

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 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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FILTRATION 2007 PREVIEW

FILTRATION 2007 SET FOR NOVEMBER 13-15 IN CHICAGO

A number of special events – including Product Tutorials, an Industry reception Wednesday afternoon and the annual Best Booths Competition – will help to make Filtration 2007 this month the largest, most important gathering of the global filtration industry of the year.

Filtration 2007 is scheduled for November 13-15 at Navy Pier in Chicago and INDA, organizer of the annual event, expects close to 2000 industry professionals from around the globe to come to Chicago for the three-day event. These attendees from every link of the filtration supply chain will visit with the more than 100 exhibitors.

Helping to make Filtration 2007 a memorable event will be a number of special events, including an Industry Reception that will offer unparalleled networking opportunities for attendees. Sponsored by Filtration 2007 exhibitors Ahlstrom, Fiberweb, the Filtration Group and Johns Manville, the Industry Reception will be held right on the show floor on Wednesday, November 14, from 4-5 p.m.

Among the other highlights of Filtration 2007:

- ❑ The annual Best Booth Competition, which will recognize the most creative and attendee-friendly booths in both the Large and Small Booth categories. The recipients will be announced in the Day 2 issue of the Daily Filter, the official Show Daily newspaper of Filtration 2007.
- ❑ A special session on Cutting Edge Media, featuring presentations on melt blown media, water separation, new ISO standards and Indoor Air Quality.
- ❑ Air & Liquid Tutorials will be held throughout the day on Tuesday, November 13. Moderators of these popular sessions will be Eric Hanson, of Air Techniques International (Air) and David Devries, Fiberweb (Liquid).
- ❑ Back by popular demand will be the Product Showcase on Wednesday, November 14. A host of suppliers will speak on new products, services and technologies available to the filtration market in concise, 15-minute presentations. This marketing opportunity is only available to Filtration 2007 exhibitors.

For more information: <http://www.inda.org/events/filt07/index.html>.

FILTRATION 2007 EXHIBITOR PREVIEW

Because Filtration 2007 opens in Chicago in two weeks, this issue of e-Filter provides a preview of what some exhibitors will be highlighting during the two day Expo.

Chase Machine: Chase will be demonstrating its FS-90 Ultrasonic Fabric Sealing System, a machine that will “sew” and/or slit knitted, woven, and nonwoven man-made thermoplastic materials without needle or thread. Material can be processed at rates up to 60 feet per minute. Higher speeds, up to 123 feet per minute, can be achieved with modification to the equipment. The Chase FS-90 is a sealing unit that can be mounted in a fabric handling system, and includes a variable speed drive mechanism; pneumatically activated sealing wheel arm; drive motor; control box; and foot switch or start circuitry to raise and rotate the sealing wheel and start ultrasonics.

Conwed: Conwed Global Netting Solutions will be promoting its ability to extrude diamond and square netting. Conwed is now manufacturing PBT tubes; these engineered resins are ideal for high-temperature applications, as a metal replacement and are chemical resistant. Also new at Conwed is the capability to supply netting with properties that offer conductive or flame retardant benefits. Its products can be customized, including color, diameter, widths, mesh sizes, thickness, temperature resistance and chemical resistance.

Coooca: Registered with ISO9001:2000 and ISO/TS16949:2002, and located near Shanghai, China, Coooca Environmental Techniques (Suzhou) Co. has completed new facilities for cabin filters and mini-pleat HEPA filters in its recently built 10,000 square meter plant. The company has begun to operate its strategic global expansion and formed production capacity of 1,500,000 pieces of cabin filters for the automotive industry as well as 500,000 pieces of all-series HVAC filters, clean-room HEPA filters, oven filters and filtration equipment such as HEPA-box and air-shower.

DelStar: DelStar Technologies will be showcasing its expanded range of Stratex engineered composites, traditionally comprised of laminate wound care pad stock. These new composites combine multiple layers of DelStar's filtration roll goods, including DelPore meltblown media, Naltex extruded netting, and Delnet apertured film. By bonding these materials through various methods, DelStar has given inherent structure to its filtration media, making it suitable for applications otherwise too demanding for delicate meltblown products.

DuPont: Following the receipt of the prestigious IDEA Achievement Award at the 2007 IDEA Show last April for its Hybrid Membrane Technology (HMT), DuPont will be at Filtration 2007 talking about the stricter regulatory requirements and rising energy costs that are spurring organizations to seek new separation and filtration technologies that deliver increased levels of safety and efficiency. HMT is designed for air and liquid filtration to help address this need and fills the gap between traditional nonwovens and microporous films. Comprised of continuous sub-micron fibers with a typical diameter between 100 nanometers and 1 micron and available on a commercial scale in the form of membrane-like sheet structures, DuPont HMT delivers a balance of flux/barrier performance.

