



Association
des Fabricants
Européens
de Rubans
Auto-Adhésifs

Announcing
Mike Ayres: New Afera President
Afera's Involvement in ICE

Afera Events coming up
Afera Technical Seminar & Mini Exhibition
5 – 7 April 2006
Afera's 49th Annual Conference
4 – 7 October 2006

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IPPC - Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
Packaging and Packaging Waste

Reporting
Activities of Afera's Committees

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from the Industry

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I hope that you returned from Vienna stimulated by the experience and with some fresh ideas about how you can take your businesses forward in these increasingly challenging times. There was plenty to consider. On the formal side there was much of interest with stimulating presentations about raw material supply issues (we will look at including more of these in future) and more general business management topics that that were well received. On the informal side many of you commented on the value of the networking opportunities that the conference provided and we will look at maximising this in the future.

For my part I was pleased to note the buzz around the meeting room – always a good indicator of how well things are going and by the stimulating and varied discussions I had with fellow members. I was also thinking about the challenge of taking our association forward so that the buzz and the stimulating discussions can continue to be a valuable and eagerly anticipated part of our business calendar for many years to come.

In order to ensure that this happens Afera needs to develop and I tried to cover some of these challenges in my presentation. Development requires change and I understand that this can make some members uneasy. However the alternative to change is even more unpleasant – extinction! This is obviously a simplification and I realise that we will need to put forward persuasive arguments for change and work hard to make sure that they deliver the expected benefits. Only in this way will we carry the whole membership with us.

A major change in Vienna was the involvement for the first time of Converters and I hope that this will be the start of a positive and beneficial relationship for everyone. Having attracted larger converters the Steering Committee are looking at how smaller converters can be part of the wider Afera community. Our desire to reach out will be illustrated by the Afera stand at ICE. This will be manned by myself, some other members of the Steering Committee and the Secretary General who will all be selling the benefits of joining our association.

The widening of our membership base enables us to offer greater value to members and it is on the delivery of this value that the President and Steering Committee should be judged. I am confident that we can deliver. We have already extended the Afera 'buzz' to a wider audience via the Tape College and we will shortly be holding our 3rd Technical Seminar that has been extended by a day due to the high level of interest. Both of these events enable people at different levels in member organisations to benefit in addition to the board level attendees at the annual conference. These events take a lot of organisation and we are fortunate to have committed people such as Secretary General Astrid Lejeune and Technical Committee Chairman Lutz Jacob to make them happen.

I will be urging my colleagues on the Afera committees to come up with more ways of making the Afera membership experience increasingly valuable and through this article I would also urge you to engage with us directly. My contact details are on the Afera.com website and I would be delighted to hear from you.

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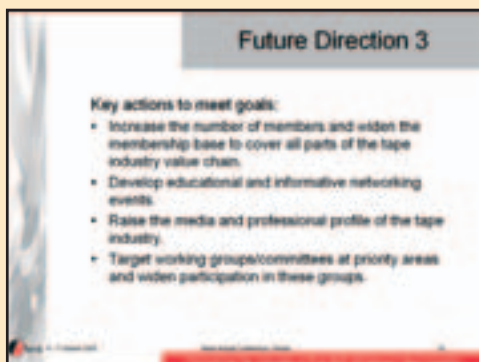
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MIKE AYRES: NEW AFERA PRESIDENT WITH A BOTTOM LINE

Many Afera member delegates witnessed the changing of hands of leadership from **Emilio Angeli, former General Manager of tesa Eastern Europe and Afera's President from 2003-2005**, to **Mike Ayres, at the General Assembly on 6th October, the first day of the Annual Conference in Vienna**. In accordance with the Association's membership statute which details the rotation schedule for Afera's Presidency, Mr. Ayres, SC 'Northern Europe' Regional Representative since 1998, assumed his position as President for the term of 2005-2007.

Mr. Ayres of Advance Tapes International Ltd. in the U.K. started his term off by communicating his bottom line: **Afera needs to evolve with the changing needs of its members and developments in both the tape industry and economy in order to continue to provide the highest level of value to its membership**. This was the thesis of Mr. Ayres' presentation entitled "Afera: Becoming the Voice of the Tape Industry," which he delivered following his official opening of the Conference.

In his presentation, Mr. Ayres presented his vision of the past, present and future



of Afera, focusing on the Association's primary and unchanging objective: **to promote the interests of the self adhesive tape industry in the broadest sense of the word**. According to Mr. Ayres, this objective has remained unchanged since Afera's foundation in 1958, and it is the SC's job to ensure that it is met.

Since its move to Lejeune Association Management in 1998, Afera has increasingly focussed on providing value for its members: Launching **afera.com**, re-launching **Afera News**, hosting and expanding existing and new events such as the **Annual Conference, the Technical Seminar and the Tape College**, launching the **European Specialty Tape Market & End-User Survey**, etc. With the expansion of membership over the last decade, along with extensive member feedback provided by the **Membership Satisfaction Survey** carried out for the first time in 2004, the SC drafted a **Strategy Plan for the Association for 2005-2008**.

Mr. Ayres reviewed Afera's mission statement: **To satisfy the needs of the self adhesive tape industry for an organised, collaborative platform on which to network and to share information, to increase the profile of tape products and the wider tape industry, to achieve effective representation in public policy and to promote the development and adherence to European and international tape standards**. He then discussed key actions which will contribute to carrying out Afera's mission statement during his term as President (see slide).

In terms of expanding Afera's membership by widening its member base to

cover all parts of the tape industry value chain, Mr. Ayres cited the "energising" step Afera took by **recruiting converters to the Association starting in 2003**. At a total of 126, Afera's membership recently hit the highest peak of its 47-year history. Mr. Ayres emphasised that **continuing to expand the membership base as a main priority** of the Association will keep Afera in tune with the players and the tides pulling the tape industry. Afera continues to market itself and the industry, as well as to recruit new members, at ICE later this month.

The bottom line: Afera has endured and thrived as an organisation because it continues to evolve while not losing sight of its core values. To become the true "voice of the tape industry", Mr. Ayres states, the Association will focus on expanding its membership base and **raising its profile going forward**.

Mr. Ayres' other professional life is carried out in the U.K.: He is the second generation of his family to run Advance Tapes International, a U.K.-based, independent speciality tape manufacturer producing cloth, PVC, PE and foil tapes for a wide range of industries. Following his academic studies, Mr. Ayres trained as a Chartered Accountant and after receiving his qualification began work with Advance Tapes, running its subsidiary in France. He then returned to the U.K. as Marketing and Sales Director, eventually becoming Chief Executive in 1999.

