

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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ASSOCIATION/MEETING NEWS

FILTRATION 2005 WILL BRING THE WORLD TO CHICAGO

Filtration 2005 returns to Navy Pier in Chicago in November and the impressive attendee and exhibitor registration promises to once again make this THE filtration event of the year, anywhere in the world.

Filtration 2005 will be held at Chicago's Navy Pier on November 15-17. Based on the Rebooking Forms already received, exhibitors at Filtration 2004 (in Philadelphia) were very pleased with the prospects they met at the two-day event. Well over half of the 2004 exhibitors have already been assigned booths for the 2005 show.

Contact Marilyn Bellinger (919-233-1210 Ext. 118; mbellinger@inda.org) or Tracey Barefoot (919-233-1210 Ext. 129; tbarefoot@inda.org) for more information. Check www.inda.org for information on Filtration 2005 and other INDA events in 2005 and beyond.

2006 VISIONARY AWARD NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

Nominations began being accepted last month for the 2006 Visionary Award, which in its five years of existence has become the most prestigious award in the nonwoven and consumer products industries. The award, presented by INDA, annually recognizes consumer end products that utilize nonwoven fabrics or employ nonwoven technology during their manufacturing process.

The 2006 Visionary Award will be presented at the Vision 2006 Consumer Products Conference, scheduled for January 15-18, 2006, at the Sheraton New Orleans in New Orleans, La. See item below for more on the Conference.

The Visionary Award is a great chance for companies involved with consumer filter products -- whether suppliers or end product converters -- to compete with the rest of the industry for recognition. The Award has a history of recognizing and honoring filtration companies with a number of nominees from around the world; indeed, two years ago FMC Chem-Bio beat out giants such as Procter & Gamble and Kimberly-Clark for the 2003 Visionary Award.

INDA will be accepting nominations for the 2006 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 2006 Consumer Products Conference. Conference attendees will then vote on the recipient of the award.

Last January at the Vision 2005 Conference in New Orleans, BBA Fiberweb was presented with the Visionary Award for its Resolution Print Media product. The BBA product was selected by Vision attendees over five other finalists from such well-known consumer products companies as Gillette, Tyco Healthcare and Kimberly-Clark.

Previous winners include Brillo Scrub 'n' Toss (2004), FMJ ChemBio for its Civilian Quick Escape Mask (2003) and Procter & Gamble's Swiffer cleaning system in 2002.

The criteria for the 2006 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 2004-05.
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.

INTC SESSIONS TO FOCUS ON FILTRATION

Sessions reviewing developments in many nonwovens technologies that impact the filtration industry are on the agenda for the International Nonwovens Technical Conference (INTC), co-sponsored by INDA and TAPPI. INTC has become known as the leading worldwide technical conference and state-of-the-art papers along with more than 70 technical experts from around the world make this event a critical, must-attend event for the filtration technical community.

INTC 2005 will be held at the Millennium Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri, September 19-22. Ian M. Julian, Director of Synthetic Fibers, Chemical Market Associates, Inc. will provide the keynote speech.

A special feature is the Nonwoven Enhancements Seminar: Innovations in Coloration and Finishing, co-sponsored with AATCC. Attendees will learn about mechanical/surface finishing, dyeing techniques and coloration techniques.

INDUSTRY NEWS

KIMBERLY-CLARK FILTRATION LAUNCHES NEW WEB SITE

Kimberly-Clark Filtration Products has completely re-designed its Web Site (www.kcfiltration.com) to be a one-stop resource for information about indoor

air quality and related issues such as mold and energy efficiency, as well as the company's liquid and air filter media products. The site features a fresh new look, quick access to information, and interactive tools that help save money on HVAC operating costs.

Highlights of the new Web site include:

- ❑ Interactive On-Line Calculator that allows users to compare the energy consumption of two different filters by utilizing pressure drop, thus helping to understand life cycle costs of filter media.
- ❑ A Resource Center containing information on indoor air quality, energy consumption, mold and other topics; case studies, technical papers and other articles; downloadable brochures that provide tips on selecting and maintaining HVAC filters; and links to industry organizations. Materials in this section can be downloaded upon registering with the site.
- ❑ A News & Events Section featuring both Kimberly-Clark and industry-wide news and events.
- ❑ Product Information on Kimberly-Clark air filter media and liquid filter media products. Key information is easily viewable with "mouse-over" technology, eliminating the need to open a new Web page. More detailed product specs and technical information are also available.
- ❑ A Where to Buy Section that identifies filter distributors that carry Kimberly-Clark Filter Media products.

