

FLUORONEWS

www.fluoropolymers.org

Winter 2008 Issue

A New Issue for Fluoropolymers in the New Year

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER by Al Damico

As I write this in January 2008, our industry is once again faced with a significant challenge. Since the start of the new millennium, we have worked hard to address the concerns related to the use of PFOA in some of our processes and products. This issue has coalesced our industry and we have made strong progress toward meeting the commitments our member resin companies have made to comply with the Voluntary EPA Stewardship Program for PFOA.

Now, we are faced with a new and critical challenge. An organization called the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) has proposed standards that have called for a ban on the use of halogenated materials in certain building codes. Initially, the real target of the USGBC was PVC but in writing their proposed standards, they extended the scope to all halogenated materials. Clearly, this is a threat to our industry since fluoropolymers are halogenated.

SPI has been actively pursuing this issue since the middle of 2007 and, in concert with the FPD, the Vinyl Products Division and other trade associations have submitted comments to the USGBC during the public comment period that ended on December 15, 2007.

Although we hope that our comments will influence the USGBC to reconsider their position on halogenated materials, SPI is actively preparing the next lines of defense should they decide to issue the proposed standards as currently worded.

If this issue is new to you, or you are already engaged, it is critical to your business that you become more aware of the potential impact this can have on our industry. SPI, through Terry Peters, the Executive Director of the Fluoropolymer Division can provide you with background materials and a summary of the current activities. ■

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FLUOROPOLYMERS IN DAILY LIVING

Fluoropolymers are used in daily living, improve our lives, and save lives worldwide. See our lead article, "Fluoropolymers in Daily Living," on page 1 bottom.

Fluoropolymers in Daily Living

Fluoropolymers are special plastics that are used in virtually every manufacturing industry, in many service industries, in the military, and in many medical applications. They are critical parts of our daily lives, often in invisible ways.

They have *extraordinary properties*, and are woven into our way of life from fluoropolymer coated cookware, sports clothing, extreme weather military uniforms, food handling equipment, medical equipment, silicon chip manufacturing, pharmaceutical manufacturing, commercial bakeries, motor oil additives, fabric-covered sports stadiums, house and car air conditioning, laptop computer/cell phone wiring, aircraft

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The Fluoropolymers Division
a business unit of



INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

ADVANCED FLEXIBLE COMPOSITES, INC. (“AFC”) has acquired Ravel Technology of North Adams, MA. Ravel will continue its operations under the name AFC Specialty Belting Division. The specialty belting division will continue to provide the complete line of Ravel heat sealers, heat sealing accessories, as well as unique and specialty conveyor belting.

AKZO NOBEL NON-STICK COATINGS... Our scientists have taken Akzo Nobel’s superior non-stick surface and made it even more durable by building the coating in layers, using a state-of-the-art chemical anchor to bind the layers together. The FUSION non-stick process locks the coating layers together in a way that yields an extremely durable non-stick coating that is capable of withstanding much more punishment than other coatings without flaking, scratching or abrasion.

W. L. GORE (GORE) will expand its Medical Products Division’s operations in North Phoenix, Arizona. Gore Medical Products has provided creative therapeutic solutions to complex medical problems for three decades. During that time, more than 25 million innovative Gore Medical Devices have been implanted, saving and improving the quality of lives worldwide. The extensive Gore Medical family of products includes vascular grafts, endovascular and interventional devices, surgical meshes for hernia repair and sutures for use in vascular, cardiac and general surgery.

WHITFORD was recently presented with an “Export Achievement Certificate” from the US Dept of Commerce for our recent accomplishments in the Global Marketplace. Accepting the award were *David P. Willis, Jr.*, President of Whitford Corporation, and *Dick Adler*, our Consultant of many years.

AGC CHEMICALS AMERICAS (AGCCA) closed its **Bayonne, NJ manufacturing facility** at year-end 2007. AGCCA will relocate its headquarters from Bayonne to Exton, PA. It will continue to import Fluon® melt processable fluoropolymers and AFLAS® fluoroelastomers from AGC parent & sister companies. Although it will no longer manufacture ASAHIKLIN® AK-225 and Fluon® PTFE in the US, AGCCA will import its them from its overseas plants in Japan and in the UK.

