

FPD HOT NEWS

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

Both the General Business Sessions and Section Breakouts had strong, interesting programs, including updates on **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.



The FPD thanks the following suppliers for their conference sponsorships: AGC Chemicals Americas, Daikin-America, DuPont, Dyneon, and Solvay Solexis. For a list of attendees and the program details, go to <http://www.fluoropolymers.org/conference/fall2008conference>. More details and pictures will be given in the Winter 2009 issue of FluoroNews.

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. Staff will review and recommend appropriate registration fees for this conference. 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.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE... **Steve Smith** presented the Nominating Committee Report at the Fall 2008 Conference at Scottsdale.

- **Tim Walsh** was nominated and unanimously approved as the Chairman through May 31, 2010. The prior Chairman, **Al Damico**, is now Executive VP of SPI.
- **Bob Smith** was nominated and unanimously approved as the Vice Chairman through May 31, 2010.

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.

NPE 2009/FPD World... 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. Four companies have signed up. More companies are encouraged to do the same.

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 had a presentation "REACH" at the Fall 2008 Conference at Scottsdale, AZ. The Section is monitoring California legislation.

Processors Section... The section joined the Coaters at the Fall Conference for the presentation on "REACH."

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. These include post-conference summaries (including photos) and detailed updates on committee and section activities.

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 revisions at eben_hill@msn.com. We did a full update in June 2008 and will update the tables in October or November to reflect Fluorotherm, our new member.

FPD WEB SITE... 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 Plourde**, a fluoropolymers pioneer, still vitally involved at DeWAL.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

AGC... With regret, we report that **Evan Laganis** has resigned from the FPD Executive Committee.

FLUOROTHERM... The Executive Committee reviewed a new member application from Fluorotherm Polymers, which was unanimously approved. The key representative from Fluorotherm is **Sachin Shukla**.

INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

FLUOROTHERM started out as a specialty manufacturer of fluoropolymer products in 1992. Now, not only have they moved to expand operations here in the US but also overseas. Their newest products include:

- An expanded tubing line to cover a broad range of sizes in PTFE, FEP, PFA, ETFE, and PVDF.
- Immersion coil heat exchangers for high temperature use with PVDF frames and either FEP or PFA tubing.
- Custom fabricated tube products with flared, flanged custom shapes.

Fluorotherm has now successfully pioneered into **blogging**, which provides Fluorotherm news and allows customers to add comments and ask questions to be answered by Fluorotherm engineers.

WHITFORD WORLDWIDE is pleased to announce a new technology for their nonstick coatings. Five of their top brands are now available in formulations made without PFOA! The industry was challenged to have this done by 2015, but we are ahead of the curve and now have these products available for sampling. Even production quantities are available now, anywhere in the world.

DAIKIN AMERICA INC. announced that its newest plant expansion for ETFE polymer capacity will be located in Decatur, Alabama. The expansion will double its current capacity and create at least 25 new jobs in the Decatur area. Daikin's capital investment exceeding \$66 million will further increase the company's position as the leading domestic manufacturer of ETFE and also provide additional capacity needed for the development of new ETFE grades. Construction will be completed by first quarter of 2010.

ETFE (ethylene tetrafluoroethylene copolymer) is a strategic resin in wire and cable, in chemical and low vapor permeation, and in light transparent, protective film applications.

DUPONT PERFORMANCE ELASTOMERS (DPE) will introduce Kalrez® perfluoroelastomer parts specifically designed for the photovoltaic market at Semicon Europa in Stuttgart, Germany, on Oct. 7-9 and the Solar Power Conference in San Diego, CA on Oct. 13-16. Kalrez® parts are used to help improve sealing reliability in critical PV wafer processing equipment that uses plasma, high heat and aggressive chemicals.

DUPONT announced plans to expand production capacity for its high-performance DuPont™ Tedlar® films to the photovoltaic solar industry. Scope and site selection work is under way, targeting start-up in late 2009, pending final project approval. Upon completion, the project is expected to more than double the current global production for Tedlar®, and would be the largest capital investment in Tedlar®.

DUPONT FLUOROPOLYMER SOLUTIONS announced the call for entries for the 2008 **Plunkett Awards for Innovation & Sustainability** in the Americas, Europe/Middle East/Africa and Asia Pacific. This year, the 2008 Plunkett Awards will include **new sustainability selection criteria** as well as increased award values and honorable mentions.