Mr. Ayres lives in the English Midlands with his wife, Louise, and children Emilie, Harry and Lucy. His hobbies include mountain biking, wine collecting and playing pétanque.

AFERA TO EXHIBIT AT ICE THIS MONTH!

For the first time, **Afera is set to exhibit at ICE**, the International Converting Exhibition in Munich from 22nd-24th November 2005. **The trade show is the meeting point for the European paper,**

film and foil converting industry, focussing on innovation and technical expertise in coating, metallising, laminating, slitting, winding and die-cutting. As Europe's only independent exhibition dedicated to con-

verters, with an accompanying technical congress, ICE aims to bring together converting professionals in a pleasant setting to buy and sell as well as to discuss technology and current and future trends.

THE EXHIBITION

Launched in 1999, ICE takes place every two years, the first two in Amsterdam. The most recent Exhibition was held in November 2003 at the M,O,C, Exhibition Centre in Munich, drawing 1,800 highly qualified visitors to the three-day fair to visit 120 exhibitors. Compared to the 2003 event, ICE 2005 has now more than doubled in size, both in terms of number of exhibitors and net exhibit space, with approximately 250 exhibitors presenting their latest products and services over a total area of 30,000 m². ICE organisers report that there has also been a substantial rise in the number of exhibiting companies based outside Germany, particularly from



Italy, the U.K. and France, as well as first-time exhibitors from Poland and the Czech Republic.

AFERA'S AIM

Participating in ICE is one of Afera's latest initiatives inline with its top strategic intentions: **to recruit new members and participants in Afera, specifically converters, to raise Afera's profile within the wider tape industry and to increase member awareness of and involvement in Afera.**

THE BOOTH

As one of 250 exhibitors, the Association will occupy **stand 1-X04 in Hall 1 next to the Café**. The 12m² booth is scheduled to be manned by Afera's Secretary-General and various SC members who will chat with visitors and distribute Afera's **updated image brochure**. The S-G commissioned the creation of an attractive **illuminated background banner** for the stand as well as a **continuous-loop presentation** on Afera via a plasma monitor. **Those who register for membership at the booth will receive a 15% reduction on their membership fee in 2006.**

TAPE SEMINAR

As part of ICE's expanded congress programme, a seminar is planned on **Self Adhesive Tape Manufacturing**, entitled "Recent Development and Future

Aspects of SA Tapes," on 22nd November. **Marketing Committee Chairman Eric Pass is scheduled to give a 25-minute presentation on Afera at the at 16.10h.** Five Afera members have also been invited to attend the ICE VIP dinner on 23rd November. Part of Afera's **media offensive** for the event included the running of an ad in the October and November 2005 issues of *Converter Magazine* and an editorial in the September 2005 issue of the *ICE Cream Newsletter*.

FUTURE CO-OPERATION

During the Exhibition on 23rd November, **Afera President Mike Ayres and S-G Astrid Lejeune** will attend the **board meeting of ADCCAT** (the British Association of Distributors, Coaters and Converters of Adhesive Tapes) on behalf of Afera to discuss **closer co-operation between the two associations**, specifically on the recruitment of converters and the conditions of their membership. **Future co-operation with ICE** will also be discussed during and after the show.

FREE ENTRY

250 free-entry vouchers (valued at €35 each) were made available to Afera members at the Annual Conference in Vienna and can still be obtained via the Secretariat. **More information about ICE can be obtained at afera.com and ice-x.com.**

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Afera to Host 3rd Technical Seminar & Exhibition in 2006

The Hague, The Netherlands, November 2nd, 2005

Afera, the European Association for the Self Adhesive Tape Industry, announced today that it will host the 3rd Afera Technical Seminar April 5th-7th, 2006, at the Brussels Marriott Hotel in the city centre. Following the enormous success of the first two seminars in 2002 and 2004, the three-day Technical Seminar (TS) is aimed at updating industry professionals on the cutting-edge technical issues driving the pressure sensitive adhesive (PSA) industry. Open to all tape industry professionals, this event will also feature a table-top exhibition of industry businesses showcasing the latest advances in PSA technology.

By popular demand, Afera's TS programme has been extended from two days to three, and will include presentations of 24 papers, 25 minutes each, by technical experts from distinguished tape industry companies and organisations, as well as a 40-minute panel discussion forum following each half-day session. A new addition to the TS event, a table-top exhibition featuring the products and services of tape industry businesses, is scheduled to take place on April 6th from 17h-19h at the same venue.



Topics at the TS will focus on technical advancements in tape properties, processing and applications in order to promote quality and efficiency, as well as broad and optimal use, of PSA solutions. Highlighted on the agenda is a lecture on recent developments in the European Chemicals Policy, REACH, and its consequences for the tape industry. In addition, Prof. Dr. Andreas Gross of the prestigious Fraunhofer Institute, famous for its regular adhesive courses, is scheduled as a return speaker. The American Pressure Sensitive Tape Council (PSTC), as part of a counterpart association exchange initiative, is also expected to present a paper. The four Session Chairmen of the TS are Chrétien Donker of Eastman Chemical, Andre Thyssen of 3M Laboratories Europe, Ralf Rönisch of Henkel, and Peter Broschk of tesa.

Seminar invitees include Afera's 126 members from 17 European countries, as well as non-members who are associated with the European self adhesive tape industry, such as the press, customers, suppliers and other international counterparts.

"Attending the Technical Seminar has proven to be an extremely effective way to update oneself, as a tape industry professional, on the latest issues and technologies relevant to the fast-moving PSA world," explained Lutz Jacob of ExxonMobil Chemical Europe, TS Chairman as well as Afera's Technical Committee Chairman. "The Seminar is also about creating and maintaining lines of communication within the industry. Attendees are eager to meet with key industry players—to develop useful contacts for building the professional networks which power the market."

Hosting the 3rd TS, along with launching the Table-Top Exhibition, is one of the means by which Afera aims to carry out its task of promoting the interests of the self adhesive tape industry. The Technical Seminar is linked to the Tape College, a 2-day educational seminar designed by Afera to provide industry newcomers, as well as those interested in keeping abreast of the technical essentials of self adhesive tape, on the fundamentals of the tape business. This event will be held in Spring 2007 at the same venue.

The registration deadline for the TS is February 15th, 2006. Afera members are eligible for special participant and exhibitor fees, with discounts of up to € 225 per person. The final event programme will be available in late November 2005. More detailed information regarding seminar topics, lecturers, schedule and registration can be found at afera.com.

