INDA's e-Filter Newsletter

The Filtration Industry's Information Hub

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May 2008

Volume 9, Issue 3 of the INDA e-FILTER Newsletter.

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Welcome to e-FILTER, sponsored by INDA, Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry (**www.inda.org**). It is sent every other month 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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In This Issue:

IMPORTANT NOTE: Filtration 2008 is scheduled for December 9-11 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia. For more information: **www.inda.org**.

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INDA FILTRATION NEWS

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR TWO MAJOR INDA TECHNICAL AWARDS

Nominations are now being accepted for both the INDA Technical Lifetime Service Award and the Lifetime Technical Achievement Award, both of which will be presented at the International Nonwovens Technical Conference (INTC) in Houston, Tex., September 8-11, 2008. Deadline for submission of nominations for both of these prestigious awards is June 20, 2008.

Lifetime Technical Service Award:

Presented for the first time in 2007, the INDA Lifetime Service Award recognizes individuals who have a long established record of service to INDA, specifically, and the nonwovens industry as a whole. "The Lifetime Technical Service Award is presented to the individual who has given his or her best both personally and professionally to service INDA and the industry," according to INDA Technical Director Steve Ogle.

Nominees should maintain an active partnership with INDA and should have held a key roll in planning and executing the long-term success of at least one of INDA's major industry services and is an avid supporter and spokesperson for the industry.

Basic Award qualifications for the Lifetime Technical Service Award include being an INDA member of good standing, having at least 20 years in nonwovens-related functions, and having significantly contributed to the growth of INDA events and the industry through his/her activities.

INDA Lifetime Technical Achievement Award 2008

The Nonwovens Industry Lifetime Technical Achievement Award is given to individuals who have a long established technical career in the nonwovens industry. This individual must have a long history of technical innovation leading to the development of intellectual property resulting in new products and processes. These developments will have added substantial fiscal value to one of more nonwoven companies and/or the industry as a whole.

Basic Award qualifications include being involved in nonwovens-related work, being an INDA member, and having at least 20 years in a nonwovens-related position.

Nominations for both Awards need to be submitted by June 20, 2008 to Regina Spitzer at **rspitzer@inda.org**.

INDA'S NORTH AMERICAN FILTER REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The increasing importance of air filtration is illustrated in the new "Air Filtration Industry of North America" report published by INDA. The five principal markets studied include industrial dust filtration (bag filters), HVAC (consumer, commercial and HEPA/ULPA), face masks, vacuum cleaner bags and transportation (air intake and cabin air).

This is the first in a two-part study being conducted. The second study will focus on liquid filtration markets and will be released in 2009.

The report places the North American (U.S. and Canada) air filtration market at the filter manufacturer's level at $3.1 billion in 2007, with average annual growth of 2.4% per year projected over a five-year period. INDA estimates the market will then reach $3.5 billion.

More information: **www.inda.org/pubs/marketing/index.html**

INTC TO INCLUDE PROGRAM ON NONWOVENS ENHANCEMENTS

A full-day Nonwovens Enhancements session focusing on "Coloring and Finishing of Nonwovens" will be one of the many highlights of the 2008 INTC, September 8-11, 2008 in Houston, Tex.

The Nonwovens Enhancements session is co-sponsored INDA and AATCC and will feature industry experts explaining the technologies and complexities of enhancing nonwoven fabrics. The one-day session will focus on innovative structure technology, coloring and printing techniques, performance finishes and surface treatments for product enhancement. A similar joint session was successfully held for the first time three years ago at INTC 2005.

Nonwovens Enhancements will be held on Monday, September 8. Attendees who register for both Nonwoven Enhancements and INTC will receive a reduced registration fee for the combined events. The Nonwoven Enhancements registration fee includes breaks, lunch and a copy of all presentations.