The 2008 Plunkett Award entry period is open until Jan. 15, 2009, and submissions will be judged by a panel of experts chosen by DuPont. To obtain an entry form or for more information about the 2008 Plunkett Awards, contact your DuPont representative, call DuPont Fluoropolymer Solutions at 302/999-2532, or visit: <http://dupont.com/plunkett>. **The winners will be announced in February 2009**, and will receive special recognition worldwide.

SOLVAY SOLEXIS has struck a joint development agreement with Strategic Polymer Sciences (SPS), which specializes in polymeric electronic materials. The agreement is about large-scale production of ultra-high-energy density capacitor dielectric materials based on biaxially-oriented PVDF. PVDF- capacitors can achieve about ten times higher energy loads compared to capacitors based on conventional materials. SPS has patents on using these materials in capacitor applications, which are aimed at a variety of specialty markets, such as hybrid electric vehicles. The global capacitor market for hybrid vehicles is estimated at a conservative 1.6 billion USD by 2015. Ultra-high-energy density capacitors are also used in medical applications, such as defibrillators.

SOLVAY has announced the inauguration of its new world-class polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) micronised powder production unit in the People's Republic of China to serve dynamic local demand. PTFE Micronised Powders, marketed under the brand name Polymist®, are used in a variety of complex applications, such as the manufacturing of cosmetics, high gloss inks, high performance lubricants and heat-resistant materials. Other recent initiatives in Asia include the acquisition of the ultra performance polymers activities of Gharda Chemicals in Panoli, India; the creation of a high performance materials R&D and marketing platform in Shanghai, China; and the commissioning of a new production facility for fluorinated chemical specialties in Onsan, South Korea.

SPI ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF FPD

SPI LAUNCHES ALL-NEW WEB PLATFORM... SPI 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.

The new platform's architecture is designed to provide you with content specifically geared to your interests. Key to the homepage is a blue horizontal navigation bar with links to custom landing pages for the following specific audiences: Processors, Material Suppliers, Equipment and Machinery, Bioplastics, Consumers and Press. These pages are populated with content specific to these six interest areas. In addition, key word tagging allows you to browse topical categories particularly related to your industry sector.

New Web features include:

- Advanced site search, Google™ search, and powerful browse options.
- A new, searchable [member directory](#) showcasing member company products, descriptions, logos and press releases.
- Enhanced streaming video postings in the [Events](#), [Membership](#), and [About Plastics](#) areas.
- More powerful content restrictions enabling secure members-only areas as well as sub-group areas such as the Executive Board, committees etc.
- An enhanced [events calendar](#) that is searchable by category/topic.

Look for an important email from SPI later in October that will include your personal user name and password that will enable you to log-in to the site and gain access to all of the members-only areas. More information.... [Rachel Deonier](#), 202/974-5248

SPI ORGANIZING U.S. – INDIA PLASTICS TRADE SUMMIT... Building on the success of the trade summit held during ChinaPlas 2008, SPI, in coordination with the PlastIndia Foundation, is organizing a one-day plastics trade summit during [PlastIndia 2009](#) on February 5, 2009. The summit plans to foster better ties between the U.S. and Indian plastics industries as well as discussion of bilateral trade opportunities. The trade summit will likely feature sessions on market development trends in the two markets; resources for a successful partnership; challenges facing the development of the plastics industries in the United States and India; and approaches to further collaboration. Additional event information, including the summit agenda and registration form will be available on the SPI website soon.

[SUSTAIN '08](#)... Join executives from across the supply chain at [Sustain '08](#), the first conference designed to address the role of sustainability in the plastics industry. **Register by October 17 and attend the optional Energy-Management Workshop at no extra cost.** **Dr. Robin Kent**, founder and managing director of Tangram Technology Ltd., draws on 36 years of plastics processing experience in this focused workshop designed to help you implement good energy-management practices that will lead to better productivity. Cost is \$795 per person for SPI members and includes all conference networking receptions, breakfasts, breaks and lunches. Rooms at the InterContinental Chicago can be reserved at a special rate of \$239/night through October 24, 2008. Call the hotel at **800/628-2112** and mention Sustain '08 to reserve at this rate.