



# FluoroNews

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The Fluoropolymers Division Newsletter

Winter 2007

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Al Damico

Last year the Fluoropolymers Division of The Society of the Plastics Industry celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. During the past half century, many distinguished members have chaired the FPD, and I am honored by the confidence the Executive Committee has shown in electing me to that position. I have been involved with the FPD for nearly 20 years and a member of the Executive Committee for the past 12 years. During that time, I have been inspired and influenced by **Ed Walsh, Hugo DiClemente, Dave Willis, John Vaccaro, Dave Newman, John Ostroot, Richard Baillie** and many others. During the next two years, I plan to work hard to continue their efforts.

In thinking about the future of the FPD, I have asked myself the question:

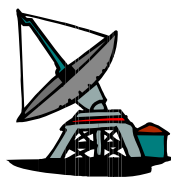
### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

For many years now, our most significant challenge has been to attract additional members, particularly from the processor community, to join the SPI/FPD. An additional, and equally important, challenge is to provide value to our membership through programs, meeting content, and publications.

The FPD Executive Committee has recently formed several new working groups to address these challenges.

- The Membership Task Group is exploring several innovative ways to attract new members to the Fluoropolymer Division. Additionally, this group has proposed that FPD consider a closer working relationship with other trade organizations with similar interests. We are already in conversation with one such organization and are exploring potential areas of mutual benefit.

- The newly formed Web Content Task Group will coordinate with SPI staff to review and update our existing FPD website. SPI has made major advances in this area during the recent past and FPD is excited by the opportunity to incorporate the functionality of these advances into our web presence.



We plan to improve our site dramatically during the next twelve months with content that is relevant to our existing membership, while using the website as a marketing tool to attract new members.

- We have formed a Fluoropolymers Information Task Group that has been charged with developing presentation materials that highlight the societal values of our materials.

### OUR CHALLENGE

Beyond these efforts by the FPD Executive Committee and its members, I would like to challenge our member companies to help us continue to improve

## SPI President Receives High Praise! Plastics News Feature Article Deems CEO's First 19 Months at Helm a Success!

The Society of the Plastics Industry (SPI) President and CEO William R. Carteaux received high praise for his boundless energy, sharp focus, and visionary leadership in an October 30, 2006 front page feature story in *Plastics News*. In reviewing Carteaux's 19-month tenure at SPI, the weekly plastics industry trade publication, which has more than 60,000 print subscribers, states, "Carteaux's voracious appetite for learning and driving SPI forward has given the association increasing respect in Washington and among its members." The entire article is available at [www.plasticsindustry.org/about/news/plasticsnews20061030.pdf](http://www.plasticsindustry.org/about/news/plasticsnews20061030.pdf).

Headlined "Carteaux's energy contagious," the lengthy piece summarizes assessments made by SPI board members and staff, executives of member companies, Washington lobbyists, and other insiders of Carteaux's progress in shaping the organization for the future and meeting a variety of the industry's public policy challenges.

### Impressive Strides Made by SPI under Carteaux's Leadership!!!

In particular, the piece highlights impressive strides made by SPI under

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Continued on page 7.

# INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

*FluoroNews is published by the Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc., Fluoropolymers Division. SPI will publish brief summaries of events of interest to members in the Industry Highlights section as part of its continuing effort to meet the needs and interests of the fluoropolymer industry. Publication of such information is subject to FluoroNews editorial and other SPI policies. See page 3.*

**3P SOLD – Compagnie Plastic Omnium** sold the North American industrial assets of its Performance Plastics Products - 3P Division to Britain's **Fenner** for \$15 million in early October 2006. A leader in reinforced polymers with 2005 revenue of £313 million, Fenner has acquired the assets of 3P Inc., which is based in Houston, and will hire all 3P Inc.'s personnel.

**ADVANCED FLEXIBLE COMPOSITES, INC. AND WHITFORD WORLDWIDE** announced the formation of Whitford Flexible Composites (WFC), an international joint venture. WFC will service the European and other international markets. WFC will provide high-performance coated and laminated fabrics, belting, and pressure sensitive tapes from Whitford's facility in Runcorn, Cheshire, England.

