

INDA NEWS

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INDA

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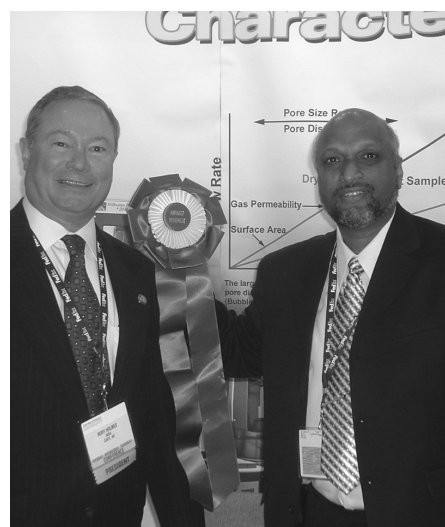
Message From The President

A Successful 2004 Paves The Way For An Exciting New Year For INDA Members

After just more than a year as president, I have witnessed some dramatic accomplishments at INDA. In the last 12 months we have organized more events than ever before in INDA's long history. This has been a record-breaking year in terms of both activities and membership. The year closes with 15 conferences, expositions and training courses completed and a new membership record of 308.

These events started with the 2004 Vision Consumer Products Conference

INDA President Rory Holmes (left) presented the First Place, Small Booth ribbon to Dr. Krishna Gupta of Porous Materials at the Filtration 2004 Conference and Exposition in early December. For more on Filtration 2004, including the other Best Booth winners, see page 7.



in Las Vegas in January and carried through the Filtration International Conference and Exposition in Philadelphia in December. Each event has been very well reviewed by the attendees. With the economy improving, we can anticipate even better results in 2005.

Of course, IDEA04 was the highlight of the past year, with 380 companies exhibiting and approximately 6000 attendees making their way to the Miami Beach Convention Center. Exhibit space was up approximately 1% and attendance was about the same as IDEA01, which in this economic climate is a victory for our staff, association and industry.

In addition to events, INDA published an updated "Analysis of the Nonwovens Industry in North America" and just recently published the "Worldwide Outlook for the Nonwovens Industry: 2004-2009" with EDANA. Both reports continue our practice of gathering the details of production capacities, technologies and products for virtually every machine in each region and rolling this data into a comprehensive report. With such background detail, INDA is well able to answer questions about the industry and its components.

Our education efforts have culminated in the accreditation of our

(Continued on page 2)

Technical Update

INTC Calling For Technical Papers For September

Deadline for abstracts is January 31 for 2005 Meeting in St. Louis

As they have done the past several years, INDA and TAPPI members are partnering to develop the International Nonwovens Technical Conference (INTC), which will be held at the Millennium Hotel, St. Louis, MO, September 19-22, 2005.

The 2005 Call for Papers is published on INDA's website (www.inda.org), as well as the Student Paper and Student Poster information. Abstracts for presentations are due to INDA by January 31, 2005 and Student Paper and Poster abstracts are due by May 31, 2005.

Papers presented at the International Nonwovens Technical Conference (INTC) will focus on a series of technical topics as listed. INTC will target members from nonwoven roll good producers and converters, as well as suppliers. Attendees will include mid- to upper-level management from research and development, sales and marketing, quality control, plant production, corporate division heads, academia, machinery and equipment manufacturers, suppliers of fibers, chemicals, and finishes, roll good manufacturers, private, government, and academic research facilities, and end-users of nonwoven roll goods.

By presenting a paper at INTC, you will reinforce your expertise within the nonwoven community, gain recognition amongst your peers and with potential customers, enhance your reputation

The Winter 2005 issue of the INDA International Nonwovens Journal will be available online this month at www.inda.org. Just click on the link for the INJ.

as a leader within the industry, provide your company with invaluable industry visibility, and your written paper will be distributed to all conference attendees in the

INTC 2005 Book of Papers. And, if you are an end-user of nonwoven products, you will have the unique opportunity of telling suppliers your needs.

