

EuPCfocus



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

February 2006– Issue 1

Annual Meeting Helsinki

On **7-10 June 2006** EuPC will organize their **Annual General Assembly in Helsinki, Finland!** The five stars hotel Hilton Kalasjatorppa has been chosen for the meetings. A



sumptuous gala dinner and a social activity are on the programme. More information will follow later! Hotel guest room rates are at 151 €/single room/night and 186 €/double room/night. Deluxe rooms are 181€/single room/night and double rooms are 216 €/night. For more information please contact Bianka Nagy (bianka.nagy@eupc.org)

National Plastics Associations Meeting

National Plastics Associations Meeting on 27-28 March 2006 EuPC will organize a meeting of all National Plastics Associations directors (NPAs) in **London** in collaboration with PlasticsEurope. The objective of this meeting is to analyze the synergies of working with PlasticsEurope on common issues in a wider network to the benefit of the plastics industry in Europe. The first day EuPC will meet to discuss issues the 'converters' agenda points and the second day the PlasticsEurope NPAs and staff will join the meeting organized at the BPF offices. Discussion points with PlasticsEurope will be for example on standards, communication, chemicals & plastics and waste management. It is expected to have quite some new NPA members from the new EU member states present at this

meeting. For more information, please contact Alexandre Dangis (alexandre.dangis@eupc.org).

Conference on Education and Training

EuPC is organizing a conference on **28 April 2006** in **Venice** (location to be confirmed) on Education and Training where amongst others the **Europlastic project** will be presented. For more information please contact Bianka Nagy (bianka.nagy@eupc.org).

EuPC Trade Committee: New Set up and Activities programme 2006

Global trade issues play an increasingly important role for our European plastics industry. The EuPC survey organized last year among members showed that Trade came out second only to REACH as the top priority of EuPC members.



Erik De Ruijter

Trade issues will therefore receive increased attention within EuPC, through a **new set-up of its Trade Committee** which will become a regular and fully active horizontal committee alongside the other EuPC committees. Our new Trade Committee chairman is Mr Erik De Ruijter, general director of NRK, the Dutch Rubber and Plastics Federation. The committee will be managed by Mr Joy Donné, legal director of EuPC. Each year, the Trade Committee will also organize a **Global Trade Conference**, where prominent speakers from industry, European and international institutions and from national governments will analyze current trade issues important to the European plastics industry. For more information on the programme and on participation, please contact: joy.donne@eupc.org

or delphine.hebette@eupc.org

Programme 2006:

27 April First Meeting in Venice (Italy)

14.30 – 17.30hrs Exact venue to be confirmed. *The meeting is organized the day before the EuPC Europlastic conference on training and education at the same location in Venice.*

26 September Second Meeting in Warsaw (Poland)

14.30 – 17.30hrs. Exact venue to be confirmed *combined with a visit to a Polish plastics converting company.*

5 December Third Meeting in Brussels – EuPC Offices

14.30 – 17.30 hrs

6 December EuPC Global Trade Conference Brussels EuPC Centre

Collecting and Recycling of Roofing and Waterproofing Membranes

The European plastics roofing membranes manufacturers represented by ESWA, a EuPC sector group, collected 915 tonnes (of which 889 tonnes PVC) in 2005 and recycled 757 tonnes of post use PVC from these applications. With increases of 30% in collection and 48% in recycling ESWA ROOFCOLLECT®, as the system is called, achieved substantial progress on the year 2004.

Germany remains by a substantial margin the largest market for PVC membranes. In July 2005 a ban on the sending to landfill of most types of material came into effect. This had a significant and rapid effect with major increase in the volume of waste collected as from August.

ESWA ROOFCOLLECT® has partnerships with several recy-

cling plant operators, such as Vinyloop®, a process owned and operated by Solvay and Jutta Hoser in Kodersdorf, Germany, for recycling of PVC roofing and waterproofing waste material. This company has an innovative application for the recycle of drainage sheets for riding halls, tournament stadia and stables.

