

INDA's e-Filter Newsletter

The Filtration Industry's Information Hub

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Welcome to e-FILTER, sponsored by INDA, Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry (www.inda.org). It is sent monthly to executives within the global filtration business and focuses on the latest news, new products, patents, legislative issues and commentary in the filtration industry. Check out the information at the end of this newsletter on how to subscribe or submit your company's information for inclusion.

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NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2005 VISIONARY AWARD

Filtration consumer product manufacturers and their suppliers are invited to submit their nominations for the 2005 Visionary Award, which in its four years of existence has become the most prestigious award in the nonwoven and consumer products industries.

The award, presented by INDA, recognizes consumer end products that utilize nonwoven fabrics or employ nonwoven technology during their manufacturing process. They will be presented as part of the Vision 2005 Consumer Products Conference in January in New Orleans, LA.

INDA will be accepting nominations for the 2005 Visionary Award until September 1. The nominees will then be reviewed by an INDA selection committee and five finalists will be selected to make presentations at the Vision 2005 Consumer Products Conference. Conference attendees will then vote on the recipient of the award.

Last January at the Vision 2004 Conference in Las Vegas, the Brillo Scrub 'n Toss from Church & Dwight was selected by attendees as the recipient of the 2004 Visionary Award. Other previous winners include FMJ ChemBio for its Civilian Quick Escape Mask (2003) and Procter & Gamble's Swiffer cleaning system in 2002.

The criteria for the 2005 Visionary Award are simple:

1. The finished consumer end product must contain a nonwoven fabric or utilize a nonwoven technology during its manufacturing process.
2. The consumer product has to have been introduced to the trade or to consumers in 2003-2004.
3. The product can not have been selected as a finalist in any previous Visionary Award competition.

Products will be judged on their novel use of nonwovens technology, as well as on their consumer and trade acceptance. Eligible consumer product categories include disposable diapers, feminine hygiene product, adult incontinence products, household wipes and home filters, among others.

Companies can nominate their own products. While any number of products can be nominated, only one product per company will be selected as a finalist.

To nominate a product email an explanation of the product to Michael Jacobsen, Visionary Awards coordinator, at mjacobsen@inda.org or call 201-612-6601 with any questions.

For more information on the Vision 2005 Consumer Products Conference: www.inda.org .

INDUSTRY NEWS

P&G's WATER PURIFICATION TECHNOLOGY WINS BUSINESS AWARD

Procter & Gamble's PuR Purifier of Water recently won the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) World Business Award in support of the Millennium Development Goals. These are the first worldwide business awards to recognize the significant role business can play in the implementation of the UN's targets for reducing poverty around the world by 2015.

The winning projects were selected by an independent judging panel drawn from business, labor, research and academic organizations, environmental groups and the United Nations. The awards are presented by the ICC in association with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and The Prince of Wales International Business Leaders Forum (IBLF) in Marrakech.

PuR Purifier of Water is a low-cost and simple-to-use in-home water purification technology that visually clarifies the water and reduces pathogenic bacteria, viruses, and parasites to result in drinking water that meets World Health Organization guidelines. An estimated two million children die each year because of diarrheal diseases, many of which could be prevented by safe drinking water. P&G is currently providing PuR Purifier of Water to global relief agencies so they can provide drinking water in emergency situations. PuR has been used in Botswana, Chad, Malawi, Liberia and Zimbabwe. PuR Purifier of Water is also being tested in several markets to learn how it can be provided on a sustainable basis in the developing world.

FREUDENBERG AND VILENE IN CHINESE FILTER VENTURE

Freudenberg Nonwovens and Japan Vilene Company have partnered with a number of Chinese companies to create a new filter company in Changchun, China. This company has acquired the business of Changchun Autofilter Company and will initially operate out of the manufacturing facilities of this former supplier of car and truck filters for the Chinese market. It has nearly 300 employees.

CIBA LAUNCHES POLYMER FOR FILTRATION, HYGIENE NONWOVENS

Ciba Specialty Chemicals has launched a new polymer modifier that brings a new standard to nonwoven fabrics used in filtration products, diapers, hygiene products and cleaning wipes. Ciba Irgatec CR 76 allows nonwoven fabrics producers to use standard polypropylene spunbond grades or recycled granules from fiber scrap to design meltblown nonwoven fabrics that have significantly enhanced liquid barrier properties and mechanical properties over existing available products.

The technology of Irgatec CR 76 reduces viscosity of the melt, thereby controlling the degradation of the molecular weight of the polypropylene during spinning. It narrows the molecular weight distribution, bringing the advantage of better spinnability and enhanced nonwoven fabric performance. The safety properties, both for handling the product during production and in end-use, are also at the highest standard. This makes it ideal for broad usage in technical and hygiene applications.

FLEETGAURD FILTERS INDIAN PLANT TO MAKE 3500 FILTERS A MONTH

Fleetguard Filters (FFPL), a 50:50 joint venture between Kirloskars and Cummins' \$1 billion subsidiary Fleetguard Inc., is set to meet Euro-III and Euro IV standards when they are implemented in India. FFPL manufactures heavy-duty engine filters and exports to Europe, Australia, and Singapore through its U.S. parent and directly to Isuzu of Japan.

It is one of the first in India to get the automotive industry's newest quality certification, the ISO/TS16949. This will lead to more improved filtration efficiency, resulting in better fuel efficiency, reduced operation costs and longer engine life. FFPL is establishing a dedicated plant in Bangalore to manufacture 3,500 filters a month to cater to Ashok Leyland's Hosur unit.