DAIKIN... Damage assessment of Daikin America’s Decatur Plant continues after a fire on Monday, January 28. Manufacturing of monomers, Unidyne product line, and finishing processes in melt area have been restarted and production is now on-going. Extruders in the melt polymer area are running, and polymers produced prior to the fire are being pelletized. Shipping from Decatur facility has also been continued.

DUPONT has opened a new fluoropolymer production plant in Changshu City, China, which produces polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) fine powder and dispersion for global customers. The opening marks a significant milestone in the Company’s strategic plan to establish a broader fluoroproducts manufacturing base in China, and is the fourth DuPont facility that has installed commercial production units using DuPont™ Echelon™ technology. Through the use of Echelon™ technology, DuPont has qualified customers representing over 90 percent of its sales volume of aqueous fluoropolymer dispersions to use products that reduce PFOA content by at least 97%.

DUPONT PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLUTIONS (DPVS) has a broad and growing portfolio of films and resins for encapsulants, encapsulant films, conductive pastes, and more for solar panels. DuPont provides materials for conducting the electricity produced by the cell and for encapsulation of cell assemblies into environmentally stable panels for protection from moisture, UV rays and impact. DuPont is investing approximately \$100 million to expand its product offerings in this rapidly growing market.

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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.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

ADVANCED FLEXIBLE COMPOSITES, INC. (AFC) named *Ed Kennedy* to the position of Marketing Manager, Conveyor Belting Market Segment. Ed will report directly to *Michael Baker*, and will work out of AFC's Specialty Belting Division located in Adams, MA. AFC also announced the promotion of *Ismael Salomon* to Customer Service Representative. Ismael will work out AFC's world headquarters in Lake In The Hills, IL. He will report directly to *Wanda Kiefer*, Customer Service Manager. You may contact Ismael at 800/334-9372 or at isalomon@afconline.com.

HEROFLON USA... In the summer 2007, *Matthew Smith* joined Heroflon USA as Materials Manager, taking responsibility for purchasing, inventory control, and warehouse operations. Graduating this past May from Penn State University with a double major in Business & Pre-Law, he spent the summer in Europe working at Heroflon Srl.

SHAMROCK TECHNOLOGIES announces the appointment of *Richard Baillie* to the newly created position of Vice President of Marketing. In his new role, Richard will primarily focus on supporting growth initiatives, which capitalize on new products and markets. Richard joins Shamrock with 29 years of experience in the fluoropolymer industry where he has worked in R&D, manufacturing leadership, global procurement, sales and marketing, and business leadership. He is the immediate past chairman in SPI's Fluoropolymers Division.



Richard Baillie

DAIKIN AMERICA announces the appointment of *Rich Straff* as Vice President of Sales & Marketing. Dr.

Straff joined Daikin America in 2001, and most recently served as Director of Marketing & Strategy. *Ken Tober* was promoted to Sales Manager-Fluoropolymers. Ken's duties will include further enhancing Daikin's leadership in the W&C Industry, through the expansion of specialized applications and the addition of new sales people. Also, *Don Shaw* was appointed to the newly created position of Sales & Business Director, and *Marc Kasner* was added to the Fluoropolymer Sales Team as a Technical Sales Representative in the Northeast Territory.

DYNEON named *Netha N. Johnson* President and General Manager on October 1, 2007. Johnson takes over the role of President from *Bill Myers*, who in August of 2007, was named General Manager of 3M Energy and Advanced Materials Division. Johnson comes to Dyneon from 3M's Industrial and Transportation Business, where he served as director of Lean Six Sigma. Prior to that, Johnson held the position of marketing director for 3M Energy and Advanced Materials Division.

SOLVAY SOLEXIS... The PTFE & Coatings Group of Solvay Solexis appointed *David Gibala* to the role of Market Manager. In this position Gibala's responsibilities focus on market research and development and implementation of the unit's marketing plan for Algoflon® PTFE, Hyflon® PFA, and Halar® ECTFE fluorinated resins. Gibala joined Solvay Solexis in June 2002. He has also held technical positions in the Fluids Group. ■

FLUORONEWS is published by the Fluoropolymers Division of The Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc. Comments or suggestions by members are welcome.

www.fluoropolymers.org

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Section Corner

FPD Section activities continue to be strongly emphasized at all conferences. Each Section breakout has content of specific interest to its industry segment.

COATERS BREAKOUT

Please join the Custom Coaters Section breakout at FPD's Spring Conference at Kiawah.