AFC and Whitford have also established a supply and technology exchange agreement for North America. This agreement uses Whitford's ability to conceive and develop nonstick coating and AFC's capability to process high performance fabrics. The objective of this partnership will be to quickly develop innovative products and solutions to customers' requirements and problems.

**CHROMATICS INC.** presented its newest ranges of Fluoropolymer-based heavy metal free color concentrates at IWCS/Focus in Providence, RI, 13-15 November 2006. Heavy metal free colors are typically based on organic pigments, which are more sensitive to heat and shear than the traditional heavy metal pigments. The company has designed a methodology to help cable producers determine the optimum processing conditions for specific extrusion lines and types of Fluoropolymers. For further information, call Chromatics Inc at 203/743-6868.

**SAINT-GOBAIN** announced a new web site for users interested in products for the oil and gas industry. The Saint-Gobain Oil and Gas group was formed to identify business application synergies for the oil and gas industry. Visit the web site at: [www.OilandGas.saint-gobain.com](http://www.OilandGas.saint-gobain.com)

**W.L. GORE PROCEL® CAST LINER** is a unique waterproof, breathable cast padding that allows you to continue your normal routine at home and at work without worrying about keeping your cast dry. Used in place of cotton underneath a fiberglass cast, GORE PROCEL® Cast Liner allows you to bathe, shower, swim, or wash the dishes without the hassle of trying to protect your cast from getting wet.

**W.L. GORE & ASSOCIATES** has launched a product to increase the service life of ropes used in high-stress bending applications, such as deepwater installa-

tion of subsea hardware. **Gore Omnibend Fiber**, composed of Gore's proprietary expanded PTFE, acts as a dry barrier to abrasion, reducing friction and elevated temperatures normally caused by friction. The result is increased service life and reliability for synthetic rope.

**ASAHI GLASS COMPANY (AGC)** has announced yet another capacity increase for Fluon® ETFE (ethylene-tetrafluoroethylene) fluoropolymers. This expansion at AGC's Kashima Plant in Japan will substantially increase AGC's ETFE manufacturing capacity. Startup is expected in the first quarter of 2008. This expansion comes on the heels of a new ETFE production facility at the company's Hillhouse Plant, UK. This facility will begin operations in April 2007. For more information, go to the company's website [www.agcchem.com](http://www.agcchem.com).

**AGC CHEMICALS AMERICAS, INC.** announces the opening of a new business and technical center in Exton, PA. The new center will serve as an operations center for the Sales and Marketing Group as well as promote research and development of new products and technical solutions as part of the company's overall business development strategy. For more information, please visit their website [www.agcchem.com](http://www.agcchem.com).

**ARKEMA** intends to increase its polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) production capacity at its Calvert City, KY facility by over 2,000 tons a year. The investment is expected to be \$12 million. Scheduled for completion in early 2008, this capacity increase will make Kynar® unit production in Calvert City one of the largest PVDF plants in the world, strategically placed to supply both American and Asian markets.



**FPD Conferences  
have Enthusiastic Speakers!**

Continued on page 6

# PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

**ACTON TECHNOLOGIES** announced the promotion of **Terence P. Neville** to President. During the past several years, he has been successfully leading the team as Vice President – General Manager.

**Kevin G. Nelson** will retain the position of Chair and CEO of Acton Technologies, the world leader in the surface modification of fluoropolymers.

**ADVANCED FLEXIBLE COMPOSITES, INC. (AFC)** announced the appointment of **Chris Lewis** to the newly created position of Vice President of Strategic Development. Chris will be responsible for directing the growth initiatives of AFC, including research and development, acquisitions, joint venture creation, and other similar activities. Chris will continue to maintain oversight of the administrative functions of AFC. AFC also announced the addition of **Bob Ward** as Chief Financial Officer.

**DAIKINAMERICA**—**Dr. Frank Adamsky** has been appointed to the Unidyne™ sales team as the Market Development Manager, responsible for the market development and sales of Unidyne™ products in the nonwoven and paper markets.