Message from The President *(Continued from page 1)*

short courses that we offer with North Carolina State University. These weeklong courses can now be taken for graduate credit. A student enrolls in Post-Baccalaureate Studies at NCSU and also enrolls in our short course. After completing the week's lectures, laboratories and a final exam, the student will earn three graduate credit hours toward a Graduate Certificate or a Master's Degree. Class sizes are small and each student gets a good portion of individual attention.

So, what's ahead for INDA in 2005?

- We expect to expand our membership beyond its current 300+ companies with an eye toward 400 members by 2009, as depicted in our current Strategic Plan.
- INDA will focus on increasing member participation, especially among smaller companies.
- We will continue to question everything that we do to confirm that the products and services that we offer are in line with our industry's needs.
- We will increase our role in technology, research and governmental affairs.
- Lastly, INDA will continue to expand our relationships with other associations, especially on the international level.

It has been a very busy year for INDA. We look forward to the challenges and opportunities afforded us in 2005. I hope everyone will be able to share in these opportunities.

— Rory Holmes, President, INDA

Best Papers Awarded For INTC 2004 Conference

The latest technical research in the nonwovens industry was presented at the recent INTC in Canada, and the recipients of the INTC 2004 Best Papers competition were recognized.

- The overall winner of the INTC 2004 Best Paper was Griffin Gappert, of Rohm & Haas, for his paper titled "Predictive Test Methods for Acrylic Thermoset Binders." Gappert received a \$1000 award for this recognition.

More than 400 professionals from industry and academia heard more than 70 technical papers during INTC 2004, September 20-23, 2004 in Toronto. The annual technical conference is co-sponsored by INDA and the Nonwovens Division of TAPPI.

"INTC provides an important forum for the presentation of the latest technical research in the fields of nonwovens and engineered fabrics," says INDA President Rory Holmes. "The papers that have been selected as recipients of this recognition represent the 'Best of the Best' in the vital research that will bring our industry into the future."

For the first time, each session at INTC recognized a Best Paper and from those papers the overall winner was chosen.

- Product Development Tutorial. Theodore R. Remaklus, Wood, Heron & Evans, "Intellectual Property & New Product/Process Development"

- Modeling Short Course. Behnam Pourdeyhimi, Ph.D., NCRC/NCSU, "Hydroentangling"

- Filtration. Casey Dyer, Porous Materials Inc.; "Pore Volumes of Nanofiber Nonwovens"

- Building & Industrial Mat. William Henry, Advance Systems,



Dr. Michael Morman (right), a prolific inventor for consumer products giant Kimberly-Clark, was presented with the prestigious Lifetime Technical Achievement Award from INDA during INTC in September. Morman retired in 2004 year after a 28-year career as a researcher at Kimberly-Clark. He is credited with 289 invention disclosures, 63 issued patents and more than 20 applications currently in prosecution. He is pictured here with his father, Frank, and wife Judy.

"How to Level Temperature Profiles for Mat Line Dryers"

- Properties & Performance I. Benoit Maze, NCRC/NCSU, "3D Simulation of Nonwoven Structure"

- Wipes. Jim Robinson, Hygienitec, "Wipes-Convenience in Technology: Product Development for Growth"

- Properties & Performance II. Peter Spicka, Fluent, Inc., "Product Performance Analysis Model for Nonwoven Absorbent Media"

- Automotive. Gajanan Bhat, Ph.D., University of Tennessee, "Cotton Fiber Nonwovens for Automotive Composites"

- Polymers & Fibers I. Roy Broughton, Ph.D., Auburn University, "New Solvents for Cellulose Fiber Production"

- Process Technology. Don Shif-

fler, Ph.D., NCRC/NCSU, "An Examination of the Hydroentangling Process Variables"

- Insulation. Desi Chari, Rohm & Haas, "Regulatory Road Map for Formaldehyde Emissions & Other Hazardous Air Pollutants in Fiberglass Insulation Materials in the United States"

- Polymers & Fibers II. Svetlana Verenich, NCRC/NCSU, "Enzymatic Treatment of Cotton Fibers for Improving Properties of Nonwovens"

- Spunbond/Meltblown. Vishnu Marla, University of Oklahoma, "Varieties of Melt Blowing Dies"

- Barrier. Karen Leonas, Ph.D., University of Georgia, "Using LSCM to Study the Transmission Mechanism of Small Particles Through Surgical Face Masks"

INDA NEWS

Registration Is Open For Vision 2005 Conference In New Orleans

Registrations are pouring in for the much-anticipated Vision 2005 Consumer Products Conference, set for January 16-19, 2005, as the annual event returns to New Orleans, LA. A focus on Globalization and Consumer Opportunities, along with unparalleled networking, will attract hundreds of consumer products and nonwovens industry executives to the annual Conference,

Now in its fourth year, the Vision Conference is expected to attract more than 500 participants for three days of presentations, discussions and the prestigious Visionary Awards (see below).