Filtration Technology Systems: FTS, a designer and manufacturer of production equipment for the air filter industry, recently completed the construction of another building to its facility. Its original facility at 4239 Earnings Way with 25,000-square feet remains, while its new facility at 4237 Earnings Way has 9000-square feet and is available for proprietary work if needed.

Helix: Helix International, a manufacturer of spiral tube fabricating machines, will be showcasing its new Helix Double-XX In-line Expanding Spiral Machine. The machine produces Expanded Spiral Tubes from solid coil, making it no longer necessary to purchase or fabricate pre-expanded material.

Herrmann Ultrasonics: Rotating welding using ultrasonics has become the standard practice in bonding roll goods and at Filtration 2007 this week Herrmann Ultrasonics will be offering a variant to this continuous process that uses one or more ultrasonic anvil drums. In this variant, the ultrasonic anvil drums are slightly offset and thereby exploit the radial amplitude of the drums. This greatly reduces friction resistance encountered between the product and tool. But the main benefit is that current production speeds of 400 m/min can be easily raised by the new technology. The procedure allows thick and very fleecy materials to be bonded and makes three-dimensional welds possible.

H&V: Hollingsworth & Vose Company will be unveiling its HVision technology platform, a collaborative process designed to enhance the development and commercialization of breakthrough products.

“HVision will provide H&V with an enhanced R&D process focused on creating a new generation of products that exceed present performance benchmarks in the industry,” says Val Hollingsworth, H&V's President and Chief Executive Officer. Hollingsworth said the HVision technology platform consists of a development process focused on three key principles:

- ❑ Benchmarking the industry's best performance on the metrics most important to the customer
- ❑ Developing technologies that exceed those benchmarks to achieve breakthrough performance levels
- ❑ Focusing on creating core materials technologies that deliver unequalled performance across multiple products and markets

Keystone: Keystone Filter will be unveiling its newest innovation – the 222 GIANT industrial filter housing – this week at Filtration 2007. This plastic housing broadens the range of options already available in Keystone's GIANT line of high-capacity, high-flow filters. The 222 GIANT features talc-filled polypropylene white heads and is available with either a polypropylene or clear styrene acrylonitrile (SAN) bowl.

Lydall: Lydall Filtration/Separation will be introducing four high-performance filtration media platforms designed for air and liquid filtration applications this week at Filtration 2007.

- ❑ LydAir SGC combines the high performance of synthetic media with the processability of microglass filter media into one composite structure.
- ❑ Lydair Elements is comprised of a new category of glass fibers that meets the rigid health testing standards established by the European Union for fiber exoneration and are exempt from EU Category 3 classification requirements.
- ❑ LyPore SC, a 100% synthetic composite liquid filtration product line, is a uniform and durable depth media utilizing Lydall's gradient density design to provide low resistance and extended filter life. Engineered for superior processing on pleating equipment, LyPore SC provides high production efficiency and filter quality.
- ❑ LyPore Defender microglass filtration media grades are specifically designed to achieve the highest dirt holding in hydraulic, lube or any other filter element targeted for longer life. These grades are optimal when co-pleated with multiple support layers and can be used as the sole efficiency and dirt holding layer or in conjunction with a separate pre-filter.

Miller Weldmaster: Miller Weldmaster will be presenting its nonwoven heat-sealing equipment, an automatic tubing system with cut to length capabilities and the option to radius weld the ends. The Miller Weldmaster automatic tubing system is able to pull fabric off of roll, pre-fold into a desired tube diameter and weld into a tube. After the system has welded the filter, it is pulled directly into a precise cut to length system. From here users can add a radius welding option to be able to produce a complete filter bag in one process. The Miller System has line speeds up to 60 feet per minute with limited to no operator involvement.

Nordson: Nordson extruders that will be on display are specifically designed to process the hot melt adhesives and thermoplastics not typically processed efficiently in tank melters. A modular design provides application flexibility as does the customized screw design that gives consistent adhesive processing for a wide range of adhesives. The graduated heating process and closed system help maintain adhesive integrity. Specifically, EX extruders help improve bonding and preserve material properties of high-temperature hot melt and polyamide adhesives used in filter manufacturing.