**Mike Ladd** has been appointed Unidyne™ Business Manager. Mike has been with Daikin for over 13 years.

**Graham Mac Innis** has been added to the sale force as the Technical Sales Representative for the West Coast, covering both fluoropolymers and fluoroelastomers. Graham has responsibility for providing technical sales and service to a multitude of accounts.

**Rick Brenneman** has been added to the sale force as the Sr. Technical Sales Representative for the Midwest.

Rick has been with Daikin America, headquartered in Orangeburg, NY for 14 year, specializing in developing and expanding sales opportunities for fluoropolymers, Unidyne™ products, and elastomers throughout the U.S.



**DYNEON**—**Doug Chirhart**, Marketing Communications Manager, recently retired. **John Price** is now handling their company announcements, etc. His email address is [jmprice1@mmm.com](mailto:jmprice1@mmm.com). Welcome, John.

**DYNEON** announced that **Dennis Lancaster** will join the fluoroelastomer sales force as an Account Executive. “Dennis has a broad range of industry experience that will be invaluable to Dyneon as we continue to expand into new markets,” said Dr. Maritherese Smith Tokles, National Sales Manager for Dyneon Fluoroelastomers.

Dyneon recently appointed **Randall Henderson** as Manufacturing Manager. Henderson comes from 3M’s Energy and Advanced Materials Division where he led the Six Sigma team as Master Black Belt. “Randy’s extensive experience will be a valuable addition to Dyneon in this challenging role,” said William Myers, president and general manager of

Dyneon. As manufacturing manager, Henderson will work with each of Dyneon’s businesses, including fluoroplastics, fluoroelastomers, and specialty additives. Henderson will be based at Dyneon’s Oakdale headquarters.

**FPD** – Congratulations to **Al Damico**, Daikin America, and **Tim Walsh**, Jeneet, who have been elected Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively, of FPD’s Executive Committee, effective immediately. **Jim Redmond**, Jrlon, has resigned as Processors Section Chair, and **Eric Walsh**, DeWAL Industries, is the new Processor Chairman. Our thanks to both Jim and Eric. **FN**

## SPI FLUORONEWS™

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**Comments /Suggestions** – SPI FluoroNews welcomes comments or suggestions by members.

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# SECTION CORNER

**F**PD Section activities continue to be strongly emphasized at all of our conferences. The PFOA issue is a major issue in all sections.

## CUSTOM COATERS SECTION

**Coaters Section** had good attendance at the Fall 2006 Conference. The group plans to put more effort into reaching coater prospects and making them aware of what membership in the Section can do for them.



*Steve Schwartz, Chair*

PFOA continues to be a key issue for the coaters. The Section intends to join the Fluoropolymers Processors Group on this issue, and will participate in articles of commerce testing.

## PROCESSORS SECTION

**Jim Redmond** has resigned as Section Chair. **Chuck Bloser**, AGC Chemicals, led the PTFE Processor Breakout at the Fall Conference in place of Jim. The Processors Certification Program was discussed. PFOA continues to be a key concern for the Processors, who receive a processor-specific update at each Conference.

The name of the Section has been changed from PTFE Processors to the Processors Section, reflecting the wider scope of its membership and breakout subject matter. **Eric Walsh** has accepted



*Wire & Cable Section at Spring 2006 Conference* [www.datacable.org](http://www.datacable.org)

the position of Section Chairman, effective immediately.

## WIRE & CABLE SECTION

The section continues to focus on codes, standards, regulatory, and environmental issues that address cabling to ensure a fair and balanced approach regarding the use of plastics.



*Gary Stanitis, Chair*

The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) 90A code cycle is currently in the "2008 Proposals" stage. SPI has submitted additions and changes that, if adopted, prevent the erosion of plenum fire safety, as well as provide a wider range of product options for cabling in areas that require very low smoke and flame building materials. Additionally, the Committee has offered to contribute to the EPA's effort to perform environmental life cycle analysis on data communication cabling. EPA's "Design for the Environment" project focuses on understanding the environmental impact of cabling material choice based on Life Cycle Analysis.

