

FPD HOT NEWS

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. A draft agenda has been developed with combined sessions held on Tuesday. A planning session with the Machinery Division will be held at this conference.



FPD LOGO... We are in the process of creating marketing material for the FPD. The logo shown is not yet approved, but is being used on a preliminary basis.



FPD COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE...

The e-mail survey for potential members, led by **Terence Neville and Mike Patterson**, was sent by the suppliers to their customer lists. 235 have responded, and the results will be reviewed by the committee.

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.

Wire and Cable... Per Nelson, the section chair, provided an update on Wire & Cable Section activities at the Fall Conference. They included:

- NFPA 90A Update
- Status of the National Electrical Code
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Healthcare, and the Green Guide for Healthcare Status.
- Update on the Wire and Cable Life-Cycle Assessment project

FPD COMMUNICATIONS

FLUORONEWS is 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 Winter 2009 issue of FluoroNews will be issued in February, 2009

MONTHLY FPD HIGHLIGHTS has been reformatted in similar style to SPI Link. Special post-conference issues are being published in the month following the Spring and Fall conferences. Please include E. Robert (Bob) Hill on your press release list at 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 updates at eben_hill@msn.com. We did a full update in June 2008 and will update the tables in December to reflect Fluorotherm, our new member, and several new FPD company representatives.

INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

DUPONT PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLUTIONS (DPVS) has expanded its portfolio of technologies to enable both crystalline silicon and thin film photovoltaic (PV) cell and module production. It has also announced significant new investments to accelerate PV materials developments and expand capacity in a number of areas, including – most recently – a planned expansion that will more than double capacity to produce DuPont™ Tedlar® films, and the opening of a new PV technical center in Japan.

In recent months, DuPont has developed a proprietary technology to produce backsheets containing DuPont™ Tedlar® polymer in a single step, and signed a Technology Licensing Agreement with Toppan to commercialize backsheets for PV modules using this new technology. DuPont anticipates that the photovoltaic market will grow by more than 50 percent in each of the next few years, driving demand for existing and new materials that are more cost effective. As a result of planned expansions and other activities, DuPont expects to triple its sales to the photovoltaic industry to more than \$1 billion, up from about \$300 million today.

DYNEON is investing in additional capacity for its Dyneon™ Scotchshield™ Film 17, a backsheet for c-Si **photovoltaic (PV) solar modules**, due to tremendous demand for the product. The new manufacturing capacity will be located in Singapore, as part of a previously announced \$200 Million investment by 3M in film production. Construction of the facility has already begun, and product from the facility is expected to be available early 2010 or sooner.

The Dyneon™ Scotchshield™ Film 17 utilizes a sophisticated multi-layer construction consisting of an outer fluoropolymer film bonded to a proprietary PET film which is bonded to EVA film to complete the multilayer backsheet. This inner EVA layer of the backsheet bonds to EVA cell encapsulants during the PV module lamination process.

WHITFORD CORPORATION... Colleen J. Litkenhaus, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Commercial Service of the U.S. Department of Commerce, presented an award to Whitford Corporation for its success as an exporter of American goods to overseas markets. Accepting the award was **David P. Willis, Jr.**, president of Whitford.

SPI ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF FPD

SPI, the plastics industry trade association, has launched an **all-new, secure and content-rich Web platform** at www.plasticsindustry.org that tailors content for niche audiences within the global plastics industry, consumers and journalists. Featuring a bold design, user-friendly navigation and cutting-edge technology, SPI's new Web platform replaces a predecessor that was created more than a decade ago.

SPI AND THE AMERICAN CHEMISTRY COUNCIL (ACC) announced in September the formation of a partnership for a "Plastics Ambassador Program." This collaborative initiative builds upon recycling and other proactive industry promotion initiatives of both associations, and is designed to mobilize companies and their employees to promote the benefits of plastics and plastics recycling within their communities.

TOP SPI ISSUES... **Sustained economic growth** is the single most powerful factor that leads to the prosperity and well being of Americans. Economic growth affects everyone – directly through job security, paychecks and health coverage, and indirectly through education, energy and tax policies. The top SPI issues, which follow, will strongly support sustained economic growth.

- [Natural Gas: Critical To The U.S. Plastics Industry](#)
SPI strongly supports legislation to allow states to opt out of moratoria against natural gas development activities in the **Outer Continental Shelf (OCS)**. This will allow near-term access to the enormous natural gas reserves under our offshore waters.
- [Permanently Extend the R&D Tax Credit](#)
SPI strongly supports the R&D credit. The R&D tax credit, originally enacted in 1981, has been extended 12 times. The current extension expired on December 31, 2007 and Congress has not yet acted to extend the credit.
- [FDA's Food Contact Notification Program](#)
Members of the Food Packaging Industry Coalition are working to continue the necessary funding to continue FDA's Food Contact Notification program in 2009 and beyond. During the upcoming congressional budget appropriations process, this Coalition asked Congress to support the FDA's proposed FY 2009 budget of \$182 million for CFSAN that includes the needed funding for the FCN Program.
- **The Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act**
SPI strongly supports H.R. 2942, the "Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act of 2007." Known as the Ryan-Hunter bill, H.R. 2942 gives U.S. manufacturers harmed by China's undervalued currency relief under U.S. trade remedy laws.
- [Union Organizing/Secret-Ballot Election and Card-Check](#)
SPI supports the existing methods for union certification and is strongly opposed to legislation or regulation that would alter, limit, or restrict current fair processes in union recognition elections. The Employee Free Choice Act would allow the National Labor Relations Board to certify a union – and prohibit a secret-ballot election – if presented with signed authorization cards from a majority of employees in support of union certification.