FREUDENBERG FILTRATION UNVEILS TRUCK CABIN FILTERS

The Freudenberg Nonwovens Group Filtration Division recently introduced the micronAir cabin air filter for Class 8 trucks. MicronAir cabin air filters are "high-efficiency" filters. Freudenberg Nonwovens will offer the particle and combination filters for Class 8 trucks.

MicronAir particle filters use a three-layer electrostatically charged microfiber medium that is designed to remove virtually most, if not all, road dust, mold spores, diesel soot, pollens, and other airborne particles and allergens. Combination filters are composed of a particle filtration layer and an activated charcoal layer to remove not only suspended air particles but also noxious odors and harmful exhaust gas pollutants.

GENERAL ELECTRIC TO BUY BHA FILTRATION COMPANY

From Nonwovens Markets: GE Energy, a division of the General Electric Co., will purchase filtration technology company BHA Group Holdings Inc. for \$260 million. BHA, Kansas City, MO, has operations in 11 countries, supplying parts, services and engineered upgrades to reduce particulate matter emissions for a broad range of power generation and industrial applications, as well as ePTFE membrane products for use in a variety of industrial and consumer products.

Following the closing of the acquisition, BHA will be integrated with GE Energy's portfolio of environmental services.

The acquisition will add complementary particulate matter control capabilities to GE Energy's existing combustion control and emissions monitoring solutions, producing a more complete solution for the global customer base of both companies. The acquisition also adds ePTFE membrane technology to the GE portfolio, with multiple applications for this technology anticipated across GE's businesses. BHA is the latest of several acquisitions and product announcements designed to broaden GE Energy's offerings in renewable and cleaner energy production.

"In GE Energy, we are joining a company with one of the world's largest installed bases of power generation equipment, relationships with leading utility companies, and advanced environmental technologies," said James E. Lund, president and CEO of BHA. "This union will create an expanded environmental

solution for our customers, and produce multiple application opportunities for our emission control and ePTFE membrane technology across the GE portfolio."

The acquisition is subject to customary closing conditions including regulatory approvals and BHA stockholder approval. The acquisition is expected to close in late summer.

GE CONTINUES TO SEND WATER FILTRATION PRODUCTS TO DC

As of late June, GE Consumer & Industrial had donated 12,500 GE SmartWater filtration products to the District of Columbia residents whose homes have tested above the Environmental Protection Agency's regulatory action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb). The total estimated retail value of the donation is more than \$187,000.

"We are pleased that GE Consumer & Industrial has donated these filters to District residents, to help us to continue to address the elevated water lead levels in some homes here," said District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority General Manager Jerry Johnson. "This is another excellent example of the private sector working with the public sector to tackle an issue of immediate public concern, and we thank GE for this donation."

"GE is pleased to be part of the solution in helping WASA provide another level of reassurance for the residents of Washington, DC," said Gary Metzgar, GM Water Systems, GE Consumer & Industrial.

WASA is handling distribution of the GE filtered water pitchers. The GE SmartWater filtration pitchers are certified by NSF International, the nation's leading independent test lab for the certification of water filtration products to remove 98% of lead in the tap water up to 150 ppb. Each replacement filter provides up to 40 gallons or two months of filtered water. A slide indicator on the lid shows when it's time to change the filter. With each pitcher, three replacement filters will be provided by WASA. Additional replacement filters may be purchased at The Home Depot.

BRONX RESIDENTS UPSET OVER FILTRATION PLANT IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD

Bronx (NY) residents rallied early last month at City Hall to protest the possible building of a water filtration plant in the borough. Officials say the plant will be built under the Mosholu Golf Course in Van Cortlandt Park. Protesters feel the plant belongs in Westchester. Elected officials say the site in Westchester is a better choice because it is an industrial area and it is zoned for a public utility.

The Department of Environmental Protection surveyed the Bronx and Westchester locations and says both areas would be impacted. Officials from the department say Westchester would suffer greater historical losses if the plant were built there. Officials say if the plant is built in the Bronx, city and state leaders have promised the area would be restored after the project is finished.

According to officials, the Department of Environmental Protection had until the end of the month to make a decision on the location. Mayor Bloomberg, the city

council and most of the elected officials in the Bronx say they support building the plant in the Bronx.

FILTER PATENT REVIEW

REGISTER DISCHARGE WITH PROFILED TUBES FOR PRECOAT FILTERS

European Patent Pub. Number EP 1427505

Appl. Data EP 02798648 2002 09 12

Applicant: Anton Steinecker Maschinenfabrik GmbH

Inventors: Banke, Friedrich; Kain, Josef; Hahn, Adolf; Flossmann, Rudolf

Abstract The invention relates to a precoat filter for filtering beer comprising a filtration tank, a filtrate inlet and a non-filtrate space, inside of which a number of filter cartridges are arranged. The filter cartridges are combined via discharge lines so that the filtrate is fed from the filter cartridges to at least one discharge via the corresponding discharge lines. The invention is characterized in that at least the side of the discharge lines that faces the filter cartridges has a flat surface with through openings into which the filter cartridges are screwed.

SOLAR POWERED PORTABLE WATER PURIFIER

Pub. Number WO 2004052793

Applicant: Saraceno, Daniel

Inventors Saraceno, Daniel

Abstract The water purification system and associated method of the present invention consists of a generally self-contained, highly maneuverable, portable water purification system. Maneuverability is enhanced by mounting a cabinet on wheels or on a cart that may be easily guided to a water supply. Power is supplied to the system in a solar cell. The power is used to operate the pump of the system and to power the purifying radiation source. The system can also be used as a portable power source in addition to its capacity as a water purifier.

THAT'S ALL, FOR THIS MONTH ...

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