For more information on INTC and Nonwovens Enhancements: **www.inda.org**

INDA URGES MEMBERS TO COMPLY WITH REACH

Any U.S. nonwovens and chemical companies that export their products into Europe are urged to begin the registration process immediately as the European Union countries continue to enact the far-ranging REACH - Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals - guidelines in 2008.

Being phased in since its inception in June of 2007, REACH is a comprehensive European system that affects all manufacturers who import chemicals into the European Union. Basically, it establishes safety and environmental guidelines for chemicals exported into European countries from anywhere in the world while changing the responsibility from government to industry to prove that a chemical is safe for use.

The impact of REACH and what U.S. companies can do to assure compliance was the focus of the first-ever REACH Workshop sponsored by INDA in Cary, N.C. in late March.

According to a host of speakers at the REACH Conference, which was organized for INDA by Mike Thomason of Thomason Consulting, REACH places the burden of responsibility on individual companies to provide evidence that chemical substances being exported into Europe are safe for humans and the environment. It also requires

manufacturers to manage the risk of those chemical substances and to provide appropriate safety information.

INDA is urging all companies that do export these products to the EU - including chemical producers, importers and distributors as well as end-product producers and importers and downstream users - to pre-register between June 1 and November 30, 2008 even if they are unsure of going through the complete registration process at a later date.

After the pre-registration ends at the end of 2008 and during registration during the next several years, Europe will require a risk assessment for all chemicals used in EU member countries. Companies exporting product into Europe are considering many ways to obtain the risk assessment data - some is available from the chemical companies themselves and inn some cases companies will elect to complete the assessment themselves or as part of a larger group of companies.

For more on the impact of the REACH regulations, contact Steve Ogle at sogle@inda.org; 919-233-1210 x148.

FILTRATION INDUSTRY NEWS

PALL APPOINTS DONALD STEVENS AS PRESIDENT

Donald Stevens has been named as the new president of Pall Corporation. Stevens, 63, has spent almost his entire career with Pall. He heads the company's Industrial business and is also responsible for Pall's Global Shared Services Organization, which supports both its Life Sciences and Industrial business segments.

Stevens joined Pall in 1968 and has held many key management positions, including that of COO and president of Pall Industrial. During his career, he launched several new business segments, built the company's systems capabilities and most recently, led the restructuring of business processes in Europe and the Western Hemisphere.

K-C FILTRATION INTRODUCES GAS PHASE FILTER MEDIA

A new odor control filtration media from Kimberly-Clark Filtration Products provides commercial and institutional buildings a new way to remove odors and other irritant gaseous contaminants from their HVAC system air stream.

The filtration media delivers particulate filtration performance with added odor removal technology to deliver clean, fresh, odor-free air, thanks in part to its two-layer construction. The upstream layer provides excellent particulate filtration and protects the downstream carbon layer from particulate loading, to ensure maximum odor removal capability. The downstream layer is made of activated carbon, one of the strongest physical adsorbents, which rapidly adsorbs and retains gaseous contaminants.

It is made of thermally bonded, 100 percent synthetic fibers that resist shedding. The activated carbon components are securely bonded as well to prevent carbon shedding. The media can be made into 1-inch, 2-inch, and 4-inch pleated air filters and has excellent pleatability for sharp, crisp pleats.

“Filters with Kimberly-Clark brand odor control filtration media allow building owners to add gas phase filtration in single-stage systems without sacrificing particulate

filtration performance," explains Ronald Cox, market manager, Kimberly-Clark Filtration Products. "The new media also makes excellent pre-filters for multistage systems."

Kimberly-Clark brand odor control filtration media is designed for facilities such as restaurants, gymnasiums, fitness centers, beauty salons, doctor's offices, laboratories, pet stores, veterinary clinics and other commercial and institutional buildings.

FREUDENBERG UNVEILS PCR LUTRADUR

Freudenberg Nonwovens' Spunlaid Division North America has launched a post-consumer recycle (PCR) product range within its spunlaid nonwoven polyester product portfolio. These PCR products are now available in a variety of weight and width for all market segments (automotive, building and industrial segments) and have similar product properties as all other Lutradur products.

