

FPD HOT NEWS

SPRING 2008 FPD CONFERENCE was held April 13-15, 2008 at the fabulous **Kiawah Island Resort at Kiawah Island**, South Carolina! Both the General Business Sessions and Section Breakouts had strong, interesting programs. The FPD thanks the following suppliers for their conference sponsorships: AGC Chemicals Americas, Arkema, Daikin-America, DuPont Company, Dyneon, and Solvay Solexis. For a list of attendees and the program details, go to <http://www.fluoropolymers.org/conference/spring2008conference>. More details and pictures will be given in the Summer 2008 issue of FluoroNews.



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).



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. The SPI staff involvement in program development for the conferences will be increased in future meetings, starting with the Spring 2009 Program.

FPD COMMITTEE 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 project for potential members, led by Terence Neville and Mike Patterson, is nearly complete. A draft was sent to the material suppliers. The survey link is to be sent directly by the material suppliers to their contact lists.

New member... German Technology Imports was approved as a returning member to FPD.

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 for unique applications of fluoropolymers has been sent. Responses are coming in slowly, and more are needed. The coater members are sending the survey to help solicit more replies.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

"Fluoropolymers World"... Staff discussed the plan for "Fluoropolymers World" at NPE in 2009. The Division booth will be provided at no cost to the Division. The committee intends to proceed with the project.

Nominations to EC... Steve Smith reported on nominations to be approved and voted on by the membership. All terms are Members-at-Large effective June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2010. Nominations were: Mike Patterson, Intech Services; Robert Smith, DuPont; Steve Smith, Heroflon USA. They were approved at the Division Business Meeting. Al Damico's Chairmanship term was extended through May 31, 2009 to come in line with the FPD bylaws.

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 continue the trend of bringing vendors of value to the coaters breakouts and will include additional supplier presentations at future meetings. 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.

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

FPD COMMUNICATIONS

FLUORONEWS is aligned with the appropriate style guide for SPI publications. We will begin sending FluoroNews electronically as well as printed 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.

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 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

DEWAL INDUSTRIES has added **Michael B. McBain** to its sales team in the Midwest. McBain brings with him years of experience designing, developing and implementing use of self-lubricating polymer-based components for major Fortune 500 companies. Based outside of Chicago, he will handle sales for DeWAL in Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and Indiana. Mike will be responsible for all products supplied by DeWAL Industries to existing and new customers.

SPI's Randazzo bids farewell after 29 years of service to plastics... SPI's Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President Catherine Randazzo has resigned from her post after accepting an offer to lead [The Sulphur Institute](#) (TSI) as its new president and chief executive officer. SPI President Bill Carteaux said "We're all very proud of Catherine, and her 29-year history will be tough to replace, and her contagious energy and her many contributions to SPI will be sorely missed by the staff and membership alike." Randazzo began her new role at TSI, located in Washington, D.C., on May 5, 2008.

INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

ADVANCED FLEXIBLE COMPOSITES, INC. (AFC) marks its 20th anniversary. Founded in 1988, AFC is a world leader in the manufacture of high-performance coated fabrics. AFC sells its products through distributors and OEMs under the trade names DuraFab®, DuraFlow®, DuraSil®, DuraStick®, DuraLam® and DuraChef®. AFC manufactures materials out 4 facilities: Lake In The Hills, IL; Adams MA;

Mexico City, Mexico; and Runcorn, Cheshire, England. For further information, contact Michael Baker, Director of Marketing at 800/ 334-9372.

SAINT-GOBAIN PERFORMANCE PLASTICS has a new brochure that details its involvement in the oil and gas industry. The brochure contains details on its high-performance Fluoroloy® materials used to produce seals for the harshest environments in oil and gas exploration and production. The brochure also introduces the new OmniSeal® LFE range that has been developed to comply with the most stringent Low Fugitive Emission regulatory standards such as ISO15848-1 and SHELL MSE77-312.

