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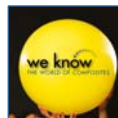
Composites Recycling Symposium hosted by EuCIA and ECRC

With a European composites market on the increase, the recycling issue is becoming a process in need of closer consideration. On 18th of February 2009, EuCIA together with the European Composites Recycling Service Company (ECRC) will held a one day seminar in Brussels for EuCIA Members and non-Members.

Senior representatives from marine, automotive and windmill industries will discuss the current situation of composites recycling and will have a look at both challenges and opportunities. The participants will also be informed about the latest EU legislation on waste and recycling. The seminar will include a Q&A session which will give the participants the opportunity to interact with the speakers.

During the seminar EuCIA will organize a poster session. Participants to the seminar will be able to share and get informed about the latest developments in the composites recycling. For more information do not hesitate to contact us.

The Programme and other information concerning registration procedure will be made available soon.



AVK survey reveals both challenges and opportunities in the European composites sector



The German Federation of Reinforced Plastics (AVK) has published its yearly survey about the market coverage, the developments of the fibre-reinforced plastics for 2007-2008 and the challenges & opportunities of the European composite industry. In the survey ("The Composites Market in Europe: Market Developments, Challenges, and Opportunities") it is noted that 2007 was a positive year for the fibre composite plastics market in Europe with a growth of 5.6%. Nevertheless both challenges and opportunities are envisaged for the future.

Challenges and risks are associated with shortage of raw materials, shipping costs, competition, current EU legislation, lack of acceptance of fibre composite materials by various application industries, SMEs dependence on customer industries and shortage of skilled personnel. Opportunities are envisaged in transport market in Asia the construction sector in Eastern Europe and product innovation in new markets.

The full survey by Dr.Elmar Witten (Managing Director- AVK) can be accessed via our website www.eucia.org

Source: AVK





The Italian National Composites Association (ASSOCOMPOSITI)

participates in Compotec 2008



Intermediate List of Pre-Registered Substances published by ECHA

On 7 October 2008 the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) published an intermediate list of pre-registered substances on their website.

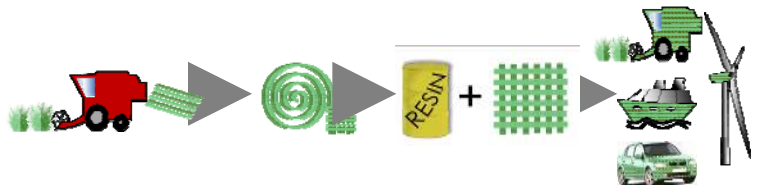
The list aims to help downstream users determine if substances of their interest are already pre-registered. If that is not the case they could remind their manufacturers and importers that companies can only benefit from the extended registration deadlines (2010, 2013 or 2018) if they have pre-registered their substances by 1 December 2008.

The list contains information on the EC/CAS number and name of 37,768 pre-registered substances, first envisaged registration deadline, the number of related substances that may be used for (Q)SAR, grouping (category approach) and read-across, and the synonyms are included.

To access the list please click on the following link: <http://apps.echa.europa.eu/preregistered/pre-registered-sub.aspx>

The intermediate list will be replaced on the 1st January 2009 by the final list, as required under REACH regulation. This final list will include substances pre-registered from 1 June to 1 December 2008.

Source: ECHA



Demonstration of in mould monitoring of reactive polymer processes

On 19 November 2008 the Composites UK will organise a one day demonstration about in mould monitoring of reactive polymer processes.

This demonstration is part of the dissemination process in the context of DYNAMIC project, a FP6 project funded by the European Union and coordinated by Composites UK. Partners in the DYNAMIC project come from across Europe - universities, industry associations and SMEs.



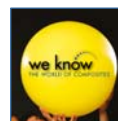
The aim of the demonstration is to show that in-mould chemistry will lead to cycle time optimisation, degree of cure control, degree of polymerisation, crystallinity and other physico-chemical properties of the polymer in the moulded article.

In some cases prediction and control of mechanical properties of the finished composite will also be possible.

The demonstration is free of charge and it will take place in London.

For additional information concerning the Programme and the location please contact us.

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EuCIA involved in NATEX - a new European Project

On the 19th November, the first Working Packages (WP) leaders will meet in Valencia-Spain for the start of a new European project under the Commission 7th Framework Programme.

EuCIA is involved in the NATEX project and acts as WP leader and Chair of IPR & Exploitation Board. Its role will be technology transfer, disseminations of results, search of wider applications for the project developments and exploitation and IPR of the results together with the other partners.

