercial Service offers a host of services to U.S. companies seeking to export their products. The Commercial Service collects export leads from its officers stationed in overseas markets and posts them on the [Export.gov](#) web site. These are requests from companies seeking to purchase US produced goods.

PLASTICS INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS TO WORK TOGETHER – Working towards a vision of strategic collaboration among the industry associations, the National Plastics Center (NPC), comprised of industry and association leaders, will enter into a "Memorandum of Agreement" beginning July 1, with SPI, under which SPI will begin to manage the Center and its programs. The announcement was made by NPC Chairman of the Board Watts Humphrey Jr. "The National Plastics Center will contract with SPI to provide professional management services for its museum and programs to ensure long-term viability and success..." Humphrey said. "The core program goals of NPC are complimentary to the current SPI programs. Working together, with SPI and other industry groups, we can provide a total education and public outreach package to the plastics industry." SPI President William Carteaux echoed Humphrey's enthusiasm for pooling the industry's resources. "SPI's mission is to leverage our collective expertise, our special relationships, our political capital and our growing database of information to promote the plastics industry domestically and globally," Carteaux said. SPI will also continue NPC's close collaboration with allied industry organizations, in particular the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE).

FPD Activities

FALL 2006 CONFERENCE will be held at Barton Creek Resort – the golf capital of Texas – in Austin on September 17-19, 2006. **Mike Haley** and **Steve Schwartz** are the co-chairpersons. The preliminary program topics include: an Issues Management Update, “Innovation in Fluoropolymer-based Products” by Dr. Sina Ebnesajjad, Successful Exit Strategies for Business Owners, International Tax Strategies for Growing Companies, and more. We have recently added two speakers to the program – “Update on Fluorine Feedstocks for Fluoropolymers,” by Ray Will of SRI, and “European REACH Update” by David Sarvadi of Keller & Heckman.

SPRING 2007 CONFERENCE will be held at the Hyatt Tamaya Resort in Santa Ana Pueblo, NM (near Albuquerque) March 25-28, 2007. **Dan Loffa**, AGC Chemicals Americas, and **Kenneth Koziel**, Saint-Gobain, are the conference co-chairs.

FALL 2007 CONFERENCE is planned for the Venetian in Las Vegas on Sept. 22-25, 2007. Please save these dates.

MONTHLY FPD HIGHLIGHTS – Please include **E. Robert (Bob) Hill** on your press release list at eben_hill@msn.com, so we can note your **company and staff accomplishments and honors**.

FLUORONEWS SUMMER 06 ISSUE was posted on the web site at month-end July and issued in hard copy in early August. This issue includes a lead article on “Coping with Globalization.” Check it out!

FLUOROGUIDE – We updated FluoroGuide and the related Section and Member tables in mid-June. A full update was posted on this web site in late January 2006. Please check your company input on our website and give Bob Hill any needed further revisions at eben_hill@msn.com.

FPD WEB SITE HITS continue to increase steadily, and reached 454k hits, up from 415k hits in the prior quarter. The Safe Handling Guide update continues to be the most popular hit, followed by FluoroGuide, and the Material Suppliers Table. Winter 2006 Issue of FluoroNews was in the #4 position.

FPD Section Activities

FPD Section activities continue to be strongly emphasized at all of our conferences. The PFOA issue is a major issue in all sections. See this website under Conferences for the Section Programs at the upcoming Fall 2006 Conference at Barton Creek Resort.

People on the Move

ACTON TECHNOLOGIES recently announced the promotion of **Terence P. Neville** to President. His career with Acton began in 1995. During the past several years, he has been successfully leading the team as Vice President – General Manager. A graduate of Villanova University with a B.S. in accounting and from the University of Scranton with an MBA, Mr. Neville serves on the Executive Committee of SPI’s Fluoropolymers Division. He resides in Kingston, PA with his wife and three children. **Kevin G. Nelson** will retain the position of Chair and CEO of Acton Technologies, the world leader in the surface modification of fluoropolymers.

ADVANCED FLEXIBLE COMPOSITES, INC. (AFC) announced the transition of **Chris Lewis** to the newly created position of Vice President of Strategic Development. Chris will be responsible for directing the growth initiatives of AFC, including research and development; acquisitions; joint venture creation; and other similar activities. Chris will continue to maintain oversight of the administrative functions of AFC. Prior to this move, Chris was AFC's Vice President and CFO for eight years overseeing many of AFC's growth initiatives.

AFC also announced the addition of **Bob Ward** as Chief Financial Officer. Bob will be responsible for AFC's financial planning, record keeping, information systems as well as being a member of the executive committee. Prior to joining AFC, Bob was a CFO for a transmission re-manufacturing company in Mundelien, IL. Bob will work out of AFC's world headquarters in Lake In The Hills, IL.

CONTINENTAL INDUSTRIES has rejoined FPD. Welcome back.

DEWAL INDUSTRIES now has a web site at www.dewal.com.

JENEET INC has moved to a new building. Their new address, phone, and fax follows:

Jeneet Inc.

303 Kilvert St.

Warwick, RI, 02886

Phone: 401/921-5366 Fax: 401/921-5368 Cell: 401/465-6555

Primary Contact: Tim Walsh

Email: Tim@Jeneet.com

HEINZ "EDWARD" LIPPMAN, 83, passed away after a brief illness on Tuesday August 1, 2006. He was born in Germany and his family moved to NJ when he was 4. He received his Engineering degree from Drexel University. In World War II, he served in the European Theater and was a veteran of the Battle of the Bulge.

He joined US Gasket which was acquired by Garlock, working with Teflon® since 1954. Ed and his wife whom he called "Lon" started their own company called Edlon Plastics in 1966. He was instrumental in manufacturing nose cones for missiles in aerospace, piston rings for power steering in the automotive industry, and bellows and lined pipe for the chemical industry and literally hundreds of other complex parts of PTFE. They sold the company in 1980, but the name remains in the industry today. He was a long time member of the SPI, SPE and a member of the Plastic Pioneers.

Industry Highlights

ARKEMA announced that it intends to increase its polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) production capacity at its Calvert City (KY, USA) facility by over 2,000 tons a year. The investment is expected to be \$12 million. Scheduled for completion in early 2008, this capacity increase will make Kynar® unit production in Calvert City one of the largest PVDF plants in the world, strategically placed to supply both American and Asian markets. Like Arkema's PVDF plant in Pierre-Benite, France, the Calvert City plant benefits from integrated monomer feedstocks, efficient technology, and experienced manufacturing personnel.

DUPONT CABLING SOLUTIONS introduced new specification guides to aid building owners, specifiers, engineers, construction professionals and architects in correctly specifying assessment of abandoned cable conditions (Division 02), abandoned communication cable recycling (Division 27) and DuPont™ certified limited combustibile cable (Division 27). All represent best practices for new construction and major renovations.

Local jurisdictions are increasingly acting to adopt and enforce the National Electric Code (NEC) that requires the removal of abandoned cable from buildings for fire safety reasons. More building owners are beginning to initiate projects to first remove and recycle abandoned cable, and then specify limited

combustible cable with fire safety in mind for new installations of communications systems. These new guide specifications from DuPont Cabling Solutions make it easier to specify practices and products that address these code changes, and the need for improved fire safety. The guides are available for download at www.dupont.com/cablingsolutions to those who register on the site.