Technical Seminar Participant Fees

Members	€ 750
Affiliated Members	€ 900
Non-Members	€ 975

Marketing Opportunity: Exhibit!

For the first time, the TS will provide a platform from which members can conduct business-to-business marketing by exhibiting at the event. Afera has added a Table-Top Exhibition to the event's programme. Scheduled on 6th April from 17h-19h, the Exhibition will feature the products and services of tape industry businesses, along with cocktails and snacks. Here Afera members and non-members alike will have the opportunity to mingle with a wide range of suppliers and customers from the self adhesive tape sector, establishing key business contacts among their European target audience. Exhibitors' logos will feature on the TS registration form and all other official TS documentation, as well as on the Seminar page of afera.com. Exhibitors will also receive a 1/4-page advert in the TS programme book. **Exhibitor registration is still open** to those interested in taking full advantage of this opportunity to expose your business or organisation to the self adhesive tape industry. An exhibitor registration form, which can be faxed or emailed to Afera's Secretariat, can be downloaded at afera.com.

Fees:	Members	€ 750
	Non-Members	€ 850
	(Includes Table-Top Booth consisting of a table, 2 panels and an electrical outlet, plus perks mentioned above)	

Networking Opportunities

The TS will provide ample opportunity for social interaction among attendees outside of the Seminar lectures. In addition to three buffet lunches, a special conference dinner with musical entertainment is planned at Restaurant La Manufacture in Brussels centre on the second evening at the TS. The Table-Top Exhibition will also serve as a "happy hour" with cocktails and snacks to create a light, social atmosphere.

Evaluation

As always, at the conclusion of each Session of the TS, participants will have the opportunity to give their value feedback on the content and organisation of the event by filling out an anonymous questionnaire for the Afera Secretariat and the TS organising committee for follow-up with future events.

Programme Schedule

Wednesday, 5th April

Venue:	Brussels Marriott Hotel
13-14h:	Buffet Lunch, Opening of Seminar
14-17.30h:	Afternoon Session (6 Papers + Panel Discussion) Session Chairman: Chrétien Donker, Eastman Chemical
19.30h:	Welcome Cocktail
20.30h:	Dinner at Leisure

Thursday, 6th April

9-12.45h	Morning Session (6 Papers + Panel Discussion) Session Chairman: Andre Thyssen, 3M Laboratories Europe
12.45h	Buffet Lunch
13.45-17h	Afternoon Session (5 Papers + Panel Discussion) Session Chairman: Ralf Rönisch, Henkel
17-19h	Table-Top Exhibition and Cocktails
19.30h	Conference Dinner, Restaurant La Manufacture in Brussels centre, includes musical entertainment

Friday, 7th April

9-12.45h	Morning Session (7 Papers + Panel Discussion) Session Chairman: Peter Broschk, tesa
13.15h	Buffet Lunch, Closing of Seminar



AFERA'S 48TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN VIENNA

BY ASTRID LEJEUNE, AFERA SECRETARY GENERAL



Presented by the 'Central Europe' Region of Afera's membership, this year's Conference took place in the fascinating, historical city of Vienna, bringing together the self adhesive tape industry's creative minds and decision-makers for an annual industry powwow.

OVERVIEW

Hosted at the InterContinental Wien Hotel from 5th-8th October 2005, this year's Conference boasted a record number of attendees: **138 delegates and 23 partners from 16 countries!** The Annual Conference's 3-day working programme focussed on the collaboration of Afera's members and various committees, and included **10 lectures** covering the latest trends in the tape industry. A popular new addition to this year's working programme was an **interactive workshop on Environmental Regulations Effecting the Tape Industry**. Together with an inspiring social programme, great weather, classic Viennese accommodation and delicious local cuisine, the 48th Annual Conference was, once again, deemed Afera's most successful Conference to date.

FEEDBACK

The participant survey conducted at the conclusion of the Conference yielded **extremely positive** responses in both areas of organisation and content of the event. Although **all of the presentations received consistently favourable marks**, the highest-rated papers were "Isoprene Supply Perspective and the Impact on SIS Availability," presented by Tom Brewer (DeWitt & Company, U.S.A.), "Pressure Sensitive Tape Production in Europe and Asia Pacific in 2004" by Wolfgang Roessing (ExxonMobil, Germany), and "Management Intangibles" by Eric Pass (Nitto Europe, Belgium). *See reviews of these presentations below.*

Everyone agreed that the setting, a classic **Viennese hotel** close to the centre of the city, with a beautiful view of the **Stadtspark**, was idyllic. The **partner tour programme** was also a hit, especially the **waltzing lessons** with professional dance partners on Friday morning. Friday night's traditional concluding event, the **Cocktail and Gala**, was held at the

majestic Palais Schwarzenberg, making participants feel like royalty for an evening. All the guests enjoyed the evening's entertainment, a comedian in period attire, and the ladies especially appreciated the fans they received as party favours, along with directions for their traditional use in Austrian courting rituals.

THURSDAY'S PROGRAMME

Voice of the Tape Industry

After opening the Conference on 6th October, incoming **Afera President Mike Ayres of Advance Tapes International Ltd. (U.K.)** delivered the first lecture entitled "**Afera: Becoming the Voice of the Tape Industry**". Mr. Ayres presented his vision of the past, present and future of Afera, focusing on the Association's primary and unchanging objective: to promote the interests of the self adhesive tape industry in the broadest sense of the word.



Afera has endured and thrived as an organisation because it continues to evolve while not losing sight of its core values. To become the true "voice of the tape industry", the Association will focus on expanding its membership base and raising its profile in the foreseeable future.

Management Intangibles

"**Management Intangibles**" determining the success and longevity of today's busi-

nesses was second on the working programme agenda, delivered by experienced Afera presenter and **Marketing Committee Chairman Eric Pass of Nitto Europe B.V. (Belgium)**. Business and economic models must be adjusted according to an evolving global society and increasingly complex web of life. Mr. Pass illustrated how a changing world is creating a new business and living environment due to factors such as an aging global population, climate change, the energy crisis, and personal, national and global security threats.

The emergence of a customised economy, in which goods and services (especially customised ones) are made cheaper and more freely available, and the intensified competition, velocity and volatile nature of the “customer revolution”, must also be reckoned with. As the economics of speed and information replace economies of scale, utilising knowledge networks and as well as setting ethical standards will also play important parts in the successful evolution of businesses.