Section Agenda

- Regulatory Update
- PFOA Update
- "Emission Reduction"
- Material Supplier Presentations

For more information on FPD's Custom Coaters Section, go to www.customcoatings.org

PROCESSORS SECTION BREAKOUT

Don't miss the Processors breakout at FPD's Spring Conference.

Section Agenda (Preliminary)

- "Six Thinking Hats" by Patrick Neale, KC America

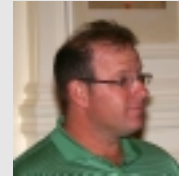
For more information on FPD's Processors Section, go to www.ptfeparts.org

COATING SECTION had good attendance and a strong program at the Fall 2007 Conference. The group wants to increase its efforts in reaching out to coater member prospects. The Section will continue the trend of bringing vendors of value to the coaters and will include additional supplier presentations at future meetings.

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. The Section continues to work to increase processor participation.

WIRE AND CABLE... Fluoropolymer Wire and Cable section actively participated in drafting SPI FPD's response to US Green Building Council's LEED draft standard for health care buildings. The primary subject of the comment encouraged USGBC to use a scientific approach to environmental impact of materials and to remove language in the standard that would create a blanket penalty for use of halogenated materials in health care buildings.

In addition, the section is wrapping up work on a study comparing life cycle impacts of fluoroplastic containing plenum rated communications cables to ('equivalent function') non-fluoroplastic cables installed in metal conduit (an installation method currently being promoted by the steel tube industry). Codes and Standards activities within the Section are presently focused toward the membership vote on the 2008 NFPA 90a code at the NFPA World Safety Conference & Exposition. In addition, the section is looking forward to the 2011 National Electrical Code™ cycle that begins this year. ■



Steve Schwartz,
Coaters Chair



Eric Walsh,
Processors Chair

Industry Highlights from page 2

SOLVAY SOLEXIS confirms that its new polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) Micronized Powder plant, currently under construction in Changshu, China, will be completed and operational in the first quarter of 2008. Among the subsequent development projects considered in Changshu, Solvay Solexis is planning to build an integrated production plant for the manufacturing of polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) for coating applications and related monomers.

KC AMERICA... JLM Chemicals and KC America entered into a joint venture on August 27, 2007. This new partnership will allow the two companies to better serve the fluoropolymer, plastic and chemical needs of its customers throughout the world. This affiliation provides its customers with a new universe of raw material sourcing opportunities. For ten years, KC America has provided its customers with fluoropolymer sourcing solutions from Russia and China. The addition of JLM will add the ability to source a full range of chemical and plastic materials from around the globe. KC America offers a full line of fluoropolymer resins including granular and dispersion grade of PTFE, FEP and PVDF. These resins have been, and will continue to be available from warehousing locations in the Northeastern US and Houston. ■

Spring Conference at Kiawah

SPRING 2008 FPD CONFERENCE will be held April 13-15, 2008 at Kiawah Island Resort, an easy drive from Charleston, SC. Kiawah Island has 10 miles of pristine, sun-swept beach and was voted “most romantic spot and best spot to walk the beach” by Southern Living’s editorial staff. The room rate for SPI is \$239. SPI’s room block includes the vacation villas only. (Please note there is an additional 8% resort fee plus tax on the room rate.) To make your reservations, dial 800/654-2924 and mention the SPI Fluoropolymers Division meeting to get the rate. The SPI rate is available only until *March 19, 2008!*

BUSINESS PROGRAM

We have a very interesting and informative general business program, shown on the right. Don’t miss the updates on the *Green Building Initiative, the Economic Outlook, and International Trade*. All of these can have profound implications for your business. Be sure to hear the keynote speaker, *Greg Schwem*, who Chicago Magazine called “America’s Favorite Funnyman!!” Full of clean, fast-paced humor that pokes fun at the business world, Greg calls his show “Comedy with a Byte.”

ACTIVITIES

Kiawah Resort has tennis, golf, a great spa, kayak and bike rentals, miles of great beach, and many other activities. You may want to plan your visit in advance to take good advantage of their offering. Kiawah Resort has 12 restaurants and lounges. You are bound to find one you love!! You may also want to visit Charleston, a unique city with lots of history, museums, historic houses, and southern charm.

LOCATION/DIRECTIONS

Kiawah Island Resort
One Sanctuary Drive,
Kiawah Island, South Carolina 29455
Tel: 843/768-6054 Web: www.kiawahresort.com
See our website at www.fluoropolymers.org for directions to the resort.