SPI Wire and Cable has offered to support the inclusion of cabling in metal conduit, since this construction technique is used commercially and identified by the building codes as meeting very low smoke and flame spread requirements. The committee believes that the public should be aware of the full environmental impact regarding the choice of lower performance cable in metal conduit versus higher fire performance rated cable without conduit.

**For more information on FPD's Wire & Cable Section, go to their web site at**

## Coaters Section Breakout

Please join the Custom Coaters Section breakout at FPD's Spring Conference near Albuquerque on Monday afternoon, March 26. Don't miss the new product presentations from several key suppliers.

### Section Agenda

- ◆ Regulatory Update
- ◆ PFOA Update
- ◆ "Laminar Airflow Technology to Reduce Coating Waste ...," Matt Carlson, DUXAREA
- ◆ New Product Presentations by Dupont, Solvay Solexis, and Whitford.

**For more information on FPD's Custom Coaters Section, go to their web site at [www.customcoatings.org](http://www.customcoatings.org).**

## Processors Section Breakout

Don't miss the Processors Section breakout at FPD's Spring Conference on Monday afternoon, March 26. Our Section chair, Eric Walsh, has lined up a strong program that will appeal to most processors.

### Section Agenda

- ◆ Processors Certification
- ◆ "Improved Product Quality..." by Dr. Markku Jaaskelainen, Cognex
- ◆ Processors Strategic Plan

For the latest program details, see [www.fluoropolymers.org/conference/](http://www.fluoropolymers.org/conference/)

**For more information on FPD's Processors Section, go to their web site at [www.ptfeparts.org](http://www.ptfeparts.org).**

**FN**

# Spring 07 Conf. – Albuquerque



### Hyatt Regency

Step into the sacred lands of Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa, our resort host. Luxurious pueblo-style guestrooms showcase traditional designs with natural materials, along with a Hyatt Grand Bed. The room rate for SPI is \$185 plus a \$14 service/resort fee which includes access to the fitness and spa facilities, swimming pools, self-parking, and shuttle services to golf course and casino.

You may make your reservations by dialing 800/233-1234 and mentioning the SPI Fluoropolymers Division meeting. The SPI rate is available until **February 24!**

### DIRECTIONS

**Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa**  
**1300 Tuyuna Trail**  
**Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico, 87004**  
*You can find directions at*  
[www.fluoropolymers.org/conference/](http://www.fluoropolymers.org/conference/).

### LOCAL AREA ATTRACTIONS

- If you are interested in Native American culture, Albuquerque and Santa Fe can't be beat!! Some of drivable options follow:
- ◆ Santa Fe is a must see with several first rate Native American museums and shopping for Native American crafts at the Palace of Governors.
- ◆ The Bandelier National Monument features 12 century Native American Cliff Dwellings. Awesome but a good drive.
- ◆ The Santa Ana Star Casino (closeby) has gambling, live entertainment, and bowling.
- ◆ Old town Albuquerque.
- ◆ There are many pueblos off I25

between Albuquerque and Santa Fe. Call to make sure they are open.

◆ **For more options, check**  
[www.newmexico.com!!!](http://www.newmexico.com!!!)

### SECTION PROGRAMS

Section meetings will be held Monday afternoon. For the latest FPD Section program agenda, see [www.fluoropolymers.org/conference/](http://www.fluoropolymers.org/conference/).



*Spouses at Fall 06 Conference*

### SPOUSE/GUEST ACTIVITIES

There will be a **Spouse Buffet Breakfast** at 9 am - 10 am on Monday.

**GOLF – Sunday's open golf session** will be held at 8:30 am at Sandia Golf Club in Albuquerque (approximately 15 minute drive). The \$85 fee includes greens fees, cart and practice balls. Transportation to the course is on your own.

**Tuesday's golf tournament** will be held at the Twin Warriors Golf Club, the Hyatt's on-site golf course at 1:00 p.m. The \$110



*Sandia Golf Club*

fee includes greens fees and cart. Come experience a New Mexico golf resort like none other.