The main objective of the project is to promote the utilization of natural fibres in structural applications where traditionally glass fibres have been used until now.

As a result, aligned textiles from natural fibres that are suitable for use as high-strength reinforcing fabrics will be developed in order to obtain structural composite materials and components.

These textiles with greater added value from completely renewable sources will comprise all the possibilities for a broad range of applications and components.

To create these structural applications NATEX is proposing to bring several innovative developments such as:

- New and innovative enzymatic treatments will be undertaken after fibre decortication to enhance actual chemical and physical treatments
- Improvement of the dimensional stability of the fibres by reducing the adsorption/desorption of water from the fibres
- Improvement of the wetting and impregnation of the textile/yarn by the matrix polymer in the liquid phase and, subsequently optimise the interfacial characteristics between fibre and matrix, adding an inter-phase layer
- Remediation of the effects of fibre damage through control the surface properties of the fibre physical form and modification by techniques that will be developed
- Specific treatment of the yarn during warping process to obtain an optimum performance in weaving
- New spinning process. To process yarns by twisting it is necessary to provide a minimum strength/tenacity, required during the textile manufacturing process
- New weaving techniques will be investigated to improve impregnation, a critical parameter in composites processes
- Innovative weaving techniques to produce 3D high-tech natural fibres textiles
- For thermoplastic composites, in order to improve the permeability of the composite, commingling and film stacking will be investigated for the ability to give well mingled yarns with measured amounts of polymer and reinforcement filaments

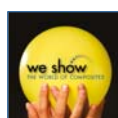
- Thermoplastic and thermoset resins will be adapted for controlling their viscosity using thermal conductive additives, increasing their compatibility with natural fibres by using coupling agents and surfactant additives

NATEX will also adapt a large range of resin processing methods in order to suit the characteristics of the new fibres and fabrics, since they need low processing temperatures and low residence time.

Optimisation of processing parameters to be investigated include: vacuum bagging, vacuum consolidation, compression moulding and continuous compression moulding, infusion and resin transfer moulding and joining technologies.

Under NATEX four case studies will be developed by designing specific parts used for structural applications in industrial sectors: transport, energy systems, agricultural systems and shipbuilding.

For more information about NATEX project please contact us.



International Congress on Raw Material Shift & Biomaterials

On 3-4 December 2008, nova-Institut will hold the International Congress on Raw Material Shift and Biomaterials in Cologne, Germany. The aim of the Congress is to bring together decision makers from all types of business sectors and debate alternatives to the fossil mineral raw materials from the perspective of today's raw material market.

EuCIA is a Partner of the Congress.

During the two days Congress speakers will address the changing framework for the raw material supply of the industry and biomaterials (biopolymers, natural fibre reinforced (bio-) plastics (NFRP) and Wood-Plastic-Composites (WPC).



The new Dahlar® Release Bag 520 from AIRTECH Europe

From the General Manager

Airtech Europe a division of Airtech Advanced Materials Group introduced Dahlar® Release Bag 520 small bore tubing, developed for the manufacture of high performance hollow parts.

Dahlar® Release Bag 520 is a self releasing multi-layer bagging film for direct contact with pre-preg for fabrication of hollow parts. It exhibits strength, temperature resistance up to 220 °C and vacuum integrity of Airtech's multi-layer film technology and release of epoxy and polyester resins.

Dahlar® Release Bag 520 is available in gusseted folding (LFT-G) which makes it easier to position accurately in hollow parts. Upon application of pressure the bag will easily expand to fit to the shape of the part which is very useful in applications where there are variations in the part diameter. This development ensures even application of internal pressure in cases of small diameter parts, where the insertion of a standard lay flat tube bagging film can be problematic.

Source: AIRTECH Europe
http://www.airtech.lu/site/en_index.php



4th European Trade Fair & Forum
for Composites, Technology and Applications

Neue Messe Stuttgart, Germany
27-29 October 2009



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

18-20 November 2008	NATEX Meeting	Valencia, Spain
19 November 2008	Demonstration of in mould monitoring of reactive polymer processes	London, UK
25 November 2008	ECRC General Assembly	Brussels, EuPC offices
3 December 2008	EuCIA Board and General Assembly Meeting	Brussels, EuPC offices
	08:30 - 12:30 Board Meeting	
	13:00 - 18:00 General Assembly Meeting	
3- 4 December 2008	International Congress on Raw Material Shift and Bio-materials	Cologne, Germany
17 December 2008	BioStruct Meeting	Valencia, Spain
18 February 2009	ECRC Recycling Seminar	Brussels, EuPC Centre

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