

## FPD HOT NEWS

**FALL 2008 FPD CONFERENCE** will be held on Sept. 21-23, 2008 at the Westin Kierland Resort in Scottsdale, AZ. There is something for everyone at The Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, including the Kierland Golf Club and the ambiance, shopping, and dining in Scottsdale.



The fluoropolymers industry continues to face challenges such as the PFOA issue and the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED initiative, which has the potential to restrict or eliminate the use of fluoropolymers in future construction. **Confirmed program topics includes updates on these issues**, a State Regulatory & Legislative Update (*Jane Adams*, SPI); The Dawn of Organic Optoelectronics (*Dr. Bernard Kippelen*, Georgia Institute of Technology); and Fuel Cells (*John Goodman*, Entegris). **Keynote speaker is J. D. Hayworth**, former US Congressman, author, and Broadcaster, who will do a bipartisan “**2008 Election Analysis.**” [Registration and additional details...](#)

**SPRING 2009 CONFERENCE** will be May 3-5, 2009 at the Hyatt Grand Champions in Palm Springs, California. It will be co-located with the Machinery Division. *Mike Patterson and Bob Smith* have agreed to act as conference co-chairs. Program development has begun.



## OTHER FPD ACTIVITIES

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE...

**SPI Salespeople...** Bob Smith reported that he is working with SPI's new salespeople to help recruit new members. Staff participated in a fluoropolymers training day at DuPont. *Bruce Devine*, SPI Membership Sales, attended the Spring 2008 conference to interact with members and potential members.

**The e-mail survey** for potential members, led by *Terence Neville and Mike Patterson*, has been developed. The survey link is being sent directly by the material suppliers to their contact lists.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE...** The plan for “Fluoropolymers World” at NPE in 2009 was presented to the staff at the June Executive Committee. The Division booth will be provided at no cost to the Division. The committee encourages our membership to participate.

**SOCIETAL VALUE OF FLUOROPOLYMERS...** *Bruce Nesbitt* is leading a committee which has developed an email questionnaire to gather data on fluoropolymer applications and their benefit to society. The survey to solicit the processors and coaters for unique applications of fluoropolymers has been sent. We hope to complete this survey very soon.

**FLUORONEWS** is now being printed digitally in full color. Digital printing is quicker, does not cost significantly more than offset printing at the quantities run, and minimizes the cost of reruns. The Summer 2008 issue was issued in early August.

**MONTHLY FPD HIGHLIGHTS** has been reformatted in similar style to SPI Link. Please include E. Robert (Bob) Hill on your press release list at [eben\\_hill@msn.com](mailto:eben_hill@msn.com), so we can note the accomplishments and honors of your Company and Staff.

**FLUOROGUIDE...** We are updating the tables monthly, or as needed. Please check your company input on our website and give Bob Hill, Hill Business Writing LLC, any needed further revisions at [eben\\_hill@msn.com](mailto:eben_hill@msn.com). We did a full update in June 2008.

**FPD WEB SITE HITS** continue to increase steadily. We continue to add a steady stream of new content to our web site, and are now posting post-conference summaries, including the conference program, a list of attendees, and more. We just added a tribute to *Omer Pluorde*, a fluoropolymers pioneer, still vitally involved at DeWAL.

## FPD SECTION ACTIVITIES

FPD Section activities continue to be strongly emphasized at all conferences. Each Section breakout has content of specific interest to its industry segment. Both the Coaters and Processors Sections are working hard to reach new and old member prospects and make them aware of what Section membership can do for them.

**Coaters Section...** The group wants to increase its efforts to reach out to coater member prospects. The Section will have presentations on “Materials Handling” and “REACH” at the Fall 2008 Conference at Scottsdale, AZ. The Section is monitoring California legislation.

**Processors Section...** The Section name has been changed from PTFE Processors to the Processors Section, reflecting the wider scope of its membership and breakout subject matter. The section is joining the Coaters at the Fall Conference for the presentation on “Materials Handling.”

**Wire and Cable...** See the recent detailed status report in the Summer 2008 issue of FluoroNews in the Section Corner on page 4.

## INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

**SAINT-GOBAIN PERFORMANCE PLASTICS'** Chemfluor® 367 tubing is uniquely engineered for higher purity, superior surface smoothness, and clarity without compromising the properties of standard fluoropolymer tubings. Chemfluor® 367 tubing outperforms tubing made from standard and higher purity PFA. The surface of Chemfluor® 367 tubing is up to six times smoother than tubing made of standard and high purity resin. This results in less cross-contamination, greater product yields and easier-to-clean systems. Additional features of

Chemfluor® 367 tubing include low extractables, outstanding mechanical properties, excellent chemical resistance and visual clarity above virtually all other fluoropolymers.