GE, PALL EXPAND WATER TREATMENT ALLIANCE

General Electric's GE Infrastructure, Water, and Process Technologies unit and Pall are to merge their respective advanced membrane and separation technologies in water treatment applications. The deal is an expansion of a January 2004 partnership between the companies that combined GE's advanced-design reverse osmosis/nanofiltration systems with Pall's microfiltration/ultrafiltration capabilities for the reuse and recycling of water.

Under the expanded alliance, GE and Pall will develop and market advanced membrane, filtration, and separation technologies for the municipal, industrial, water reuse, and desalination water treatment sectors. The companies are to develop products that will allow customers to cut costs and increase the efficiency of water purification systems. According to GE, a fifth of the world's population and industrial sites are currently affected by water scarcity. Demand for water treatment services is growing in every region of the world. Desalination is the fastest-growing segment and currently accounts for about half of the \$9 billion per year world water treatment market. A doubling is expected over the next 10 years.

POLYPORE EXPANDS ITS ASIAN PRESENCE

Polypore will further expand its presence and market capabilities in Asia. In order to better accommodate customer growth and related demand for both lead-acid and lithium battery separators in the greater Asian market, Polypore will transfer certain assets from Europe and the U.S. to its facilities in Thailand and China.

This capacity realignment plan for its Energy Storage business includes the closure of the company's facility in Feistritz, Austria, the downsizing of its Norderstedt, Germany facility and the relocation of certain assets from these two plants to the company's facilities in Prachinburi, Thailand. Additionally, certain finishing equipment from the company's facility in Charlotte, NC, will be relocated to its facility in Shanghai, China, while maintaining the Charlotte-based finishing operation in support of its customer base in North America and Europe.

FILTERS TO HELP WITH WATER CONTAMINATION CAUSED BY FIREWORKS

[From *Des Moines Register*, By Jeffrey Patch] The Hills (IA) Fourth of July fireworks show will go on this summer despite a report from the EPA citing the explosives as the cause of groundwater poisoning in the town.

"They haven't found anything," said Hills Fire Chief Steve Emerson, referring to the lack of physical evidence of fireworks as the cause of the poisoning. "That's how cautious we are on lighting these shows off."

An official from the EPA told Hills residents Wednesday that unexploded fireworks caused a contamination of local groundwater and that the EPA will pay for the installation of water filters in affected houses. Craig Smith, a senior engineer with the EPA, said "mishandling" of fireworks caused a high level of perchlorate in the Hills groundwater. Smith declined to recommend whether the fireworks show should be ended.

The contaminating fireworks had not exploded because used fireworks would produce only trace amounts of perchlorate in the groundwater, Smith said. He said the contamination correlates with fireworks display sites.

The Hills site is the first in the nation determined to be contaminated by a fireworks display, according to the EPA and national fireworks experts.

About 25 families in Hills -10 percent of the population - have been drinking bottled water since September 2003, when EPA officials notified residents of the contamination. Levels of perchlorate in Hills' wells have reached as high as 108 parts per billion, but levels have been falling recently in some parts of the town. The EPA says water is safe to drink if the perchlorate is below 18 parts per billion.

Smith said the new water filtration systems that the EPA will pay to install in July will be more efficient and practical for residents than bottled water. Filters on the systems must be replaced every few months, and the EPA will pick up the cost. "It will be more protective because it will be more convenient for people to use," Smith said.

The initial cost of the water filtration units is \$444, and the first year of maintenance will cost \$270. Smith said the units will cost less than bottled water over a five-year period.

USFILTER/ZIMPRO HONORED FOR EXPORTING SUCCESS

Officials at USFilter/Zimpro never really thought much about the company's exporting success until a few months ago. That's when the Wausau Region Chamber of Commerce encouraged officials at the company's Rothschild plant to apply for a Governor's Export Achievement Award for its work in shipping high-tech filtration systems across the globe. The company received the award in May.

In applying for the award, the company gathered and analyzed data on its export sales. The importance of international trade to the business surprised even top officials: In 2005, 70 percent of new sales are expected from abroad.

"We just never looked at how much of what we produced here gets exported," said Gerald Rogers, senior vice president of USFilter/Zimpro. "It's like there's no part of the world we're not doing business in right now. ... We happen to be the world leader in the technology so, wherever in the world the demand is, we're best able to support that demand."

In the medium industrial category, the company was recognized not only for retaining local jobs through export sales, but also for helping smaller state manufacturers which provide 20 percent of the company's parts.

CDA TO INSTALL 12 WATER FILTRATION PLANTS IN ISLAMABAD

The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has decided to install 12 drinking water filtration plants in various thickly populated sectors of Islamabad. The CDA supplies water in accordance with the WHO guidelines but the plants are being installed to further improve the quality of drinking water. Quality of water from these plants would be as good as bottled water supplied by various bottlers, however, consumers would receive water in portable containers at the filtration plants.