**REGISTRATION** – You can register online, check attendees, and check the General Business and Section Programs for last minute updates at [www.fluoropolymers.org](http://www.fluoropolymers.org). **FN**



## A World of Learning

### Sunday, March 25

- 8:30 am Open Golf
- 4:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting
- 6:30 pm Welcome Reception – NM Style.

### Monday, March 26

- 8:00 am Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 am Issues Mgt. Committee Update
- 10:00 am Quality Environmental/Risk Mgt. - Joseph Caprio, Saint Gobain
- 11:00 am SPI's International Trade Services – Eugenia Ross, SPI
- 11:30 am SPI Affinity Programs - Chuck LaGrange, SPI
- Noon Lunch on your own
- 1:30 pm Marketing/Internal Performance – Dr. Milton Bergstein, Eagle Talent Scouts
- 2:30 pm Breakout Sessions (See Agendas)
  - Custom Coaters
  - Processors Section
  - Wire & Cable Section
- 6:00 pm Reception
- 7:00 pm Dinner on your own

### Tuesday, March 27

- 8:00 am Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 am Division Business Meeting
- 9:00 am SPI Issues and Goals - Bill Carteaux, SPI
- 9:30 am Fluid Sealing Association -Pete Petrunic
- 10:30 am Keynote Speaker –Patrick Moore, former Greenpeace founder.
- 11:30 am Lunch on your own
- 1:00 pm Golf Tournament
- 7:00 pm Reception and Dinner
- 10:00 pm Conference Adjourned



## Industry Highlights

Continued from page 2

**DAIKIN-AMERICA, INC.** held its 7<sup>th</sup> Executive Forum for the Fluorochemical Industry in October 2006 at the New York Marriott Marquis. 95 companies participated in the three day event featuring television and radio show host **Mr. Bill O'Reilly** as the Keynote speaker.



The central theme **Bill O'Reilly** 'Thriving in a Changing Business Environment' was reinforced by feature speakers Professor Clayton Christensen of the Harvard Business School and Mr. Carlo Pellegrini, *The Juggling Matrix*. The day's business sessions were followed by an elegant dinner and dancing affair at Historic Gotham Hall featuring entertainment by Political Satire Troupe "The Capitol Steps."

**DAIKIN AMERICA, INC.** announced the start up of their recently completed EFEP plant expansion in Decatur Alabama. "EFEP (perfluorinated ethylene-propylene copolymer) is a truly unique fluoropolymer manufactured only by Daikin" according to Cliff Adams, Chairman of the Board. EFEP can be co-extruded with Nylon, modified Nylon, EVOH, ETFE, and glass. The unique bonding properties of EFEP make it well suited as components for automotive fuel systems and oil transport equipment.

**DAIKIN AMERICA, Inc.** announced the successful start up of their recently completed ETFE expansion in Decatur, Alabama. The expanded ETFE plant doubles Daikin's capacity, demonstrating their commitment as the largest US manufacturer. ETFE (Ethylene-Tetrafluoroethylene copolymer) has become an important resin in wire and cable and automotive tubing applications.

**THE DUPONT PLUNKETT AWARDS** – The DuPont Plunkett Awards recognize achievements in the use of DuPont fluoropolymer resins, films, fibers and finishes. Judges will select entries based

on degree of innovation, breadth of use, and commercial significance.

**Guidelines and Judging** – Entries for the DuPont Plunkett Awards competition will be considered in three regions: the Americas, Europe/Middle East/Africa, and Asia Pacific. Awards will be granted for each region. Entries closed on December 31, 2006.

**DUPONT CABLING SOLUTIONS** introduced new specification guides to aid building owners, specifiers, engineers, construction professionals and architects in correctly specifying assessment of abandoned cable conditions (Division 02), abandoned communication cable recycling (Division 27) and DuPont™ certified limited combustible cable (Division 27). Local jurisdictions are increasingly acting to adopt and enforce the National Electric Code (NEC) that requires the removal of abandoned cable from buildings for fire safety reasons. More building owners are beginning to initiate projects to first remove and recycle abandoned cable, and then specify limited combustible cable with fire safety in mind for new installations of communications systems. The guides are available for download at [www.dupont.com/cablingsolutions](http://www.dupont.com/cablingsolutions).