Among the highlights of the Vision 2005 Consumer Products Conference:

- A "Globalization" session spear-



headed by Dieter Brandes, previously an executive with Aldi, the German retailer that has "out Wal-marted Wal-mart" in its native country and is looking to expand its presence in the U.S.

- A "Lessons from the Leaders" panel discussion that will bring together the top executives from such influential suppliers as PGI, BBA Fiberweb, Freudenberg, Nordson and Tredegar Film Products to offer their perspectives on the business and to answer questions from attendees.
- Presentations from the consumer

research firm A.C. Nielsen as part of a "Profitable Consumer Trends" session. That session will also include a look at household cleaning products from the Soap and Detergent Association; a "Marketing To Women" discussion; and a Consumer Trends segment that will feature an informative Consumer Focus Group moderated by The Martec Group.

- Vision attendees are in for a treat on the final morning of the Conference when INDA will host a breakfast where Peter Ricchiuti, noted Tulane University business professor, will give an entertaining and informative look at "Globalization – The Good, The Bad and The Ugly." Ricchiuti has been described as a cross between Alan Greenspan and Robin Williams. To register: www.inda.org

Six Finalists Named For 2005 Visionary Award

Two European and four U.S. makers of consumer products – including giants Kimberly-Clark and Gillette – will compete for the prestigious 2005 Visionary Award.

The Visionary Award is presented annually by INDA to recognize recently introduced consumer products that utilize nonwoven fabric technology. The Award will be presented during the INDA Vision 2005 Consumer Products Conference, January 16-19, 2005, in New Orleans, LA.

The finalists for the 2005 INDA Visionary Award:

- **Resolution Print Media, BBA Fiberweb (U.S.).** Resolution has a tactile, non-glare surface that is easy to print. With a stable structure that reduces fraying, its applications include photographic prints; consumer packaging; banners, trade show graphics, backdrops and signs; and tags and labels.

- **Oral-B Brush-Ups, Gillette (U.S.).** Introduced in June 2004, Oral-B Brush-Ups are a new way to keep breath fresh and a smile bright while on-the-go. The disposable, textured dental wipes provide discreet "brush-ups" anywhere, offering a way to clean teeth and freshen a mouth with a burst of mint flavor.

- **Huggies Disposable Wash Cloths, Kimberly-Clark (U.S.).** Introduced in 2004, the Disposable Washcloths feature Lavender and Chamomile baby wash in the cloth. The thick cloth has a gentle texture to be soft on an infant's skin.

- **Automotive Oil Filter, Mann + Hummel (Germany).** Introduced in September, 2003 it is described as "the world's first fully synthetic oil filter element for automotive applications." The material

utilizes a polyester fleece. The two-layered filter medium consists of a support and drainage layer as well as an active filter layer.

- **Soft-Fit Training Pants, Tyco Healthcare Retail Group (U.S.).** This new Private Label Training Pant is a nonwoven disposable product that utilizes Tyco's pulpless Soft-Fit core, made using Tyco's Dry Formed Composite (DFC) technology. It was launched in both Medium and Large sizes of White Cloud Soft-Fit Training Pants at Wal-Mart this fall.

- **Love 'N Sanitary Napkin/Panty Liner, WIP srl (Italy).** Introduced in 2004, the natural sanitary napkin and pantyliner utilizes a mix of eco-friendly PLA fiber from Far Eastern Textile, Lysac natural super-absorbent (Lysorb) and Mater-Bi biodegradable film from Novamont. Packaging also incorporates the Mater-Bi biodegradable film.

Welcome To New INDA Members ...