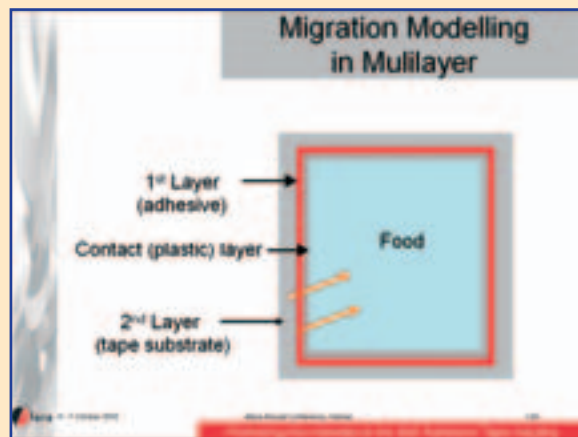
“Intangible value” refers to the underlying strengths that support sustained corporate growth. Identifying ‘weightless wealth’ in talent, innovation, use of company assets, quality of management, products and services, financial soundness, social responsibility and long-term investment – understanding their value and effective management – is the new global challenge in today’s economy. Mr. Pass explained that although accounting experts consider valuing intangible assets too uncertain and subjective, proper recognition and management of intangible values will generate tangible results for stakeholders over time. Corporate accountancy will also

have to reckon with socially responsible investing (SRI) in the future.

Value-creation behaviour – striking the right balance by translating visions into objectives, strategies and tactics, with particular focus on employee values, branding and leadership – will determine the success of businesses today and in the future. “It’s not what you know, but what you do with what you know,” Mr. Pass concluded.

Food Contact Articles Adhesives

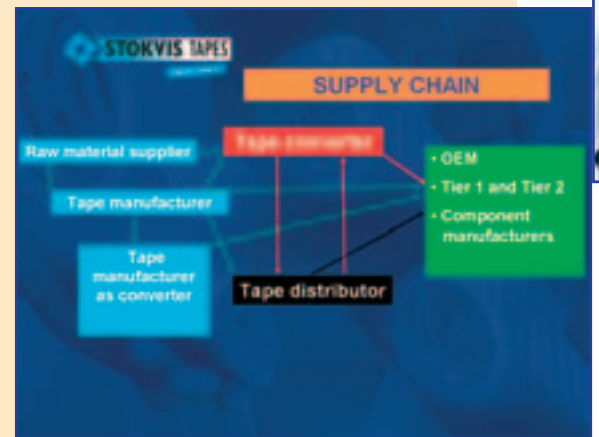
The third lecture of the day was “**Adhesives for Food Contact Articles – Future European Regulations**”, presented by **Hermann Onusseit of Henkel KGaA (Germany)**. Mr. Onusseit explained the importance of multi-layer food contact materials to modern life – packaging used both in the processing of food and its transport and warehousing. After detailing the relatively recent body of European legislation which applies to food contact materials (1976-2004), Mr. Onusseit weighed the various ways of regulating adhesives, such as the establishment of a positive-list system, which he believes will require unrealistic amounts of time and money.



The most efficient means of regulation is a specific testing concept consisting of a combination of extraction and migration tests along with mathematical modelling. This method would guarantee the safe use of components in multilayer food contact materials and could be utilised cost-effectively by the industry, particularly by SMEs.

Converters

Next, “**The Role of a Tape Converter in the Automotive Industry**” was discussed by **Wim Noorlander of Stokvis Tape Group B.V. (NL)**. The audience listened with interest as Mr. Noorlander highlighted converters in the current landscape of the European automotive industry, with relation to tape manufacturers and customers.



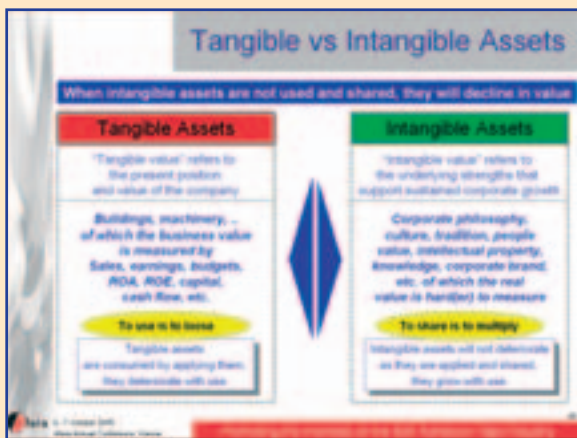
As the market moves on a trend toward engaging independent, largely regional or national converters to distribute/convert different brands, converters will find it increasingly challenging to add value to

both the customer and the tape manufacturer in the face of higher costs, increasing standards of quality and delivery, more contacts, managerial complexities, certification requirements, etc. In the future, the automotive tape converter industry will consolidate into a limited number of international top converters who engage in professional partnerships with manufacturers,

offering flexible, high-quality, cost-efficient services in customer locales.

Aqueous Acrylics

The last lecture of the day covered “**Aqueous Acrylics – European Tape Market Needs and Performance Characteristics**” and was delivered by **Oliver Nickel of Rohm and Haas (Italy)**. The “adhesive of choice”, according to Mr. Nickel, is manufactured using aqueous acrylic technology, which in recent years has deeply penetrated



PSA markets, particularly those of specialty tapes.

global PSA market, the shift of manufacturing to Asia, domestic production volume breakdowns, innovation rates, projected economic growth (global, Europe, Asia Pacific and The Americas) and market volume rates of manufacturers' shipments in key industries from 2004-2005.

problem is that there are a limited number of purification units, which are functionally volatile and extremely expensive to build, the last one in the world having been built about ten years ago. Interestingly enough, purified isoprene requires a less expensive production operation compared to that of synthetic isoprene.

Mr. Yull emphasised the synergies between the PSTC and Afera: the accomplishment of five harmonised test methods, the launching of training programmes such as the Tape College, the sharing of papers at technical events and the exchange of delegates at annual meetings.

Isoprene

What is the global forecast of the supply of Isoprene for 2005 and 2006? This question was

explored in the highest-rated lecture of the working programme, delivered by **Tom Brewer of Hydrocarbon Resin Service, DeWitt & Company (U.S.A.)**. Isoprene is a key chemical building block for polymers such as styrenic block copolymers (SIS), butyl rubber and polyisoprene, which are basically synthetic rubbers that can be used as substitutes for natural rubber (in the manufacture of tires, for example).

Isoprene is produced using two methods: purification of ethylene byproducts and synthetically by hydrogenation or carbonylation processes, the later done primarily in Russia. Russia took a strategic decision many years ago not to depend on foreign sources of natural rubber, thereby setting up its own production of synthetic isoprene. The logistics required to export isoprene from Russia, however, make it virtually impossible.