Paint Pockets: Paint Pockets moves into another dimension with the launch at Filtration 2007 of its FLEX (Filter Life Extender) System. Paint Pockets new ESP (Extended Surface Pad) filter, with three-dimensional Diamond Pocket Technology, expands to a fourth dimension in the ESP. The ESP is held in the Paint Pockets FLEXCell Mounting System, reducing filter changes by up to 10 times compared to other filters.

Phifer: With more than 50 years of weaving experience, Phifer will be at Filtration 2007 promoting its solutions to the filtration industry's reinforcing needs. Phifer manufactures and supplies aluminum, low carbon steel and PVC-coated fiberglass for use in filters. Phifer's variety of meshes provides a range of choices for adding strength and support to virtually any type of medium, including cellulose, glass, synthetic and others.

Plastomer: Plastomer Technologies will be showcasing its Plastolon thread at Filtration 2007. Plastolon thread offers the durability, strength, and chemical resistance required to create the highest quality filtration dust bags, cartridges and other sewn filtration media. Made from monofilament expanded PTFE fibers, the product offers less abrasiveness than other materials, is chemically inert, and offers low flammability. This ePTFE thread will not degrade in high temperatures, withstanding from -250°C to 260°C, and is naturally hydrophobic.

Polyset: Polyset will be offering a complete line of polyurethane and epoxy systems for a variety of filtration markets and applications at Filtration 2007. Major markets that the company currently serves include:

- ❑ HEPA: Urethane products formulated for low outgassing for clean rooms, along with fire retardant systems that are non-halogenated but still meet Class I certification.

- ❑ Automotive: This family of urethane products was developed to replace plastisols in air, oil, gas and water/ethylene glycol applications.
- ❑ Canister Filters: A complete line of rotocast urethanes formulated to possess low initial viscosity and short demold times for shot sizes of 10-15g per filter.
- ❑ Water: NSF Formulated urethanes suitable for water filtration, utilizing inherent advantages of high fiber penetration, quick gelation and high productivity.

Sealant: Two products will be being highlighted by Sealant Systems.

- ❑ The See-Flo 7 Pneumatic Meter, Mix Dispense System has a pneumatic drive meter design that is simple to use and will last for many years to come. It offers economical, reliable and trouble-free continuous flow metering, a regulator adjustable flow rate feature to meet product flow rate requirements and is designed for filled and unfilled low to medium viscosity materials.
- ❑ The Servo-Flo 704 Servo-Gear Meter, Mix and Dispense System is a dual independent-servo drive gear meter design that provides electronically change ratio when using different formulations, fast and precise ratio adjustment for varying durometer and quick change of dispense volume when changing filter sizes.

Sheepscot: Sheepscot Dispensing Systems has supplied the filtration industry since 1978 with Meter/Mix and Dispense systems for use with epoxies, urethanes and silicones as well as single component equipment for use with plastisols. Products are available in piston or gear pump configurations. Additional products are offered for use in generating circular beads, used in end cap production. At Filtration 2007 Sheepscot will be featuring its Model 9450 Double Acting Meter/Mix and Dispense System, long considered a workhorse by the filtration industry. The addition this year of a four-way diverting valve increases flow and greatly simplifies maintenance.

Sungjin: Sungjin Co. produces ultra low pressure drop performance HEPA filter media, facemask media and pore size controlled liquid filter media designed for high-efficiency air filter media and middle efficiency pocket filter media. The high-efficiency air filter has the performance of 3.0 mm H₂O resistance and 99.97% efficiency at 32 lpm, based on the bi-component melt-blown technology. High-efficiency meltblown media improves the quality and efficiency by being applied not only to the building air conditioning system and clean room, but also to the household appliances such as air purifiers, air conditioners and vacuum cleaners.

Ticona: Fortron Industries, a joint venture of Ticona Engineering Polymers and Kureha Corporation, has expanded its Fortron linear polyphenylene sulfide (PPS) plant in Wilmington, NC, to 15,000 metric tons per year, completing a three-year effort that doubled the capacity of this site. The expansion creates the world's largest PPS plant. "The expansion will help us retain our industry leadership," says Fred Daniell, president of Fortron Industries, "and meet the growing demand for PPS worldwide in the electrical, electronics, automotive,

aerospace, technical textiles, filtration and many other industrial and consumer markets. It is also a great way to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Fortron brand and the many novel PPS grades we've introduced and innovative PPS applications we've helped our customers pioneer.

THAT'S ALL, FOR THIS MONTH ...

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