



# Newsletter

## European Composites Industry Association Newsletter Activities and Issues Overview

### • News from the Board

Dear Colleague,

Fairs and exhibitions in Plastics are turning to be an interesting topic. But are they all interesting for our industry and our markets? Well you decide...

While Visiting the K-Show in Düsseldorf, I realized that more than 60% of the exhibited space was occupied by machine and machine related business. Evidently an important market segment. For us, as representatives of COMPOSITES an opportunity to visit, but honestly not an essential need to see. Injection molding machines, packaging machines, extruders etc. A lot to see, but really not many speciality machines as we use them in our markets. The COMPOSITE EUROPE show in Stuttgart will be - in this respect - much more interesting for our industry. We will see applications and we will see how they are made. Very compact. 8.000m<sup>2</sup> full of COMPOSITES at it's best. **EuCIA** will appear in a new cloth. We have updated our vision statement and our strategic tasks. Not the content changed but the outfit. Much more appealing, much more modern and very good to understand. Come see us at the COMPOSITE Europe show.

### • News from Europe

**EuCIA's** home base is Brussels. And there is a good reason for an Association like **EuCIA** to be in Brussels. A lot of legislation nowadays comes from



Brussels. When the legislative process in Brussels is finished, the final regulation or directive is than translated by your national governments into national legislation.

The good thing about European legislation is that it

creates a level playing field for the composites industry in all countries of the European Union. Once implemented on a national scale, every composites processor, whether he has his production facility in the North of Finland or in the South of Spain, has to comply with the same base rules that have been developed in Brussels.

It is therefore very important to be present at the very beginning of the legislative process in Brussels. Meeting the right people in the European Commissions and in the European Parliament is essential to feed them with our ideas and wishes around themes that concern our industry. **EuCIA** is a sector group of the EuPC, the Association of Plastics Converters. The EUPC helps us to find the ways in the Brussels labyrinth. Their expertise is indispensable for a relatively small association as **EuCIA** is.

#### One example: recycling of composites

At present we are involved in the discussions about the revision of the Waste Framework Directive. This directive has a direct influence on our initiatives to organise the recycling of composite waste. The European Composites Recycling Services Company ECRC is developing a good way to recycle composite waste by feeding it into a cement kiln.

This route is at stake. In the new Waste Framework Directive the definition of recycling excludes energy recovery as a means of recycling. It is our opinion that recycling of composites waste through the cement kiln route has nothing to do with energy recovery. On the contrary, it is a splendid way to turn composite waste into a valuable new raw material for cement. Our efforts are focussing now on the interpretation of the recycling definition in such a way that it fits very well with the cement kiln route.

#### European Research and Development Projects.

Another European activity of **EuCIA** is the participation in a number of European Research projects. The EU spends a lot of funding on the development of good R&D initiatives. **EuCIA** is involved in a number of these research programmes. These programmes are very important for the long term future of the composites industry. Our role in the R&D programmes will be to organise the dissemination of the results of the project.

As we know the composites industry, we are able to bring the results directly to our members and their member companies. **EuCIA** not only knows the composite industry; in this way we also grow the composites industry.

- **New Sponsorship program**

The members of **EuCIA** are the national composites industry associations and sectoral groups working in specific parts of the composites market. Individual companies cannot become a member of **EuCIA**, but are of course welcome to join the association in their home country.

Individual companies have however the possibility to become a sponsor member of **EuCIA**. The sponsorship offers a number of benefits to these companies, such as the publication of their company logo on the sponsor page of the **EuCIA** website. They are also invited to join the Industry Leadership Forum which will be organised by **EuCIA** in conjunction with the Composites Europe show and the JEC show each year.

**EuCIA** has recently renewed its Sponsorship program. We are now offering two possibilities for sponsorship. Individual companies are invited to become either a Silver or a Gold sponsor to **EuCIA**. Obviously Gold sponsors are offered more benefits.

We are proud to announce that Airtech S.A. in Luxembourg has joined **EuCIA** as the first Gold Sponsor. Airtech will present itself at the **EuCIA** booth at Composites Europe.



- **America's most admired engineer builds his Virgin Galactic Express  
Burt Rutan might also use Composites**

Presentations by Burt Rutan are about true innovation, about contrarian thinking, and about the power of individuals and small enterprises. His "new space

race" already began in December 1986 when he designed and built an all composite airplane named "Voyager" to achieve a technical milestone that had eluded aviation for decades: his design successfully circled the globe after a continuous flight of nine days. More recently Mr. Rutan focused on achieving access to space at affordable cost. The world spotlight was once more thrust on Rutan when he and his company achieved another technical milestone of flying into space several times within a few days, thereby winning an X-prize of \$20 Million, in 2004. Burt Rutan is currently designing and building a fleet of space-vehicles for "Virgin Galactic Express," which will start commercial space tourism operations in the next few years. Come to Brussels and listen. The lecture will take place on **27 November 2007 at 19 hrs** at Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels. For registrations, please visit: [www.flag.be](http://www.flag.be)

- **From the General Manager**

November will be an important month for **EuCIA**. The Composites Europe show is held for the second time and our expectations for the show are very high. This year the show is held in Stuttgart in a brand new exhibition centre. This centre is located right adjacent to the Stuttgart airport and the A8 Autobahn. So, coming there is no problem at all. **EuCIA** is present in a new and vibrant style, reflecting the dynamics of today's composites industry. I am looking forward to see you at the show and to hear your remarks and comments about the way **EuCIA** is working on a better position for the European composites industry.

Ab Kasper  
General Manager EUCIA

- **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<b>5-6 November 2007</b>	AVK Conference	Stuttgart, Germany
<b>6-8 November 2007</b>	COMPOSITES Europe	Stuttgart, Germany
<b>27 November 2007</b>	The new space race - Burt Rutan	Brussels, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
<b>10 December 2007</b>	EuCIA General Assembly	Brussels, EuPC Center
<b>14 February 2008</b>	Innovative Polymers Conference	Brussels, EuPC Center
<b>5-7 May 2008</b>	The Athens Summit	Athens, Greece