**DYNEON LLC** announces the appointment of Chemtech Specialties Inc. as an authorized distributor of the company's polymer additive products focusing on the

northeastern United States. Polymer additives from Dyneon's Specialty Additives business are used in engineered plastics applications to achieve critical performance characteristics, such as wear and mar resistance or anti-drip properties.

**DYNEON** – New pilot plant resources were added at Dyneon's Decatur, Alabama, facility. The new equipment increases Dyneon's product development capabilities, enhances productivity, and supports faster product development cycle times. The new reactors complement existing pilot plant capabilities at Decatur, which include post polymerization processing, extrusion, and milling operations.

**DYNEON LLC** recently announced that it will acquire 3M's Bioanalytical Technologies business including the Empore™ Solid Phase Extraction family of products, effective January 1, 2007. The Bioanalytical Technologies business and Empore products will be integrated into Dyneon and will augment Dyneon's fluoroplastics, fluoroelastomers and specialty additives lines, and provide new opportunities for growth for the Empore family of products. For more information about Empore products visit [www.dyneon.com/empore](http://www.dyneon.com/empore).

**SOLVAY** has signed an agreement with Zhejiang Lantian Environmental Protection Hi-Tech Co. Ltd for a joint venture for the production and supply of hydrogen fluoride (HF). The joint venture is scheduled to start operating in 2007, under the name Zhejiang Lansol Fluorchem Co. Ltd. The production unit, with a total annual production capacity of 20,000 tonnes, will be located in the Zhejiang Quzhou Hi-Tech Industrial Park, some 500 kilometres southwest of Shanghai.

The production of Lansol is essentially aimed at fulfilling the needs of Lantian and Solvay for their downstream activities, such as Solvay's future production facility for fluorinated chemical specialties in Onsan, South Korea, which is scheduled to start operations in 2007.

Solvay has also recently announced the creation of a new world-class fluorinated polymer production unit in Changshu, China, which will be operational in the second half of 2007. **FN**



**FPD Members Work Hard for You!**

## SPI Activities Supporting FPD

Continued from page 10.

### PLASTICS INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS TO WORK TOGETHER—

Working towards a vision of strategic collaboration among the industry associations, the National Plastics Center (NPC) entered into a “Memorandum of Agreement” beginning July 2006 with SPI, under which SPI will begin to manage the Center and its programs. The announcement was made by NPC Chairman Watts Humphrey Jr. “Working together, with SPI and other industry groups, we can provide a total education and public outreach package to the plastics industry.”

SPI will also continue NPC’s close collaboration with allied industry organizations, in particular the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE).

### SPI’S NEW ENERGY SAVINGS

**PROGRAM**—Through an agreement with SPI, Affiliated Power Purchasers International, LLC (APPI), an independent energy and utility consultant, will work with your company to identify and implement solutions that reduce the costs of your energy, utility, and telecommunications expenses.

For more information, or to get APPI started on your energy savings program, contact Matt Schortall, APPI’s manager, consulting services, at 800/520-6685.

### JOIN SPI’S GLOBAL BUSINESS

**COUNCIL**—Are you concerned about import competition in your market? Do you want to have input on SPI’s positions on trade policy matters? Then consider joining **SPI’s Global Business Council**. The GBC’s mission is to increase global awareness and competitiveness by providing resources to SPI members, while fostering growth of the plastics industry worldwide. All SPI members in good standing are eligible to join. **More information on the GBC and its activities is available on the SPI website.**

**SPI SEEKS PRESENTATIONS for Plastics Parts Innovations Conference and New Product Design Competition**—The SPI Alliance of Plastics Processors

## SPI President Praised!

Continued from page 1

Carteaux’s leadership in the areas of government relations and international trade, membership gains, increased visibility inside and outside the industry, and stronger unity in the plastics sector via alliances and partnerships. One Washington insider quoted in the article states, “He [Carteaux] has made SPI more well-known and more of a player in public policy issues and legislative circles.”