ARKEMA ... At a press conference organized to coincide with the Chinaplas tradeshow in Shanghai, Arkema reaffirmed its commitment to developing in Asia its Technical Polymers activity. With fast-growing markets such as automobile, construction, textile and sports equipment, Asia, and in particular China, represent a key development area for Arkema's technical polymers. Arkema has solid commercial bases in China, Korea, Japan, Singapore and India, as well as three research centers specializing in technical polymers around the world, including one at Kyoto in Japan. A [Kynar® \(PVDF\)](#) fluorinated polymer production plant will shortly be established on the Changshu industrial platform, scheduled to come on stream mid-2010.

DUPONT joined the newly formed Communications Cabling and Connectivity Association (CCCA). This association was formed to bring together leaders of cable and connectivity companies, including manufacturing, distribution and suppliers to become a collaborative resource on technologies and products to meet emerging network applications. CCCA will also be proactive at codes and standards bodies and other trade, industry and governmental organizations in communicating and influencing policy and decisions affecting the quality, performance and societal needs of the structured cabling infrastructure.

DUPONT plans to open a research and development center and a manufacturing facility in China to cater to the growing demands of the solar energy industry. The research and development facility will be based in Hong Kong, while the plant will be in Shenzhen. The company expects growth in the photovoltaic market to exceed 30 percent each year over the next several years. DuPont has made significant investments in product development and capacity expansions to help keep pace. The R&D center will likely begin operations in 2009. The expansions in Hong Kong and Shenzhen will provide new offerings to serve the amorphous silicon thin film market. These thin films are used in the production of photovoltaic modules.

DUPONT introduced its two latest coating offerings at the 2008 International Home + Housewares Show, March 16-18 in Chicago. The new DuPont™ Teflon® Platinum Plus coating provides a 50 percent improvement in scratch resistance based on controlled laboratory tests. Platinum Plus' enhanced scratch resistance also makes it metal utensil safe and more durable, so it will perform and look new even longer.

DuPont also is featuring a low Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), water-based exterior color coating system for cookware. The new two-coat system formulation offers manufacturers an environmental advantage over solvent based exterior coatings,

excellent color stability and better application efficiency. The exterior coatings will be available in more than 20 colors. For more information on new products from DuPont™ Teflon® please call 866/205-1664.

SPI ACTIVITIES

SPI invites you to take part in the 2008 North American Plastics Industry Study...

SPI and Plante & Moran, co-sponsors of the [2008 North American Plastics Industry Study](#), encourage your participation in the most in-depth benchmarking survey available to the plastics industry. Now in its 11th edition, the study measures key performance indicators in areas such as strategy and marketing, financial performance, human resources and operations. The survey provides an objective diagnostic for plastics industry professionals to gauge their company position in a competitive and dynamic industry. Your participation in the 2008 North American Plastics Industry Study is free and confidential. Participate before May 31 to receive your custom benchmarking report. This represents a value in excess of \$399 per report. [Register now to get started...](#)

SPI, in coordination with the China Plastics Processing Industry Association (CPPIA), the China Plastic Machinery Industry Association, the Shanghai Society of Plastics Industry and Adsale Exhibition Services Ltd, and with the support of the China National Light Industry Council and numerous other co-sponsors and media, held a **one-day plastics trade summit immediately preceding ChinaPlas 2008** on April 16, 2008. The event drew over 250 participants from both the United States and China looking to learn more about Chinese and U.S. investment and export opportunities.

SPI is in the preliminary planning stage for a similar **U.S.-India plastics industry summit** during PlastIndia in February 2009. It will be cosponsored by the PlastIndia Foundation. For more information on the proposed U.S.-India Plastics industry summit, contact SPI's Director of International Trade, [Amy Sherman](#).

TRADE FINANCE GUIDE: A Quick Reference for U.S. Exporters... The International Trade Administration has published an updated version of the Trade Finance Guide: A Quick Reference for U.S. Exporters. The publication is a concise and easy to understand resource created specifically for U.S. small and medium sized enterprises. The 32-page guide explains the basics of numerous financing techniques, from open accounts, to government assisted foreign-buyer financing. It is designed to help U.S. companies learn the basics of trade finance so that they can turn their export opportunities into actual sales and achieve the ultimate goal of getting paid – especially on time – for those sales. [Read Trade Finance Guide: A Quick Reference for U.S. Exporters...](#)