INDA is continuing to set records in regards to membership . . . our membership now totals 308 companies! INDA would like to welcome our newest members:
A2Z Filtration Specialities Pvt. Ltd. •

ARQUEST, Inc. • BHA Technologies Burlan Corporation • Consolidated Textiles Inc. • Missing Octave Insights, Inc. • NICCA USA, Inc. • Nimak Plastics, Inc. • Nitto Americas, Inc. • Pacific Northwest National Lab-

oratory (PNNL) • Regional Supply – Melton US • Rolling Brook Industries, Inc. • Schwartz Manufacturing Co. • Sunoco, Inc. • Veco S.A. de C.V.

As always, INDA truly appreciates your business. The INDA Staff wishes all of you a very Happy and Prosperous New Year!

INDA Meetings Calendar 2005-07

Vision 2005

January 16-19 • Sheraton New Orleans • New Orleans, LA

Automotive Product Development Course

January 31-February 4 • INDA Headquarters • Cary, NC

Nonwovens Training Course

February 8-10 • INDA Headquarters • Cary, NC

Manufacturing Process Fundamentals Course

March 7-11 • INDA Headquarters • Cary, NC

Annual Meeting 2005

March 20-22 • Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress Resort • Orlando, FL

Spunbonding & Melt Blown Course

April 25-29 • INDA Headquarters • Cary, NC

Nonwovens Training Course

May 10-12 • INDA Headquarters • Cary, NC

Nonwovens Product Development Course

June 5-10 • INDA Headquarters • Cary, NC

Fabric Properties & Characterization Course

July 18-22 • INDA Headquarters • Cary, NC

Nonwovens Training Course

August 9-11 • INDA Headquarters • Cary, NC

Bonding Fundamentals Course

August 22-26 • INDA Headquarters • Cary, NC

INTC 2005

September 19-22 • Millennium Hotel • St. Louis, MO

Nonwovens Training Course

November 1-3 • INDA Headquarters • Cary, NC

Filtration 2005

November 15-17 • Navy Pier • Chicago, IL

2006

Vision 2006

January 15-18 • Sheraton New Orleans • New Orleans, LA

Filtration 2006

November 28-30 • Philadelphia, PA

2007

IDEA 2007

April 24-26 • Miami Beach Convention Center • Miami, FL

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**Basic videos also available!

Questions? Contact: Brooke Boyle • 919-233-1210, Ext. 120; bboyle@inda.org

Government Relations/Global Activities Update

CPSC Moves Forward With Flammability Regulations

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) recently moved two steps closer to completing regulations designed to reduce the flammability of upholstered furniture and mattresses. On October 28, CPSC staff held a public meeting to unveil key components of a revised draft standard for upholstered furniture flammability. Just days later, on November 1, CPSC staff released a draft flammability standard for mattresses. INDA's Furniture and Bedding Flammability Task Force has worked closely with CPSC staff throughout the development of these standards.

With regard to the upholstered furniture draft standard, CPSC's proposed revisions were met with some resistance by furniture manufacturers even though CPSC staff noted that manufacturers will have flexibility in the means they employ to meet the standards. As for the draft standard on mattress flammability, CPSC staff has proposed that a full-scale test that has been developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology be used to determine if mattresses comply. CPSC staff also recommended publishing an Advance Notice of Proposed Rule-making for a standard for bedclothes flammability. For more information, please call either Peter Mayberry or

Jessica Franken, either of whom can be reached by telephone at 703/538-8805.

Some Nonwovens Targeted For Retaliatory Duties

The nonwovens industry was recently dragged into an ongoing dispute between the U.S. government and several of its trading partners over a law commonly referred to as the "Byrd Amendment." This law basically allows U.S. companies to receive money collected in the form of punitive tariffs levied by the U.S. government against other countries due to illegal trade practices.

The Byrd amendment was found to violate international law by the World Trade Organization in 2002 and the WTO gave the U.S. government a deadline of December 2003 to repeal the law. Unfortunately, however, Congress failed to meet this deadline and the WTO gave eight U.S. trading partners the ability to impose punitive tariffs against specific exports from the United States.