The piece also includes several statements from Carteaux himself on the changes he has tried to implement, his future plans for the organization and challenges that still need to be addressed. **“We have gone from not being known in Washington to where people in Washington know who we are and where we get calls daily when there is legislation affecting plastics,”** Carteaux says in the article. “We have made the point that this [the plastics industry] is a vital part of the economy.”

### **SPI is on the Right Path!!**

“We congratulate Carteaux for building upon the work of his predecessor, Don Duncan,” reads an accompanying “Viewpoint” editorial in the same issue of *Plastics News*. “SPI is on the right path.” **FN**

(APP) is now accepting abstracts or proposals for technical presentations, panels or workshops for the 2007 Plastics Parts Innovations Conference and New Product Design Competition scheduled for April 1–3 at the Peabody Memphis Hotel in TN. The event is the preeminent showcase of structural plastics parts. Paper topics include the latest uses of materials, emerging business issues, new market developments, creative design/tooling, innovative new process technologies, time or cost-reducing product development methods, and production innovations. The deadline for receiving the completed abstract is January 5, 2007. The APP Web site contains more information on the conference. **FN**

## CHAIRMAN’S CORNER

Continued from page 1

the FPD. To that end, I would like to offer a few personal thoughts.

My association with SPI/FPD has been very important to my career and the success of the companies I have worked for. It has allowed me to associate with customers, competitors, and suppliers in an environment that operates within the bounds of all applicable laws and to promote activities that benefit the entire industry. Additionally, I have formed real friendships that have lasted through two decades.

### To our existing member companies:

- Get involved. Attendance at our semi-annual meetings is great. However, there are many other ways for you to support the FPD. As a volunteer organization, we need your support and your talents.

- Get others in your organizations, particularly your younger staff, involved. Allow them to experience the benefits, both professional and personal, that FPD has to offer. They are our future!

- Tell us what you want and how to make your organization better.

### To our prospective member companies:

- If you think you know what FPD has to offer, I suggest you try us again. We have changed and continue to evolve.

- If you don’t know us, try us. We have a great deal to offer to companies operating at any point in the fluoropolymer value chain.

- Tell us what you want and how to make our organization better.

In closing, I am very excited about the future of FPD and would welcome your comments, ideas and yes, criticisms.

*Al Damico*  
**Chairman FPD**  
[damico@daikin-america.com](mailto:damico@daikin-america.com)



## Fall 2006 Conference at Austin



Our host for the FPD Fall Conference in September 2006 was **Barton Creek – the Golf Capital of Texas**, just 15 minutes west of downtown Austin. The four star resort features four championship golf courses, a fitness center and spa, and two restaurants offering distinctive cuisine.

The golf fanatics again got up at the crack of dawn on Sunday morning to play the renown Fazio Foothills Course. All enjoyed the Texas style Welcome Reception that evening.

Monday morning kicked off with a continental breakfast followed by an Issues Management Committee update.



**Dr. Sina Ebnesajjad**, FluoroConsultants, and author of 3 handbooks of fluoropolymers technology and applications, discussed “Innovation in Fluoropolymer-Based Products in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” This was very well received. Sina is obviously a great addition to the FPD membership.

**Jeffery Shoffer**, President of Strategic Resources Planning, discussed “Successful Exit Strategies for Business Owners.”

After lunch, **David Sarvadi**, Keller and Heckman, gave an update on the European “REACH” program, the EU’s new regulatory scheme for existing chemical substances.

The Section breakouts were held from 2-4pm on Monday afternoon. These were well attended and had strong programs.



### Coaters Breakout

After a reception that evening, the members were free for dinner on their own.

The Continental Breakfast on Tuesday morning was followed by the Divisional Business meeting.