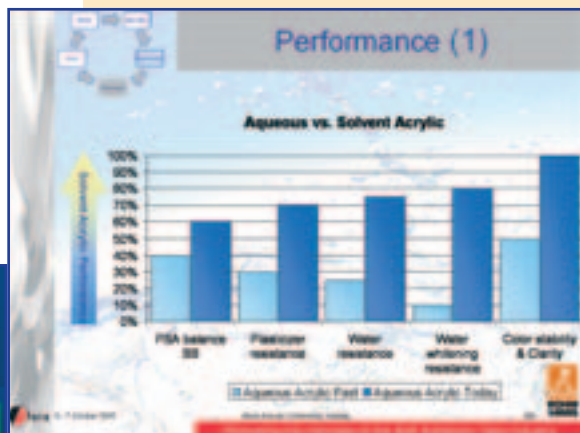
The economics of producing ethylene, on the other hand, is driven by the value and demand for ethylene, propylene and now benzene, as isoprene is just a by-product. There is plenty of crude isoprene generated from ethylene production world-wide. The

Historically, isoprene has always been in adequate supply, according to Mr. Brewer. As of August 2004, because of equipment and production issues, the global market has experienced a serious shortage of the chemical. Despite an agreement with Russia to import 15kt in 2005, because of additional unforeseen factors, isoprene is still in short supply and will be until the end of 2005. The market demand, which should decrease slightly, will be met in 2006 if existing operations around the globe are remobilised; if Russia continues to export at the 15kt level to restock the supply chain; and ultimately, if new isoprene purification facilities are built in higher growth regions such as Asia.

ISO Procedure

The third presentation of the programme was given by **Peter Lloyd (U.K.) on behalf of Afera's Technical Committee**, entitled the "ISO Procedure for Globally Harmonised Test Methods". Mr. Lloyd detailed the ISO certification process of the three globally harmonised test methods (Peel Adhesion, Shear Adhesion, and Breaking Strength and Elongation), which were developed by Afera and the PSTC and approved by JATMA, Japan's counterpart association.

After jointly engaging AFNOR as their secretariat and preparing a feasibility



Half of the approximately 11 billion square meters produced in Europe is coated with aqueous acrylic technology, which as seen fantastic improvements in performance (PSA balance, resistance properties and aesthetics) and value (material prices, investment costs, handling and productivity) as well as recognition for its environmental friendliness. Rohm and Haas is confident that aqueous acrylic technology will gain technology market share in a growing market share of aqueous acrylic technology, particularly in areas in which utilisation of water technology is unprecedented.

FRIDAY'S PROGRAMME

PSTC

The first presentation of the morning was a **North American tape industry update from Afera's American counterpart organisation, the PSTC**. **Duncan Yull of Intertape Polymer Group, Inc. (U.S.A.)** reviewed the U.S. and North American industry in terms of factors such as the breakdown and growth of the



of more harmful solvents such as carcinogens, mutagens and those toxic to reproduction, by 31st October 2007.

The second draft of the BREF for the reduction of solvent emissions in the framework of the IPPC Directive, was made available at the end of September 2005 and should be finalised by the end of 2006. A review of the NECD by the EC is underway; a legislative proposal to revise the Directive should be adopted around mid-2006. Mr. Verspoor emphasised that the models on which EU environmental legislation is based have received criticism, and especially the tape industry should contribute its point of view to these issues.

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS WORKSHOP

After the closing of the Annual Conference by Mr. Ayres, followed by a business luncheon, a two-hour, interac-

tive workshop took place. Hosted by Mr. Verspoor, Peter Broschk of tesa AG (Germany) and Axel Hessland of FEICA/IVK, the workshop covered “Environmental Regulations Effecting the Tape Industry” and provided the setting for participants to pose questions on any current legislation effecting their companies.

SPONSORS

Afera's 48th Annual Conference once again provided a platform from which members could conduct business-to-business marketing by sponsoring the event. Afera had the privilege of organising the event with the support of the following sponsors: **Gold Sponsors:** 3M, Rohm & Haas Company, tesa and Trocellen GmbH. **Silver Sponsors:** certoplast Vorwerk & Sohn GmbH and Evotape SpA. **Bronze Sponsors:** ExxonMobil Chemical Europe Inc., Novacel and Parafix Tapes & Conversions Ltd.

SLIDES, NOTES & ADDITIONAL INFO.

The proceedings of the Conference programme were distributed to the participants, and the corresponding slide presentations can be found at Afera's website (members only). A detailed 48th Annual Conference programme, as well as this article, can also be found at afera.com.

NEXT YEAR'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Afera's 49th Annual Conference is set to take place in **Nice, France**, from **4th-7th October, 2006**, at the **Hotel Palais de la Méditerranée** on the famous Promenade des Anglais.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT 2005

BY ASTRID LEJEUNE, AFERA SECRETARY GENERAL

The annual General Assembly was the first item on the agenda of the first day, **6th October**, of the 48th Annual Conference in Vienna. **Attended by approximately 56% of Afera's membership**, this year's General Assembly was opened by Afera President Emilio Angeli, who then conducted the first vote resulting in the approval of the GA 2004 Minutes recorded at the Annual Conference in Dublin. The current and future activities of the Committee Chairmen were then presented in turn, as laid out in the Activities of the Committees (AC) on page 12-14.

After a review of the financial balance sheet of 2004 and the latest estimate for 2005, the GA voted to **approve the budget for 2006**, as well as to **keep membership fees the same for the fifth consecutive year**. The President then called atten-

tion to the Steering Committee, citing the Association's membership statute which details the rotation schedule for Afera's Presidency. Accordingly, **Mike Ayres, SC 'Northern Europe' Regional Representative, assumed his position as President for the term of 2005-2007**. Likewise, **Joaquim Puig, SC 'Iberian Peninsula' Regional Representative, assumed his position as Vice President**.

The composition of the Steering Committee was otherwise unchanged, with all Representatives intending to serve out their terms through 2007. Mr. Ayres thanked Mr. Angeli for the (latest) two years he dedicated to the effective Presidency of Afera and concluded by announcing the date and venue of the **49th Annual Conference: 4th-7th October 2006, Nice, France**, at the Hotel Palais de la Méditerranée on the famous Promenade des Anglais.



ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEES

BY ASTRID LEJEUNE, AFERA SECRETARY GENERAL

Afera Committee Meetings

When: 5th October 2005

Where: InterContinental Wien Hotel, Afera Annual Conference

Purpose: As the lifelines of the Association, Afera's Committees meet at least twice yearly to discuss and develop their action plans for carrying out Afera's mission: to represent the interests of the self adhesive tape industry in the broadest sense.

STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

This SC Activities review includes all relevant issues discussed and decisions taken at the extraordinary SC meeting on 9th June 2005 at the Skyport Meeting Centre, Amsterdam

Positions

- From Representative Until

Northern Europe	Mike Ayres	9/2007
Eastern Europe	Emilio Angeli	9/2007
Central Europe	Peter Rambusch	9/2007
Western Europe	Laurent Derolez	9/2007
Iberian Peninsula	Joaquim Puig	9/2007
Italy	Filippo Antonelli	9/2007
Chair MKC	Eric Pass	9/2007
Chair TC	Lutz Jacob	9/2007
- Rotation Schedule:

Presidency	Years	Vice Presidency
Northern Europe	2005-2007 (Mike Ayres)	Iberian Peninsula
Iberian Peninsula	2007-2009 (Joaquim Puig)	Italy
Italy	2009-2011	Central Europe
Central Europe	2011-2013	Western Europe
Western Europe	2013-2015	Eastern Europe
Eastern Europe	2015-2017	Northern Europe
- Afera President **Emilio Angeli**, SC 'Italy' Regional Representative, concluded his two-year term.
- According to the Association's membership statute which details the rotation schedule for Afera's Presidency, **Mike Ayres**, SC 'Northern Europe' Regional Representative, assumed the position of Afera President at the General Assembly on 6th October. Likewise, **Joaquim Puig**, SC 'Iberian Peninsula' Regional Representative, assumed the position as **Vice President**.
- The composition of the SC was otherwise unchanged, with all Representatives intending to serve out their terms through 2007.

Finances

- Continued **financial success in 2005** was highlighted.
- Afera's overall costs have remained in line with the 2005 budget.
- Afera had a budget surplus in 2005 due to event income (Tape College and Annual Conference).
- Budget surpluses will be allocated to **new projects focussed on membership satisfaction in 2006**.
- In 2006, extra incentive for Afera advertisers, e.g. **free editorial space**, will be offered.
- **2006 Committee budgets were raised** to reimburse committee members for costs incurred in the event that they attend more than two meetings per year on behalf of their committees (e.g. any extraordinary meetings, subgroup meetings, exhibitions or counterpart association meetings).
- **2006 membership fees will remain the same for the fifth consecutive year**.
- The revision of the fee structure, as proposed at the SC meeting of 9th June, was finalised. An "Active Member Category V" for multinationals with >1000 employees in Europe was added to the 2006 fee schedule.
- The final version of Afera's 2006 budget was unanimously agreed upon by all SC members present and subsequently presented at the General Assembly (GA) 2005 on 6th

October. See "General Assembly Report 2005" on page 11

New Members since November 2004

- Active Member
 - Adesia (France)
 - Fabo s.r.l. (Italy)
 - Logo Tape (Germany)
- Associated Members
 - Ahlström (France)
 - Calemard (France)
 - Henkel Consumer Adhesives
 - NZ Ltd. (New Zealand)
 - Munksjo Paper S.p.A. (Italy)
 - The Sellotape Company (New Zealand)
 - Sika AG (Germany)
- Affiliated Member
 - Enterprise Ireland
- Other Participants
 - A.G. Ambalaj Sanayi ve Ticaret Ltd. Sti (Turkey)
 - JaBand GmbH (Germany)
 - Lima (France)
 - MLICKO Gesellschaft m.b.H. (Austria)
 - Parafix (UK)
 - Reflectiv (France)

Membership

- The 'Iberian Peninsula' Region of Afera's membership represented on the SC will remain as such until the SC representatives' terms are up in 2007. Before this time, the SC will discuss the possibility of combining the countries of the Region with Italy, **creating a new, 'Southern Europe' Region**. Joaquim Puig was nominated by the SC and subsequently re-elected SC 'Iberian Peninsula' Regional Representative at the GA. According to the regional rotation scheme, he has taken on the role of Afera's Vice President for the term 2005-2007.
- In order to encourage more input from the 'Eastern Europe' Region, which includes the Baltic States, Turkey and Israel, Afera will focus on recruiting three **Turkish delegates to participate in the three committees**, starting with the next set of meetings scheduled in February 2006.
- A **converter survey** will be conducted among Afera member and non-member converters. The survey will be conducted by post, digitally and at ICE. It will also be distributed to ADCCAT members.

Afera Strategy Plan 2005-2008

- The SC identified the three **most important objectives of Afera** in the short/medium term: (1) **Expand membership base to incorporate all entities within the tape industry value chain**, (2) **Increase members' interest in and awareness of the work of Afera**, and (3) **Raise Afera's profile within the wider industry**.
- Committees' activities have been focussed on producing results in these areas. Most recently, initiatives such as conducting a converter survey, participating in ICE, reviewing the makeup of Afera member regions, co-operating with ADCCAT, attending IPACK-IMA, updating the Afera image brochure, among others, have been planned inline with these objectives.

IPACK-IMA

- **Mr. Angeli and Filippo Antonelli will attend IPACK-IMA**, the trade fair for packing and packaging technologies in

Milan, 14th-18th February 2006, to meet with tape producing exhibitors and to distribute brochures on behalf of Afera.

Co-operation with ADCCAT

- On behalf of Afera, **Mr. Ayres will attend the board meeting of ADCCAT** (the British Association of Distributors, Coaters and Converters of Adhesive Tapes) at ICE on 23rd November to discuss **closer co-operation between the two associations, specifically on the recruitment of converters and the conditions of their membership.**

Next SC Meeting

- March 2006, Amsterdam

MARKETING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Special Guests

- Glen Anderson, Executive Vice President, PSTC
- Michael Boyle, Director of ICE
- Duncan Yull, Intertape Polymer Group (Canada)

Afera's European Specialty Tape Market & End-User Survey

- The Survey Review Board, consisting of the **Survey Subgroup** (Chairman Eric Pass, Arrigo Righetti, Steven Deroy, Joerg Busch and S-G Astrid Lejeune) plus **Mr. Ayres (SC), Lutz Jacob (TC) and Oliver Nickel (MC), is working with Afera's market analyst, AWA, to produce a valuable report.**
- The Review Board is in the process of reviewing the first draft of the 2nd edition, which is **set for release in the second quarter of 2006.** The Review Board will meet with AWA at ICE on 22nd November.
- The format of the Survey will provide a deeper analysis of end-user segments and focus on thorough supply-side analysis with broad demand-side assessment.