**W. L. GORE** announces that its breathable GORE® CHEMPAK® Selectively Permeable Fabric is the first and only breathable CBRN barrier component – recognized to the NFPA 1994 [2007 Edition] Class 3 standard. Tactical users can now benefit from comfortable CB protection because this fabric is available in the Blauer WZ9430 Major Incident Response Team suit, which is part of the first breathable, certified NFPA 1994 Class 3 protective ensemble. GORE® CHEMPAK® Selectively Permeable Fabric is both liquid-proof and air-impermeable, which provides protection for the user against liquid, aerosol, and vapor TICs and CWAs. At the same time, this barrier fabric improves total heat loss by allowing moisture vapor from perspiration to escape from the garment, thereby reducing heat stress and increasing comfort. For more information, visit [GoreChempak.com](http://GoreChempak.com)

**ARKEMA** has launched a program for the industrialization of a new product, R1234yf, as a 4th generation substitute for HFC134a in automotive air-conditioning systems. R1234yf has a negligible GWP compared to HFC134a. Arkema is anticipating more restrictive environmental standards, particularly the adoption of European Directive 2006/40/CE. Arkema is already producing laboratory scale quantities of R1234yf, and intends to produce on an industrial scale in Europe, using an innovative process developed at Arkema, within the time frame established under Directive 2006/40/CE.

**DUPONT PHOTOVOLTAIC FLUOROMATERIALS (PVFM)** announced it has developed a proprietary technology to produce backsheets containing DuPont™ Tedlar® polyvinyl fluoride (PVF) polymer in a single step, and has signed a Technology Licensing Agreement with Toppan Inc. Printing Co. LTD, located in Tokyo, Japan, to commercialize backsheets for photovoltaic (PV) modules using this new technology. This technical and business development is in line with the PVFM strategic intent to significantly increase the availability of DuPont™ Tedlar® films and backsheets for the fast growing PV market. DuPont expects commercialization of the new backsheet product from Toppan using this technology in 2010. This technology license follows on the heels of recent manufacturing expansions for DuPont™ Tedlar® polymer and newest Tedlar® PV2100 series films. To learn more, please visit <http://photovoltaics.dupont.com>.

**SOLVAY SOLEXIS** announced in Italy that it will be increasing the price of Tecnoflon Fluoroelastomer grades by 10%, effective August 1. The company said prices of many of its raw materials have doubled in price in the last year, while sulphuric acid has quadrupled in price in the same period.

## **SPI ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF FPD**

**SPI AND NPE EDUCATION PROGRAM...** The Education Committee for the NPE2009 international plastics exposition is now accepting abstracts for presentations in a new educational program, called the “Business of Plastics,” to be offered at NPE2009. The triennial NPE show is organized by SPI and takes place on June 22-26, 2009 at Chicago's McCormick Place.

The “Business of Plastics” program will address such topics as marketing, human capital management, finance, environmental issues, regulation, global economic trends, and other

matters of strategic importance to plastics business management. Conference papers, learning labs, panel discussions, and other formats are possible. Abstracts proposing a topic and format can be submitted after 7/21 when a special page for posting them goes online at [www.npe.org](http://www.npe.org).

**SPI NEW MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT...** SPI is pleased to announce that we have selected [Sentry Insurance](#) as our endorsed business insurance carrier. As a member, you may now qualify for Sentry's property and casualty insurance protection. Serving small and medium companies for more than 100 years, Sentry has put together an insurance program tailored to suit the needs of plastics companies. The plan provides a full range of coverages, including building, personal property, crime, general liability and auto and workers' compensation. Sentry's program includes customized loss control services, a toll-free accident reporting hot line, managed medical care services and fraud prevention efforts. Visit the [Sentry Insurance web site](#). For more information, contact [Doug Austin](#), 800/ 624-8369, ext. 6876.

**AT SUSTAIN '08**, plastics industry executive teams will be informed by their downstream customers and industry leaders on current and future sustainability initiatives. This event – targeted at senior management – provides the perfect forum for plastics executives to get to work developing a business plan that not only meets consumer demand but grows the company's bottom line. Executives from the plastics industry supply chain, including Designers, Material Suppliers, Processors, OEM/Brand owners, will attend.

**Registration is** \$795 per person for SPI members, \$995 per person for non-members, Optional Energy Management Workshop - \$99. Fees include all conference network

**CHINA CURRENCY COALITION Renews Call For Legislative Action...** On July 31, the Chinese Currency Coalition (CCC), of which **SPI is an active member**, submitted a [letter](#) to the chairman and ranking members of the Senate Finance and Banking Committees urging the U.S. Senate to work “with the House on legislation that will allow U.S. petitioners to seek relief under the countervailing duty and antidumping duty laws from injurious imports that are undervalued due to the fundamental misalignment of any exporting country's currency.” Since passing competing currency legislation last summer ([S. 1607](#) and [S. 1677](#)), both committees have failed to reconcile their bills and move forward on legislation this session. Meanwhile, a recent report commissioned by the CCC conservatively estimates that China's currency, despite recent nominal revaluations, remains undervalued by at least 36 % in real terms.