**Steve Exposito**, Price Waterhouse, discussed “International Tax Strategies for Growing Companies.” This presentation outlined the latest tax planning issues and opportunities available to the fluoropolymers industry resulting from recent legislation, including the recently finalized Section 199 deduction available to domestic manufacturers, tax shelter reporting requirements, and deferred compensation plan reporting.

**Ray Will**, a Senior Consultant at SRI, gave an update on “Fluorine Feedstocks for Fluoropolymers.” Ray conducts business analysis and market research for client projects and the Chemical Economics Handbook and Specialty Chemicals Update Program at SRI Consulting.

This concluded the formal business program. After lunch, many members enjoyed a Golf Tournament at the Fazio Foothills Course, the #1 course in Texas.

The Division thanks **AGC Chemicals Americas, Arkema, Daikin, Dupont, Dyneon, Solvay Solexis, and Whitford Corporation** for their generous donations in support of this conference.

*We look forward to seeing you at the Spring 2007 Conference in Albuquerque.* **FN**

### FALL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

<b>Sunday, September 17</b>	
8:00 am	Open Golf
4:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
6:30 pm	Welcome Reception – TX Style.
<b>Monday, September 18</b>	
7:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:00 am	Issues Mgt. Committee Update
10:00 am	Innovation in Fluoropolymer-based Products, Dr. Sina Ebnesajjad
11:00 am	Successful Exit Strategies for Business Owners – Jeffrey Shoffer, Strategic Resources Planning
Noon	Lunch on your own.
1:00 pm	European Reach Update -David Sarvadi, Keller & Heckman
2:00 pm	Breakout Sessions ◆ Custom Coaters ◆ Processors ◆ Wire & Cable
5:30 pm	Reception
6:30 pm	Dinner on your own
<b>Tuesday, September 19</b>	
8:00 am	Continental Breakfast
8:30 am	Division Business Meeting Including Section Updates
9:00 am	International Tax Strategies for Growing Companies – Price Waterhouse
10:30 am	SRI Update - Fluorine Feedstocks
11:30 am	Lunch on your own
1:00 pm	Golf Tournament









# SPI Fluoropolymers Notes

## FPD Activities

**MONTHLY FPD HIGHLIGHTS** – 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 your **Company and staff accomplishments and honors**.

**FLUOROGUIDE** – The next full update of FluoroGuide is expected in the first quarter, 2007. Please check your company input on our website and give Bob Hill any needed further revisions at [eben\\_hill@msn.com](mailto:eben_hill@msn.com).

**FPD WEB SITE HITS** continue to increase steadily, and reached 548k hits in the recent quarter, up from 508k hits in the prior period. The Summer 2006 Issue of FluoroNews was the most popular hit for the last two quarters. The Safe Handling Guide had 3,926 hits.

We continue to steadily add new material to our websites. Check them out!!!

- We post FPD Highlights Monthly except when FluoroNews is published.
- A full update of FluoroGuide and the related Section and Membership tables was added in January, June, and Nov. 06.
- Updates of the Section and Membership tables are now posted monthly.
- FluoroNews is posted biannually, and is archived.



Send your input for FluoroNews and our FPD Monthly to [eben\\_hill@msn.com](mailto:eben_hill@msn.com)

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- An archive of the past FPD monthly highlights back to early 2004 was added in August 2006.
- We also added the article “Coping with Globalization” under Industry Issues in August 2006.
- We are now posting post-conference summaries, including the conference program, a list of attendees, and more. See [www.fluoropolymers.org/conferences/previousconferences/](http://www.fluoropolymers.org/conferences/previousconferences/) **FN**

## SPI Activities

**CONGRESS PASSES LEGISLATION IN SUPPORT OF PLASTICS INDUSTRY ISSUES** – On December 9, by a vote of 79-9, the U.S. Senate passed the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 (S. 6111), a bill that includes both the lifting of the moratorium on offshore drilling for natural gas in the Gulf of Mexico and the extension and strengthening of the research and development (R&D) tax credit.

Continued on page 7.

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### Fall 2007 FPD Conference at Las Vegas



*The Venetian*  
 September 23-25, 2007