On November 11, the European Union – along with India, Japan and South Korea – released their lists of U.S. exports that will be subject to these punitive duties. And while the lists prepared by India and South Korea do not include nonwoven roll goods or products converted from roll goods, there are some nonwo-

vens on the lists from the EU and Japan. The EU list, for instance, contains hygiene and home furnishing products classified under Harmonized Tariff Schedule codes 4818.20.00 and 4818.30.00, while the Japanese list includes nonwoven roll goods (HTS codes 5603.12.23 and 5603.12.29), as well as household products classified under HTS 6307.10.20. Application of these punitive tariffs may not be imminent, however, considering that the lists remain to be finalized. The lists can be found in their entirety at www.docsonline.wto.org.

New Law Allows Competitor Collaboration on R&D

In response to an opinion handed down by a Federal Appeals Court in 1997, Congress enacted legislation (Public Law 108-447) that specifically allows patent applications to be approved even if the patent is based on collaborative research and development instigated by private companies.

The law was needed, according to published sources, because the Federal Appeals Court found in the case of *OddzOn Products v. Just Toys* that a patent application could be invalidated if information was exchanged by members of a research team who were from different organizations. The provision was sponsored by Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX) and could ultimately be used to facilitate joint research projects within the nonwovens industry.

ANNUAL MEETING 2005

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Filtration 2004 A Success In Philadelphia

Crowded aisles, well-attended seminars and busy exhibits marked the three days of the successful Filtration 2004 International Conference and Exposition, held in early December in the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia.

More than 100 exhibitors from around the world of filtration set up shop for the two days of the Exposition. INDA reported that attendance figures beat expectations and that initial exhibitor and attendee responses were overwhelmingly positive.

A highlight of Filtration 2004 was the recognition of four exhibitors for Best Booths in two separate categories.

LARGE BOOTH (more than 200 square feet)

First Place: DelStar

Second Place: American & Efirid

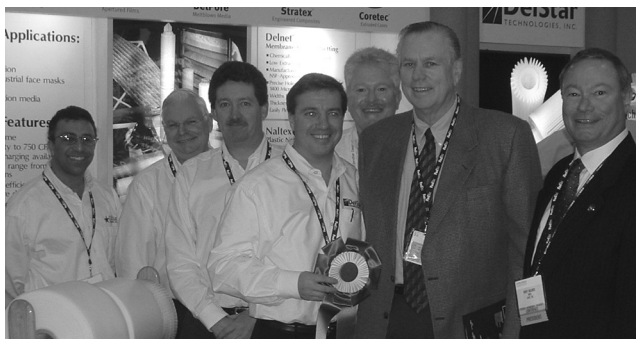
SMALL BOOTH (less than 200 square feet)

First Place: Porous Materials

Second Place: Liquid Control



Among the seminars held during Filtration 2004 was one on Emerging Markets that featured (from left) consultant Ed Homonoff, TM Singh (moderator) and INDA president Rory Holmes.



INDA president Rory Holmes (far right) presented the coveted First Place, Large Booth Award to Tim Cullen (holding ribbon) and the rest of the DelStar crew.



INDA's Marilyn Bellinger gets to celebrate Liquid Control's Second Place, Small Booth Award with (from left) Geof Silver, Wistar Silver and Nic DiDonato.



The Filtration 2004 Committee put a lot of work into the excellent Conference and Exposition. From left: Charles Brock, Alisa Edmunds, Robert Burkhead, co-chairperson Stephen Quinn, co-chairperson Eric Hanson, Matt Middlebrooks and Mitch McCreary.



Keynote speaker Ellen Kullman, with Filtration 2004 co-chairperson Stephen Quinn (left) and INDA president Rory Holmes, urged the filtration industry to embrace its important role in protecting personal security.

INDA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

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BBA Fiberweb (Retired)

Karl-Michael Schumann, Vice Chairperson-Planning

Director, Corporate R&D, Procter & Gamble European Service

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Walt Jones, Co-CEO & President, Precision Fabrics Group, Inc.

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*** Also available are the North American Nonwovens Industry Statistics: 2003-2008; South American Nonwovens Industry Statistics: 2002-2007; and the Mexico Nonwovens Industry Statistics: 2002-2007.*

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