FOUR FILTER PLANTS BEING BUILT IN PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico's government will construct four new potable water treatment plants worth some \$130 million, local newspaper El Nuevo Día reported. The plants will be located in the cities of Aguadilla, Fajardo, Isabela, and Villalba, according to the report.

In addition to announcing new projects, Governor Aníbal Acevedo inaugurated the \$57.2 million Canóvanas water filtration plant, which officials expect to provide 10M gallons a day of potable water for some 95,800 residents.

FILTER PATENT REVIEW

CIRCULATION METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TREATING BATHING WATER

European Pub. Number: EP1537051

Applicant: VA TECH WABAG Deutschland GmbH & Co. KG

Inventors: Hagen, Klaus; Reis, Michael

Abstract: The invention relates to a circulation method for treating bathing water from swimming pools, whereby according to hydraulic and hygienic

requirements, up to 100 % of the circulation quantity of bathing water originating from a swimming pool is subjected to a filtration and is returned to the swimming pool. Dirty water obtained from this filtration is purified by means of membrane filtration, and the filtrate is likewise returned to the bathing water circuit. The invention is characterized in that the filtration of the bathing water is also effected by using membrane filtration, and the membrane filtration for the dirty water is at least partially used for the filtration of bathing water. The use of membrane filtration for the bathing water filtration results in a higher quality of the filtered bathing water. In order to enable the second membrane filtration to be used, when required, for filtering the bathing water in the event that the bathing water is extremely dirty, an increased throughput capacity can be made available if necessary.

WATER FILTRATION SYSTEM AND APPARATUS

Pub. Number: WO2005053817

Applicant: INTERPET LIMITED

Inventor: Halls, Stephen

Abstract: A filtration system for liquids including a housing/container having a liquid inlet and a liquid outlet and containing liquid filtering material, characterised in that liquid flow control means are provided in the liquid inlet path of the system for preventing reverse flow of liquid and any contaminant material contained therein material through the liquid inlet.

CONVEYING AIR FILTRATION SYSTEM

Pub. Number: US6905528

Applicant: Trützscher GmbH & Co. KG

Inventors: Rübénach, Bernhard

Abstract: An arrangement used for filtering out conveying air when supplying fiber material to a processing machine is provided. The arrangement has an essentially vertical filling chute for the fiber material, the chute having an upper intake opening and a lower exit opening, a device with pneumatic fiber feed at the upper intake opening, and a floccule-forming device at the lower exit opening including a system of draw-in rolls and a fast-rotating opening roll. The chute includes at least one air-permeable surface for separating the fiber material from the conveying air. An evacuating device evacuates the filtered out conveying air. An exhaust air device is coupled to the evacuating device and has an air stream regulator which is connected to a control and regulating device. The conveying air stream is guided along the opening roll, and a partial air stream of the filtered out conveying air is guided into the exhaust air device.

PREFILTER FOR WATER TREATMENT

Pub. Number: US6905599

Applicant: KriStar Enterprises, Inc.

Inventor: Allard, Douglas

Abstract: An apparatus and method for use in conjunction with grassy swales and sidewalk cross drains to collect and filter or otherwise treat dirty or polluted storm water runoff or other fluid is disclosed. One or more prefilters are installed at one or more inlets to a grassy swale or a sidewalk cross drain, such that at least a portion of any storm water runoff or other passing fluids are at least partially filtered or otherwise treated to some extent before entering

the grassy swale. The prefilters comprise an inlet adapted to deliver fluid therethrough; an outlet adapted to deliver fluid therethrough, one or more structural elements connecting to inlet to the outlet, and one or more filtration elements attached to at least one of the structural elements.

PORTABLE FILTER UNIT AND METHODS FOR USING SAME

Pub. Number: WO2005051437

Applicant: Laiti, Peter, J.

Inventor: Laiti, Peter, J.

Abstract: Portable, rapidly deployable filter unit for use in air filtering methods providing high efficiency filtration of airborne toxins. The filter unit includes a fan section and a filter section that are releasably attachable at their respective lateral ends permitting the filter unit to be reconfigurable to properly handle a variety of threat scenarios involving protecting the occupant(s) and equipment in an enclosure against an airborne release of toxic chemical, biological, or radiological agents that threaten to contaminate the air supply, or, alternatively, for decontaminating the air of an isolation room occupied by contaminated or contagiously ill persons or materials and protecting the occupants or equipment located outside the isolation room

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 [mjacobson@inda.org](mailto:mjacobsen@inda.org) ; 201-612-6601; Fax 201-612-6677.