With the positive result of the ROOFCOLLECT collection system with INTERSEROH as partner ESWA is planning to enlarge the system to more European countries where no recycling systems have existed for these materials so far as Italy, Spain and Great Britain. The success of the ROOFCOLLECT system shows that ESWA manufacturers are credible in fulfilling their Voluntary Commitment targets and that it works.

For more information on ROOFCOLLECT® visit its multilingual internet site www.roofcollect.com and order the brochure.

Implementation of REACH

EuPC/ETHIC have taken the initiative to participate to the RIP 3.2 Phase 2 project financed by the European Commission. DG Joint Research Center (JRC) will take the lead but a number of tasks will be carried out by European Chemical Buro (ECB) and 50% of the work will be contracted out via a Call of tender procedure. The Project will last 12 months (should start on 1st April 2006); the additional two (as foreseen by the Commission) will probably serve as reserve months to adjust the work to Commission inputs; however the final draft should be ready after **10 months**; 500.000€

is the budget allocated by the EC. **EuPC/ETHIC** have been inserted in the list of leading organizations in the field of 1) **Preparations** and 2) **Recycling** and will provide input and have the lead on preparations/recycling.

Leading Organizations

1. Project CEFIC
2. WP1 (Exemplification of the ES and the CSA/CSR) Okopol
3. WP2 (Refining the ES concept) DHI
4. WP3 (TGD testing and development) RIVM
5. Occupational Issues TNO
6. Consumer Issues BFR
7. Environmental Issues UBA
8. Preparations/Recycling EuPC/ETHIC

The **first objective** is to further develop the concept of exposure scenarios, their use for quantitative exposure assessment and their incorporation into Safety Data Sheets according to the preliminary framework developed in the RIP 3.2-1 project. The starting point for this activity shall be the development of a number of practical examples involving five sectors / branches / supply chains where the contractor acts as facilitator. The **second objective** is to develop a guidance document for preparing the CSA and documenting it in the CSR. In line with the outcome of the RIP 3.2-1 scoping study, it is expected that the end product will be a two-level TGD; a 'concise TGD' for less complicated cases and applicable by persons/companies with limited risk assessment experience and a 'reference TGD' providing scientific background for cases where such is needed and requiring expert knowledge.

Updated Online European Customs Inventory of Chemical Substances

The European customs inventory of chemical substances (ECICS) has been refreshed with CN codes 2006. This priceless tool is devoted to everybody who is involved in the international trade of chemicals, all over the world. Thanks to the tool most of the internationally marketed chemicals can be identified in a clear way, for customs and legal purposes. It contains about 35,400 chemical names (ISO, INN, CI, IUPAC) for approximately 28,600 chemicals in 11 languages with the customs classification (Harmonised System and Combined Nomenclature) and the Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number. Via the CN code, ECICS provides an easy access to the TARIC database where the EU rates of duty and commercial policy measures on EU imports/exports can be found. The current version of ECICS embodies Commission Regulation (EC) No 1719/2005 of 27 October 2005 amending Annex I to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature, and the Common Customs Tariff See Official Journal L 286 of 28 October 2005 or http://europa.eu.int/comm/taxation_customs/dds/en/eci_au.htm The European Commission published two **contract award notices** concerning studies in the Taxation/ Customs Union area on 31 January. One notice refers to a "study on the impact of the reform of Community/common transit" and the other concerns a "study to increase the understanding of the economic effects of the VAT exemption for financial and insurance services".

EuPC Upcoming events

7 March 2006 15-16 March 2006	Large and Hard Decorative Surfaces WG Meeting Working Together on chemicals and plastics	EuPC; Brussels Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel, Brussels
23-24 March 2006 27-28 March 2006	Blow Moulding Conference National Plastics Associations Meeting	Sheraton Hotel, Brussels BPF offices, London
5 April 2006 27 April 2006	Free of charge expert conference for SME's, Plasteam EuPC Trade Committee	Scanplastfair, Göteborg Venice (location to be confirmed)
28 April 2006	Conference on Education and Training	Venice (location to be confirmed)
7-10 June 2006	General Assembly EuPC	Hilton Kalasjatorppa, Helsinki