Image Brochure

- The S-G has **updated and reprinted the Afera image brochure**, which is available at the Secretariat or for downloading at afera.com.

Afera News

- Instead of rotating issue themes, **the first edition of the year will always feature "environmental regulations"** and will provide an update of the environmental issues discussed at the Annual Conference.

Annual Conferences 2005-2007

- The 2005 Annual Conference had the highest attendance rate to date with 25 coaters, 43 suppliers, 4 converters and 4 affiliated members (national bodies). The event received rave reviews according to participant survey results. **Tom Brewer of DeWitt & Company, U.S.A., received the highest ratings for his presentation on "Isoprene Supply Perspective and the Impact on SIS Availability."**
- See "Afera's 48th Annual Conference in Vienna" article on pages 7-11 for a full review of the event.
- The 2006 Annual Conference is set to take place in Nice, France, 4th-7th October, at the Hotel Palais de la Méditerranée on the famous Promenade des Anglais.
- The 2007 Annual Conference will be hosted by Afera's 'Iberian Peninsula' Region of membership.

ICE

- For the first time, **Afera is exhibiting at ICE (the International Converting Exhibition) 22nd-24th November 2005 in Munich.** As one of 250 exhibitors, Afera will occupy **stand 1-X04 in Hall 1.** The booth is scheduled to be manned by a roster of members. The S-G has facilitated the creation of an attractive **illuminated banner for the stand.** An updated Afera image brochure is planned for distribution to booth visitors.
- **Mr. Pass will give a 25-minute presentation on Afera at the Self Adhesive Tape Manufacturing seminar "Recent Development and Future Aspects of SA Tapes,"** part of ICE's expanded congress programme, on 22nd November at 16.10h.

- 5 Afera members have been invited to attend the ICE VIP dinner on 23rd November.
- Afera ran an ad in the October and November 2005 issues of *Converter Magazine* and an editorial in the September 2005 issue of the *ICE Cream Newsletter*.
- Those who register for membership at the booth will receive a **15% reduction on their membership fee in 2006.**
- **250 free-entry vouchers** (valued at €35 each) were made available to Afera members at the Annual Conference in Vienna and can still be obtained via the Secretariat.
- **Future co-operation with ICE** will be discussed during and after the show.
- See "Afera to Exhibit at ICE this Month!" article on page 4 for additional information.

MC Objectives According to the Strategy Plan 2005-2008

- The MC discussed **recruiting non-member coaters**, as well as exploring and identifying the range of benefits most appropriate for converters, such as a separate **committee for converters**, once this segment of "other participants" has expanded.

Website

- afera.com has become an established communication tool for the self adhesive tape industry.
- Average of 10,000 hits per month in 2005.
- The website will be overhauled in 2006. Cutting-edge features will be added to the site, such as **online conference registration, online surveys with automatic reports, search tools, e-newsletters, an interactive forum, as well as an online payment system.**

Tape Cutting Tolerance Guidelines

- Tape Tolerances (Length/Width), important for legal reasons, have been set by the MC and SC: **Width target: +/-0.8 mm. Length: 0/+ tolerance.**

Next MC Meeting

- 9th February 2006, 9-13h, Jolly Carlton Hotel, Amsterdam

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Special Guests

- Glen Anderson, Executive Vice President, PSTC
- Axel Hessland, FEICA/IVK
- Hermann Onusseit, Henkel KGaA

New TC Members

- With plans to retire from employment in 2007, **Lutz Jacob of ExxonMobil Chemical Europe** plans conclude his term as TC Chairman as soon as another Chairman is appointed and confirmed. The TC thanked Mr. Jacob for his excellent work and dedication to the TC.

TEST METHODS

Global Harmonisation

- The ISO certification process of the three globally harmonised test methods (Peel Adhesion, Shear Adhesion, and Breaking Strength and Elongation), which were developed by Afera and the PSTC and approved by JATMA, continues.
- For more information, refer to **Peter Lloyd's presentation** on behalf of Afera's Technical Committee, entitled the **"ISO Procedure for Globally Harmonised Test Methods,"** at the Annual Conference (see review in "Afera's 48th Annual Conference in Vienna" article, pages 7-11).
- After jointly engaging AFNOR as their secretariat and preparing a feasibility study, the three associations entered the test methods into the **fast-track certification procedure** in 2004.
- After receiving a positive majority of votes from CEN national standardisation committees and receiving approval from AFNOR's management, **the existing EN standards were submitted to the ISO using the AFNOR TC253 Committee in September 2005.**
- Following a (minimally) three-month DIS ballot, during

which corrections and re-voting may result, the test methods will be accepted as international standards and published by May 2006.

- **Thickness has not been globally harmonised yet;** this will not delay the certification process of the other test methods. After comparative testing in the U.S. and Japan, this test method will also be submitted for ISO certification.
- Whereas Afera has underwritten the expense of AFNOR acting as secretariat thus far in the ISO procedure, the PSTC and JATMA have agreed to share the expense accrued in the remainder of the process.
- Ralf Rönisch of Henkel and Hubertus von Voithenberg of tesa had discussed developing an identical probe testing procedure resulting in a new Tack Test Method. A series of Round Robin tests were performed at Henkel and tesa, producing initial Probe Tack results which have been published in the members-only section of afera.com. The TC concluded that creating a new test method in this instance is not possible due to lack of user consistency, time and financing.

Co-operation with FEICA

- On behalf of Afera, Mr. Von Voithenberg attended the most recent meeting of the European Technical Board (ETB) of FEICA (Association of European Adhesives Manufacturers) and identified areas of mutual interest to the associations.
- Both parties agreed that fusing their interests would strengthen both organisations on an integrated, European level.
- Further co-operation in the regulatory arena on topics such as organics, solvents and food hygienic standards levels (EC TC261) will be discussed and planned for in the near future.
- TC member Peter Broschk of tesa AG and a member of both FEICA and the IVK, acts as a link of exchange between the two associations and Afera.

Co-operation with the IVK and the Fraunhofer Institute

- Afera will participate in the EU-sponsored initiative between the IVK (German Adhesives Association) and the prestigious Fraunhofer Institute.
- The programme will consist of students who are invited to execute new test methods following brainstorming meetings between the IVK and the Fraunhofer Institute.
- The TC is creating a subgroup to identify desired testing issues and to communicate them to specialists at the Institute.
- A member questionnaire will be drafted and distributed to identify areas of pursuit in order to best represent Afera member interests. The survey will cover challenges within tape manufacturing processes which need to be solved or could be improved, e.g. inline measurement of coating small quantities like silicones on liners or primer on backings.

