

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 Conference will be chaired by Preston Hollier, Solvay Solexis, and Eric Walsh, DeWAL. Confirmed program topics include: 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 “**2008 Election Analysis.**”



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 are the conference co-chairs.

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.

Akzo Nobel and Whitford Corporation have resigned from SPI and FPD. We will miss Pete Huesmann, and a very long term member, former Executive Committee Chairman, and good friend, Dave Willis.

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 intends to proceed with the project and 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. Responses are coming in, but more are needed. We hope to complete this survey by mid-July.

FLUORONEWS has been reformatted to conform with the appropriate style for SPI publications and 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. We will begin issuing FluoroNews electronically as well as hard copy, utilizing SPI's standard format. We can determine articles of most interest from reports on opened links and can capture e-mail addresses of unique visitors to the site. The Summer 2008 issue will be issued in early August in full color.

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, so we can note your Company and staff accomplishments and honors.

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. We anticipate another full update in June 2008.

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 Section are working hard to reach new and old member prospects and make them aware of what Section membership can do for them.

Coating Section... The group wants to increase its efforts to reach out to coater member prospects. The Section will have two material supplier presentations and a presentation on materials handling 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. Look for the Fall Conference program in the Summer 2008 issue of FluoroNews.

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

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.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

ADVANCED FLEXIBLE COMPOSITES (AFC) names **Richard Fowler** Midwest Sales Representative. Fowler will have sales responsibility for Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky. He will work out of AFC's world headquarters in Lake In The Hills, IL. Charles Crowley, VP of Sales for AFC commented, "Rich has been a valuable employee and a key member of our marketing team. His years of experience and expertise in all aspects of PTFE and silicone coated and laminated fabrics; tapes and belting will be very beneficial to the distributor and OEM customer base in the Midwest territory." You may contact Rich at 800/334-9372, 847/841-4014 or at rfowler@afconline.com.

E-BEAM SERVICES Incorporated is pleased to announce **Martin Cumpston** has accepted the role of Business Development Director. His primary focus will be to help develop and cultivate new business relationships. Martin brings years of experience in the successful development of commercial products using high performance polymers. He will be based out of Knoxville, Tennessee and can be reached at 865/604-0868 or via email at mcumpston@ebeamservicesinc.com.

INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

ADVANCED FLEXIBLE COMPOSITES, INC. (AFC) has introduced its new heat sealers and belting repair supplies brochure. The 4-page color brochure details the Specialty Belting Division's complete line of heat sealers, tacking irons capabilities as well as parts and accessories. Contact AFC customer service at 800/334-9372 for a copy of the brochure.

FLUOROCONSULTANTS GROUP has expanded beyond consulting services and is doing **selective custom part sourcing** to support the US fluoropolymer parts manufacturers. We do not independently import foreign made parts into the US, which could compete with the US-made parts. We facilitate the parts sourcing for the companies that wish to do so. The reasons could include avoiding new capital cost of tooling and machinery, lack of in-house technology, or lower part cost and higher profit margin.

We only source parts that Chinese or Indian companies already know how to make. We now have representatives in offices in Shanghai, China and Bombay, India, which allows us to insure top quality parts and the use of specified fluoropolymer resins. Our freight forwarder delivers the parts to the desired destination in the USA.

W. L. GORE broke ground on a new 21,700 square meter facility and began renovation on 6,000 square meters of recently leased space in Shenzhen, China in early May. The new site will be located adjacent to an existing facility, currently leased for manufacturing of fabrics and electronic products. The project is part of a long-term commitment to expand Gore's R&D and manufacturing capabilities in Shenzhen. It will also accommodate the company's disk drive filtration operations. The facility will result in more than 400 new jobs over the next five years.

Gore's vision is to create a campus-like setting in which several different business units are located adjacent to one another. Upon completion of the project, slated for 2010,

Gore will own more than 21,700 square meters and lease 27,100 square meters. Gore employs more than 300 associates in the current location.

W. L. GORE has received approval to apply the CE Mark for the commercial sale of [GORE PRECLUDE® Vessel Guard](#), the first non-biological membrane indicated as a cover for vessels following anterior vertebral surgery. GORE PRECLUDE Vessel Guard has been used successfully in the US since 2006.

GORE PRECLUDE Vessel Guard enables vasculature management in patients having undergone anterior spinal surgery for degenerative disc disease, including artificial disc replacement (ADR), where scarring around the aorta, vena cava, and iliac vessels can complicate revising, repositioning, or removing a disc prosthesis. GORE PRECLUDE Vessel Guard has a three-layer construction with two outer layers consisting of a tight expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (ePTFE) microstructure preventing penetration by fibroblasts, thus minimizing vascular tissue attachment to the device, allowing safer anterior revision.

SPI ACTIVITIES SUPPORTING FPD

SPI PLASTICS TRADE SUMMIT IN CHINA... SPI held a highly successful one-day plastics trade summit immediately preceding ChinaPlas 2008 in April 2008. The China-US Plastics Industry Summit drew more than 250 participants from both the United States and China, who were interested in learning more about Chinese and US investment and export opportunities. The day's program afforded participants an excellent opportunity to learn more about current and projected market conditions in both countries, as well as globally. The program concluded with a panel discussion during which two US and two Chinese companies provided insights as to how they had successfully collaborated with counterparts in the other country and established best practices for fostering further business development.

SUSTAIN '08: PLASTICS BUSINESS SUMMIT... SPI and Plastics News Global Group, publisher of *Plastics News*, announced that they have joined forces to co-sponsor "Sustain '08: Plastics Business Summit," a landmark sustainability conference for the plastics industry that will be held November 5-7, 2008 in Chicago, Ill. The agreement to stage Sustain '08 is a significant outcome of SPI's recent implementation of its sustainability action plan and **Plastics News'** decision to make sustainability an editorial priority for 2008-2009.

The conference will present two days of keynote addresses, panel discussions and networking opportunities, featuring leading corporate sustainability experts speaking from a variety of perspectives. Representatives from companies up and down the plastics industry vertical market will discuss how they changed their company's business culture in order to implement innovations in areas ranging from product design, recycling and materials recovery to energy efficiency, worker training and environmental management system certification.