SPOUSE AND GUEST ACTIVITIES

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

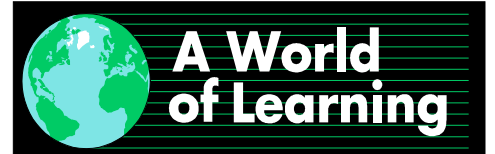
GOLF

Sunday’s open golf will be held at 9:40 am at Kiawah Island Resort’s Ocean Course. The Ocean Course at Kiawah Island Golf Resort is the proud host of the 2007 Senior PGA and the 2012 PGA Championships. The fee of \$272 includes greens fees and cart.

Tuesday’s golf tournament will be held at 12:00 pm on Kiawah Island Resort’s Turtle Point Course. The fee of \$182 includes greens fees and cart.

REGISTRATION

You can register on-line, check attendees, and view the detailed general business and section programs for last minute updates at www.fluoropolymers.org. ■



Sunday, April 13

- 9:40 am Open Golf
- 4:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting
- 6:00 pm Welcome Reception

Monday, April 14

- 8:00 am Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 am Issues Mgt. Committee Update
- 10:00 am International Trade Update (Neil Pratt, SPI)
- 10:30 am Economic Update (Robert Fry, Dupont)
- 11:30 am Lunch on your own
- 1:30 pm Breakout Sessions (See Agendas)
 - Custom Coaters
 - Processors
 - Wire & Cable
- 5:30 pm Reception
- 6:30 pm Dinner on your own

Tuesday, April 15

- 7:30 am Continental Breakfast
- 8:00 am Division Business Meeting
- 8:30 am SPI Issues and Goals (Bill Carteaux, SPI President)
- 9:00 am Wire & Cable/Green Building Initiative Update (Melissa Hockstad, SPI)
- 10:00 am Keynote Speaker, Greg Schwem... “Business Humor”
- 11:00 am Lunch on your own
- Noon Golf Tournament, Kiawah Island Turtle Point Golf Club
- 6:30 pm Reception/Dinner Event

“Fluoropolymers in Daily Living” – from page 1

wire, fire alarm wire, data communications cabling, under-hood car wire, and down-hole oil well wire to high temperature filters for coal plants.

Fluoropolymers solve extremely difficult problems, facilitate technical developments, improve safety, save lives, and reduce cost!! Industrial users and manufacturers are well aware of the benefits of fluorinated products to reduce cost, improve safety, and in development of new technology where nothing else works well or at all. **FLUOROPOLYMERS PROVIDE SOLUTIONS WHERE NOTHING ELSE WORKS!!!**

EXTRAORDINARY PROPERTIES

Chemically inert
Non-wetting
Very slippery
Nontoxic
Nonstick
Highly fire resistant
Very High temperature ratings
Highly weather resistant

This unrivalled combination of properties frequently makes fluoropolymers the product of choice when metals and other plastics fail, where extraordinary purity is required, or where long-term reliability and very long service life is required for both cost and safety reasons. For example, fluoropolymer insulated wire reduces weight in airplane wiring and extends durability and reliability. High span bridges are frequently painted with fluoropolymer-based paints with a service life of up to 30 years. Fluoropolymer plenum cabling reduces smoke from fires up to 20 times over other plastic cabling, reducing danger to lives and damage to buildings and equipment. Fluoropolymers are frequently a critical part of new technology in medicine, environmental

conservation, energy solutions, space exploration, and civilian and military safety. *But Fluoropolymers are also woven into our daily lives!!!*

Share a day with John and Jane Smith in Tucson, AZ

By Sina Ebnesajjad, PhD.

John Smith begins the day shaving with a razor with a slippery strip of polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) fluoropolymer. Taking eggs out of a refrigerator with a fluorocarbon coolant, John sprays a *non-stick fluoropolymer coated fry pan* with non-fat spray and makes a healthy breakfast with a whole wheat bagel topped with jelly, orange juice, grape tomatoes, and coffee. Jane does much of her cooking in fluoropolymer coated cookware to minimize or eliminate fat. It is the rainy season in Tucson, so Jane Smith dresses the children in waterproof coats that have a breathable special fluoropolymer ePTFE fabric inside of them.