Freudenberg's post-consumer recycle polyester nonwoven products are manufactured using PCR chips made out of recycled polyester bottles that are being collected and reclaimed everyday throughout the country. Every square yard of its 85 grams Lutradur PCR nonwoven fabric contains one PET bottle that is not being sent to landfill, according to the company.

DUPONT LAUNCHES HYBRID MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGY FOR FILTRATION

DuPont recently announced the global availability of its Hybrid Membrane Technology (HMT) fiber in air filtration bag applications for industrial and commercial manufacturing. The product rollout has begun in the United States and Europe with availability through DuPont's laminator network.

"DuPont HMT is a product with a unique offering and significant benefits for manufacturers in every region," said Thomas G. Powell, VP & GM of DuPont Advanced Fiber Systems. "Our customers now have a product that increases cycle time up to nine times over the incumbent polyester felt, with an improvement in energy efficiency. More importantly, these fibers, only available through our Hybrid Membrane Technology, capture up to 10 to 15 times more dust and particulates in the air compared to incumbents, providing a cleaner environment for workers and consumers inside and outside manufacturing facilities."

Referred to as "dust collection bags" in the industry, these filtration products are used with exit air to capture particles so they are not emitted to the environment. The incumbent polyester felt bags are commonly used at any production facility that generates particulates and dust from wood, cement, asphalt, paint, minerals and powders, among others. HMT fiber bags provide air flow with an improved cycle time and better capture of particulates. Initial DuPont data, based on industry testing standards, shows that HMT technology provides energy savings by reducing down time and providing more consistent pressure levels.

DuPont estimates the global air filtration market at more than $1 billion, with the dust collection segment alone at $300 million.

HMT is a DuPont innovation based on nanofiber science. It is produced by DuPont in Seoul, Korea, using a proprietary spinning process that produces continuous filaments with diameters between 200 and 600 nanometers.

AHLSTROM RAMPS UP FILTRATION LINE

[FROM *NONWOVENS INDUSTRY*] Ahlstrom has added a new product to its Disruptor filtration media line. Disruptor PAC is a medium using nanoalumina fiber technology for water filtration. This technology, which is licensed exclusively by Ahlstrom from the Argonide Corporation, can economically improve the purity and taste of nearly any water stream by efficiently removing a large variety of contaminants including virus, bacteria and humic compounds-naturally occurring, ultrafine particulate organic compounds, about the size of a virus, produced by the decay of natural organic matter found in surface waters. Prior to Disruptor PAC, humic compounds could not be completely removed by microfiltration or ultrafiltration polymeric membranes.

Disruptor PAC contains powdered activated carbon having an average particle size of only eight microns. The small particle size produces remarkably high dynamic adsorption as compared to conventional granular carbon or carbon blocks. With Disruptor PAC, the retention of the powdered activated carbon is accomplished through electro kinetic adsorption by the nanoalumina fibers in the product, not with binders or adhesives. This retention mechanism makes nearly all the pores of the powdered activated carbon available for adsorption of chlorine, iodine, volatile organic compounds, disinfection byproducts and natural organic material from water.

Ahlstrom believes that the unique features of Disruptor PAC will provide filter and filtration device manufacturers with the ability to design more efficient and cost effective products to improve the quality of both drinking water and waste water. Disruptor can be used in a wide range of water filtration applications including beverage manufacture, pharmaceutical make up water, point of use and point of entry filters, boiler and chiller water as well as prefiltration to reverse osmosis membranes. Disruptor PAC is easily pleated into nearly any size of filter cartridge providing superior filtration efficiency at high flow rates and very low pressure drop.

EXXONMOBIL FILTER PRODUCT WINS INDEX08 AWARD

ExxonMobil Chemical's Vistamaxx 2125 specialty elastomer has won the INDEX 08 Award for the category: "Raw materials or component – innovation in a raw material of special relevance to the nonwovens industry."

