



FOCUS

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION ISSUE



EUROPEAN PLASTICS CONVERTERS NEWSLETTER
PROVIDING EUPC MEMBERS WITH A BRIEF OVERVIEW
OF EUPC ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES

November/December 2010

EuPC Annual Meeting 2011



Next year the Annual Meeting and General Assembly of the European Plastics Converters (**EuPC**) will be held in Saint Jean Cap Ferrat in France from 18 to 20 May 2011.

The **EuPC** General Assembly will be preceded by the **EuPC** Packaging Forum, the **EuPC** Building and Construction Division meeting, the **EuPC** Automotive and Transport Division meeting, the **EuPC** Technical Parts Division meeting and the EuPF (European Plastic Films) meeting.

For more information on this event please visit **EuPC** website, where you can find the preliminary programme and the hotel booking form, or contact Renata Surowiec at **EuPC**.

Vinyl Plus: towards a new ten year programme for the PVC industry

We are now reaching the end of the Vinyl 2010 Voluntary Commitment. This programme has been very successful and will meet all the targets that were set 10 years ago. What is next?

For the past 12 months, Vinyl 2010 has been working with the globally respected Swedish Sustainable Development NGO, "The Natural Step", in order to develop a progressive new initiative for the European PVC Industry and to build

on the success of the Vinyl 2010 voluntary commitment.

Several Task Forces have been set up and workshop with external stakeholders will be organized in order to take into account their input. The official launch of the new programme is expected in mid April 2011.

For more details on this issue please contact Alexandre Dangis or Geoffroy Tillieux.

Update on RoHS

In November 2010, the European Parliament (EP) adopted (640 votes in favour - 3 votes against and 12 abstentions) in plenary the compromised proposal on the RoHS recast. PVC, BPA and BFRs are not mentioned in the adopted text.

The legislation might be reviewed after three years, when new substances may be added. Exemptions for banned substances would be allowed only if they are in the interest of consumer health and safety, and no alternatives are available.

The EU Council will now adopt formally the legislative text approved by the EP; then the European Commission will publish the Directive in the Official Journal of the European Union. The revised Directive should enter into force 20 days after its publication in the Official Journal, and member states will have around 18 months to transpose it into national law.

The **EuPC** advocacy network together with NPAs and Vinyl 2010 have done an excellent job.

For more information on this issue please contact Alexandre Dangis.

IN BRIEF ...

EuPC staff changes

We herewith would like to inform you that after seven fruitful years of working at our association Paolo Bochicchio has decided to leave **EuPC** by the end of this year. At the same time we would like to welcome Pdraig Nolan who joined **EuPC** in November as Project Manager for all EU-funded projects. Contact details to Pdraig are: padraig.nolan@eupc.org, +3227396372.

Europur/Euro-moulders joined EuPC offices

We would like to welcome Mr. Axel Kamprath, Mrs. Lingga Laoh and Mrs. Raffaella Salerno from Europur/Euro-moulders, who joined **EuPC** offices in November. More information on Europur and Euro-moulders you can find on their websites:



Inauguration cocktail of new EuPC offices

On 30th November an inauguration cocktail of new **EuPC** offices at Av. De Cortenberg 71 took place, where around 50 guests, such as **EuPC** members and representatives from the European institutions took part. Our guests have been welcomed by the **EuPC** President, Bernhard Borgardt. Danish MEP, Anna Rosbach expressed her support for the **EuPC** activities related to the project on Marine Litter.



Construction Product Regulation: towards a conclusion

After intense discussion, the Council released a common position in September. The proposal was overall balanced. The Construction Product Regulation is mostly a signal that there should be a unique way to report performance of construction products in the EU as specified in the appropriate Harmonized Standard or European Technical Assessment as soon as this one has been adopted. Member States of course remain competent to determine the level of performance that is required but no slightly different testing method should be used as a barrier to trade and to the free movement of goods within the EU.

The main document for communication within the supply chain is the declaration of performance. Only limited exemptions to the drafting of this declaration have been foreseen for non series product, manufacture on site and handicraft.

Specific technical documentation enables to reduce in some cases the need for testing as the practice had developed under the Construction Product Directive (classification without testing, without further testing, shared initial type testing..). Likewise for those categories of products for which no factory product control is required, micro-enterprises could use different tests than those foreseen in the standards and

document this in a Specific Technical Documentation.

Some concerns remain such as the need to indicate in the CE marking information such as mentioning the two last digits of the year in which CE marking was affixed. This requirement only confuses the user and is not useful for traceability purposes since a product identification number is enough for this purpose.

The text was then discussed in the Internal Market Committee of the European Parliament which adopted a report on 22 November 2010. The outcome of the vote is mostly satisfactory. A compromise amendment solved the issue of declaration of dangerous substances content in aligning declaration requirements on REACH legislation.

The Parliament proposal as well favored the use of electronic delivery of the Declaration of Performance. Providing declarations of performance on a website is not valid EU wide until a Commission decision will determine into which conditions it can be done. In between, it is up to every Member State Civil Law.

The conclusion on this topic should come very soon now as a final vote in the Parliament Plenary is foreseen in January 2011.

For more information please contact Geoffroy Tillieux.

German "green dot" firm sold to management and investors / Expansion throughout Europe eyed

Germany's largest packaging waste collection and recycling company, Duales System Deutschland is being bought by its management under CEO Stefan Schreiter, in cooperation with private investors. Current owner is private equity group Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, which acquired DSD in 2004. The transaction is expected to be concluded in the next few weeks following approval by the German cartel authority, Bundeskartellamt. Philippe von Stauffenberg, head of the investors group and managing partner of UK-based private equity group Solidus Partners, is designated to become head of DSD's advisory council.

Previous takeover plans by other potential buyers are thought to have tripped over cartel restrictions. Names circulating in the past included Sita Deutschland, subsidiary of Suez Environment. The buyout also ends plans mulled earlier for a stock market listing. DSD, which collects license fees from companies that use the green recycling dot on packaging, had a monopoly on handling post-consumer packaging waste in Germany when founded 20 years ago. It has successfully managed the transition to private ownership and is "well positioned in the market," said Schreiter.



We would like to thank you for the support and confidence shown to EuPC in 2010 and wish you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We are looking forward to further successful collaboration in 2011.

Alexandre

EuPC Upcoming events

08	March 2011	EuPF Excom	Brussels, EuPC Offices
08	March 2011	Packaging Excom	Brussels, EuPC Offices
09	March 2011	Steering Committee	Brussels, EuPC Offices
15	March 2011	NPA Meeting	Brussels, EuPC Offices
16	March 2011	NPA Meeting with PlasticsEurope	Brussels, tbc
17	March 2011	HSE / RM Committees	Brussels, EuPC Offices