Jane makes sure her family uses fluorinated toothpaste to reduce tooth decay. Her family has little tooth decay, because they live in an area where water is fluorinated. Everyone in the family flosses using fluoropolymer fiber floss that slides easily between the teeth and does not cut the gums. Jane, a well informed mother, knows that pain, loss of teeth, and gum disease associated with tooth decay have been reduced by about half since the introduction of fluoridation almost 60 years ago.

John and Jane don't worry about food spilled on their new beige carpet because it is treated with a fluoropolymer stain repellant. They pick up their cell phones and laptop computers on their way out of the house. Every one of these devices contains fluoropolymer insulated wiring and components which depend on the fluoropolymers unique electrical properties. Jane is vaguely aware that the *modern electronics age is critically dependent on fluoropolymers*. Fluoropolymers meet the increasingly stringent standards for ultra-reliable, ultra high purity fluid handling systems for semicon manufacturing.

John Smith is the last to leave the house, turns off the fluorine-containing LCD display on his desktop computer and TV, and sets the thermostat to reduce the air conditioning. The central air unit coolant in his house is a fluorocarbon, which is safe and efficient. John knows that his mother's life could be endangered with no air conditioning in hot weather. He still recalls the tragic events in France in the summer of 2003, when nearly 15,000 died because of the heat.

“Fluoropolymers in Daily Living”– from page 6

John Smith’s house is partially powered by *photovoltaic cells (solar panels)* that the family installed several years ago. After paying for the installation of the cells, they have been enjoying free power. Fluoropolymer films are used as the top layer of the photovoltaic modules, protecting them from damage and increasing their useful life. The coal-based power plants that supply the rest of the house’s electricity have *fluoropolymer coated bag-filters that remove harmful particles (fly ash) from the hot smoke discharge*.

As John drives to work, he crosses a ravine on a bridge painted with fluoropolymer-based paint. His brother Joe paints bridges, which is dangerous work, and John is glad Joe only has to paint this bridge every thirty years.

John arrives at his workplace, a tall building where data transmission is handled by fluoropolymer plenum cable, which substantially reduces smoke, a hazard to people and equipment, during fires. Computer rooms and other key areas of the building are protected with fire protection systems, using fluorocarbon extinguishing agents which are electrically non-conductive, non-corrosive, residue free, and safe to use in areas where people are present. They have zero ozone depletion potential.

Later in the day, John will travel on an aircraft built with *miles of wire and cable insulated by fluoropolymers* and composite materials containing fluoropolymers. They reduce weight and allow safe and reliable performance of the electrical and signal systems of the aircraft over its lifetime. The interior of the aircraft is surfaced by a composite of a fluoropolymer, which is fire safe, durable, and stands up to the harsh cleaning chemicals and disinfectants.

Jane Smith’s 76-year old mother is recovering quickly from an operation in which several *arteries were partly replaced by vascular grafts made from a fluoropolymer material*. She suffered no pain during the operation and had a normal anesthetic experience thanks to the use of a fluorocarbon gas. Jane Smith’s mother has been given an excellent prognosis for recovering from the surgery and is adapting well to her new fluoropolymer veins. She will go on with her active life and enjoy her grandchildren for a long time. In 2002, 42.5 million procedures were performed in the US, almost all requiring general inhalation anesthetic. Fluorocarbon compounds such as Sevoflurane®, Enflurane® and Isoflurane® have reduced the number of deaths attributed to anesthesia by more than 25-fold.

Fluoropolymers have been part of the solution for complex medical problems for decades. Tens of millions of innovative fluoropolymers-based medical devices have been implanted, saving and improving many lives worldwide. For example expanded fluoropolymer membranes are routinely used to repair hernias which have allowed patients to retain to normal life. Everyone is familiar with pacemakers. The more recent devices (Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator or ICD) adjust both slow and fast heart rhythm. The insulation material for the lead assembly in some of these devices is made from fluoropolymers. The simple epidural administered during child delivery utilizes fluoropolymers in the drug delivery device. Nearly every catheter used in surgical procedures has a coating of fluoropolymer. *These advances and many more may save or enrich your life or someone in your immediate family!!!*

Fluorinated products are used in virtually every manufacturing industry, in many service industries, in the military, and in medical applications. They not only save money, improve safety, reduce emissions, and extend durability and reliability, but, in many cases, “*Are Used Where Nothing Else Works.*” As this story illustrates, fluoropolymers are also woven into our daily lives. **FOR PEOPLE WORLDWIDE, THEY NOT ONLY ENRICH LIVES, BUT ALSO SAVE AND EXTEND THEM. ■**

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(Edited by Eben Robert Hill)

The FluoroConsultants Group specializes in bringing solutions to industries that process or use fluoropolymers.