Recognizing the best examples of excellence in innovation in the nonwovens industry, the INDEX Awards are sponsored by EDANA and were presented during INDEX08 in Geneva last month.

Vistamaxx specialty elastomers are being used in a growing range of nonwoven applications, including filtration, hygiene absorbent products, medical and industrial because of their versatile benefits and product qualities. These include good elasticity, toughness, the ability to bond easily with other materials for advanced processing, design flexibility, and a high coefficient of friction for slip resistant applications.

H2O INNOVATION SECURES THREE FILTER CONTRACTS

Canadian manufacturer H2O Innovation has signed three contracts in California, Alberta and northern Quebec.

The first contract was awarded to H2O's American subsidiary, Membrane Systems Inc. The membrane filtration system to be installed in the city of Oxnard, northwest of Los Angeles, will recycle six million gallons of wastewater per day to produce high quality drinking water using extremely effective membrane technologies.

H2O's Alberta division, Sigma Environmental, has been awarded a contract for the design and manufacture of a water purification system to be installed in an oil industry construction camp near Calgary, Alberta. Once up and running, the nanofiltration system will produce 84,000 gallons of quality drinking water per day for the camp workforce.

Lastly, H2O has also secured a contract to supply another BiH2Omobile-type mobile wastewater treatment unit to a mining camp in northern Quebec, Canada. Because wastewater treatment has become an environmental priority and with the implementation of new regulations requiring an increase in the quality of effluents, the mining camp once again sought out H2O's expertise and know-how to find a solution to its problem.

DONALDSON APPOINTS NEW OFFICERS

Donaldson Company recently announced that William Vann, VP-NAFTA Operations, Mexico and Latin America, will retire at the end of fiscal 2008. Bill, 62, joined Donaldson in 1967.

In addition, the company made a number of officer appointments effective at the beginning of fiscal 2009:

Lowell F. Schwab, 59, will become the senior VP-Global Operations, Mexico and Latin America. Lowell is currently Senior Vice President, Engine Systems and Parts.

Jay Ward, 43, is promoted to senior VP-Engine Systems and Parts. He is currently VP-Europe and Middle East.

Tod Carpenter, 48, will become VP-Europe and Middle East. He is currently VP-Global Industrial Filtration Solutions.

PEERLESS OPENS OFFICE IN CANADA

Peerless Mfg. has announced the latest addition to its group of companies with the recent formation of Peerless Manufacturing Canada Ltd., located in Calgary. The new office will be the focal point of Peerless' efforts in continuing to serve the expanding western Canada oil and gas market with its line of separation, filtration, and environmental equipment.

MANN+HUMMEL LAUNCHES FILTER MEDIA TESTING

MANN+HUMMEL has introduced simulation techniques that can be applied to determine the performance of filter media. Replacing time-consuming “multi-pass testing,” they accurately represent the filtration processes in 3-D fiber structures, according to the company.

Comparisons with measurements taken on actual filter media are also available. Initial results indicate that the simulations to a large extent correspond to the actual measurements for all three performance criteria, namely filtration efficiency, pressure loss and particle holding capacity. MANN+HUMMEL, development partner and original equipment supplier to the international automotive and mechanical engineering industries, is now in a position to calculate the particle holding capacity of oil and fuel filter media.

With the development of new high-performance engines, filter media must constantly meet increasingly demanding requirements. Now that the possible options for using paper in certain applications such as gearbox oil filters have been exhausted, the outlook for new synthetic fiber media is extremely promising. Simulation programs help to design more quickly and economically the fiber structures of these new filter media which meet the customer's specific requirements.

KOCHANSKI NAMED NEPHROS CFO

Gerald J. Kochanski has been appointed chief financial officer of Nephros, Inc., a medical device company developing and marketing products focused on end-stage renal disease patients. Nephros also markets a line of water filtration products.