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Fall 2007 Conference at Las Vegas

The FPD Fall Conference host was the *Venetian Resort Hotel Casino in the heart of the Las Vegas strip*. The golf enthusiasts again got up at the crack of dawn on Sunday morning to play the Las Vegas Paiute golf course with its rolling terrain and enchanting scenery. We enjoyed seeing many old and new friends that evening at the Vegas Welcome Reception.



The Venetian Resort

Monday morning kicked off with a continental breakfast followed by an Issues Management Committee update on the PFOA situation around the world including regulatory activity and industry actions. This was followed by a presentation on Trade Secret Protection by *Steve Milbrath*, a board certified Business Litigation Lawyer. Steve has had extensive experience in the trial and appeal of complex cases, including all phases of intellectual property. *Jeff McKee* of Microsoft discussed Trends in Enterprise Software.

The Coaters and Processors Section breakouts were held from 1:30-4:00 pm on Monday afternoon. These were very well attended and had strong programs. The Wire and Cable Section did not have a meeting at this conference. After a reception that evening the members were free for dinner on their own.

On Tuesday morning, a Continental Breakfast on Tuesday morning was followed by the Divisional Business meeting.

Martin Garnett of Whitford Corporation gave a very interesting talk on Bar Coding and Warehouse IT. Martin has been managing director of Whitford's UK subsidiary for the last two years. Challenged by Whitford President Dave Willis 18 months ago to devise and RFID drum tagging system that would allow Whitford to manage customer's stocks remotely, Martin had a very interesting story to tell.

David Sarvadi of Keller and Heckman covered what we need to know about Current Activity in Employment Law. This comprehensive talk provided much valuable and needed information to our members.

The keynote speaker for our conference was *Susan Ershler*, a business and Sales Executive and mountain climber. In May 2002, Sue with her husband Phil climbed to the summit of Mt. Everest, and became "the first couple in history to climb the Seven Summits."

This concluded the formal business program. After lunch on our own, the golfers headed out to the Bear's Best Golf Club. The Bear's Best course in Las Vegas gives golfers the opportunity to play 18 of Jack Nicklaus' favorite golf holes in one majestic round.

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

The Spring 2008 Conference will be held at Kiawah Island, near Charleston, SC on April 13-15, 2008. Check our web site at www.fluoropolymers.org for details and to register. ■

Conference Presenters



FALL 2007 CONFERENCE PICTURES



SPI Fluoropolymers Notes



We specialize in bringing solutions to the industries that process or use fluoropolymers. Whether you need help with a technical problem, a part failure, new applications, or wish to grow your business, we are ready to help you.

Visit our website at:

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email: sina@fluoroconsultants.com

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And Will Apply That Knowledge
To Help You!*

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FALL 2008 FPD CONFERENCE will be held in 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. A preliminary program will be forthcoming in early Spring.



FPD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE...

Ken Koziel, Saint-Gobain, and *Dave Ely*, Chromatics INC, have

been appointed to the FPD Executive Committee. FPD assessment for 2008 will again be \$750, no change from 2007.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE...

Bob Smith reported that he is working with Rick Sturgis, SPI, on several membership initiatives. SPI has hired two sales people to recruit new members. FPD is developing a list of the top 20 companies, mostly processors, and key contacts for the sales staff. *Terence Neville* and *Mike Patterson* continue with the development of an e-mail survey of what members and non-members value.

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS...

Please include *Eben Robert (Bob) Hill* on your press release list at eben_hill@msn.com, so we can note your Company, staff accomplishments, and honors in our monthly highlights.

FLUORONEWS is now being issued in full color and has been completely restructured to conform to other SPI publications.

Beginning with this issue, FluoroNews will be issued electronically, posted on our web site, and issued as hard copies.

FLUOROGUIDE and the related tables were fully updated in March and August 2007. We are updating the tables monthly, or as needed.

Please check your company contact information on our website and give *Eben Robert Hill*, Hill Business Writing LLC, any needed further revisions at eben_hill@msn.com. We anticipate another full update in early 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. See www.fluoropolymers.org/conferences/previousconferences.

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. Processor and coater data collection is well under way. ■