PATENT REVIEW

AERATION METHOD

U.S. Patent US7361274
Applicant: Siemens Water Technologies Corp.
Inventor: Lazaredes, Huw Alexander
Abstract: A method and filtration module for providing gas bubbles within an array of vertically disposed porous hollow membranes to clean the outer surfaces of said membranes when the array is immersed in a liquid by feeding the gas bubbles into the array transversely of the vertical axis of the array. In one preferred form, the gas bubbles are retained within the array using a sleeve surrounding the array at least along part of its length.

EXTENSION AND LOCKING ASSEMBLY

U.S. Patent US7360658
Applicant: Parker Intangibles LLC
Inventors: Clausen, Michael D.; Knight, Steven R.; Maxwell, Martin C.
Abstract: A filter assembly includes housing enclosing a replaceable filter element. A support core is provided in the housing, and includes an extension and locking assembly. The element includes a ring of filtration media with a pair of end caps. The first end cap includes a central opening to receive the support core. The extension and locking assembly prevents the cover of the housing from being attached to the housing body without a proper filter element installed. The extension and locking assembly includes a bypass member and a locking member, which are in locking engagement when an element is absent in the housing. The second end cap includes internal protrusions which engage the locking member when the filter element is installed to disengage the bypass member from the support core, and allow the element to be inserted and the cover to be installed.

AN APPARATUS FOR TREATMENT OF DRINKING WATER, IN PARTICULAR FOR DOMESTIC USE

Pub. Number WO2008047393
Applicant: Enia SPA
Inventor: Carapezzi, Giuliano
Abstract: An apparatus for treatment of potable water, in particular for domestic use, comprises an inlet for untreated potable water and a first filtration unit operatively arranged downstream of the inlet to separate any solid suspended particles from supplied potable water. The apparatus also comprises a second filtration unit operatively arranged downstream of the first filtration unit for trapping;the bacterial

loads present in water from the first filtration unit. The apparatus comprises a third filtration unit operatively arranged downstream of the first filtration unit for separating organic and inorganic substances from water coming from the first filtration unit. The apparatus further comprises a dispenser connected to the second and/or the third filtration unit to enable supply of sterile water from the second filtration unit or of demineralised sterile water coming from the third filtration unit. The second and the third filtration unit are connected to one another and to the dispenser for supplying sterile water with regulable mineralization. The apparatus also comprises a tapping device connected to the third filtration unit for dispensing ultramineralized waste water.

FILTRATION CRANKSHAFT PULLEY
Pub. Number WO2008047046
Applicant: Renault S.A.S
Inventors: Agnoli, Fabrice; Pruski, Stanislas
Abstract: The invention relates to a pulley for driving filtration equipment comprising a filter element held between two concentric bearing surfaces, characterized in that the filter element is located inside an assembly of movable shells defining a housing that compresses the filter element between the bearing surfaces.

A MACHINE FOR ANUFACTURING COMPOSITE FILTERS
European Patent EP1913824
Applicant: G.D. S.p.A
Inventors: Draghetti, Fiorenzo; Rizzoli, Salvatore
Abstract: Filters of composite type for tipping cigarettes are manufactured on a twin track machine with two garniture sections. Groups of filter plugs having different filtration properties are ordered in succession end to end and advanced lengthwise along feed directions extending substantially parallel with one another and through a station where each succession of groups Passes along a garniture tongue together with a plugwrap and is formed into a continuous rod. The two rods proceed toward a rotary cutting head by which they are divided up on a given cutting line into single composite filters. To ensure that all the single composite filters turned out on both tracks will be identical, the axial position of each rod is adjustable along the approach to the cutter head, by way of a feedback loop.

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THAT'S ALL, FOR THIS MONTH...

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Any company with news for the INDA e-FILTER Newsletter, or any individual with something they want to say to the industry, should send an email to Michael Jacobsen, INDA, at **mjacobsen@inda.org**; 201-612-6601; Fax 201-612-6677.