European Food Contact Regulation

- Hermann Onusseit of Henkel KGaA gave a presentation on the various means of regulating adhesives, such as the establishment of a positive-list system, which he believes will require unrealistic amounts of time and money.
- The most efficient means of regulation is a specific testing concept consisting of a combination of extraction and migration tests along with mathematical modelling. This method would guarantee the safe use of components in multilayer food contact materials and could be utilised cost-effectively by the industry, particularly by SMEs.
- For more information, refer to Mr. Onusseit's presentation, entitled "Adhesives for Food Contact Articles – Future European Regulations," at the Annual Conference (see review in "Afera's 48th Annual Conference in Vienna" article, pages 7-11).
- An EU Project on Migresives is underway. This project on migration investigation requires the participation of an Afera SME member company for optimal results. Afera believes that migration through adhesives layers is minimal, but this must be proved!

2nd Tape College

- Held 7th-8th April 2005, the Tape College was again a great success for Afera. With a record number of participants, Afera received extremely positive feedback on the lectures as well as the general event.
- The next Tape College will be held in Spring 2007 at the same venue, the Brussels Marriott Hotel.

3rd Technical Seminar

- Afera will host this event 5th-7th April, 2006, at the Brussels Marriott Hotel in the city centre.
- Afera issued a press release on the event on 2nd November. See "Afera to Host 3rd Technical Seminar & Exhibition in 2006" press release and article on page 6.
- In addition to the regular working programme, a table-top exhibition of industry businesses showcasing the latest advances in PSA technology is planned.
- The TS Subgroup consists of TC Chairman Lutz Jacob and the four TC members/Session Chairmen of the event, Chrétien Donker of Eastman Chemical, Andre Thyssen of 3M Laboratories Europe, Ralf Rönisch and Peter Broschk.
- Registration deadline: 15th February 2006.

Environment

- The REACH proposal is currently under consideration by the European Parliament and the Council of the EU for adoption under the so-called co-decision procedure, which may conclude by the end of 2005. A detailed update on this subject was given by Mr. Hessland.
- The second draft of the BREF for the reduction of solvent emissions in the framework of the IPPC Directive was made available at the end of September 2005 and should be finalised by the end of 2006. Initiated two years ago, the BREF on Surface Treatment Using Solvents requires input from the tape industry. In order to represent the joint interests of Afera and the IVK, Mr. Jepsen of Ökopol, based in Hamburg, has drafted some figures to be sent to Afera members for review. Once approved, the industry feedback will be submitted to the European IPPC Bureau in Seville.
- Due to the nature of the European Waste Reduction and Recycling Policy, activity in this area could shift to cheaper markets, e.g. those in Asian countries. This must be prevented. Waste prevention is the highest priority and will be pursued for greater understanding and representation by the tape industry.
- The first interactive Environmental Regulations Workshop was held at the Annual Conference in Vienna. Hosted by Mr. Verspoor, Mr. Broschk and Mr. Hessland, the workshop covered "Environmental Regulations Effecting the Tape Industry" and provided the setting for participants to pose questions on any current legislation effecting their companies. The June 2006 issue of *Afera News* will feature a complete review of and update on the environmental regulations discussed.

Future TC Projects

- Harmonisation of Thickness test method: JATMA's specifications on this method do not match those of Afera and the PSTC. The TC is working how to fix this discrepancy.
- Harmonisation of additional test methods: decision to research or adopt new test methods Rolling Ball or Loop Tack, Humidity Control Electrical Tape, Adhesives Determination of Solubility of Water or Alkali Soluble Pressure Sensitive Adhesives (ISO/TC61/SC 11N736).
- Harmonisation of Width & Length of tape. This has been achieved by the PSTC (PSTC 171) but needs to be negotiated with Afera and JATMA.

Next TC Meeting

- 8th February 2006, 13-17.30h, Jolly Carlton Hotel, Amsterdam

UPDATE ON ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

BY WOUTER THALEN, LEJEUNE ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT



STATUS OF THE 'SOLVENTS BREF'

The second draft of the BREF on Surface Treatment using Solvents (BREF STS) was published at the end of September. This second draft is very important since it describes for the first time which techniques have been identified as best available techniques, in other words what is BAT. Also, a link is made to BAT related emission ranges. Since permit writers will use the BREF as their main guidance tool it is very important that the industry agrees on these principles. After publication the Technical Working Group (TWG) experts have 8 weeks to send in their comments, i.e. 30 November. After this, the European IPPC Bureau will work its way through all the comments and issue a reaction to these comments. The second draft plus the response to all the comments will be up for a detailed discussion in the Technical Working Group in Seville. This meeting is foreseen to be held in April 2006. The outcome of this session will lead to a final draft which will then be presented in the so-called Information Exchange Forum (IEF) in Brussels. This is the group which will officially adopt the BREF for publication. It is almost certain that the BREF STS will be dealt with during the second IEF meeting in 2006 (either in September or December).

IPPC - INTEGRATED POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

The Council Directive 96/61/EC of 24 September 1996 concerning Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) is the basis for the Best available techniques Reference (BREF) documents. Over the years a number of

these BREFs have been published as guidance documents for permit writers. The BREF on Surface Treatment using Solvents (BREF STS) is actually one of the last reference documents to be issued. The Commission has come across several issues while drafting these documents. In order to settle these issues, the Commission is now discussing options for an overall guidance document on the interpretation of the IPPC Directive together with Member State representatives. At an earlier stage the producers and users of solvents united in ESVOC have discussed certain problems and flaws related to the definition of 'capacity to consume' within the framework of the IPPC Directive with Commission representatives. As a result a Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) was drafted. This FAQ was initially foreseen for publication last year. The Commission has now decided to include this in the broader guidance document. Items to be included in this document will be: scope, further explanation of the wording 'installation' and 'capacity'. Publication of this guidance document is foreseen for the second half of 2006. Next to this, a first revision of the IPPC Directive will be initiated shortly. This is said to be accompanied by certain impact assessments. Consultants are to perform preparatory research on: technical review, certain policy issues and the use of economic instruments. This proposal will most probably not be published before the end of October 2007.



PACKAGING AND PACKAGING WASTE

In the revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (2004/12/EC amending 94/62/EC) it was agreed that certain articles would again be assessed

whether they should be regarded as packaging or not. This is to be done by the so-called Article 21 Committee. Tubes and cylinders (cores) around which flexible materials are wound were listed amongst the articles to be dealt with. The current classification differs from Member State to Member State. Since these cores are often used by customers in their production process they are manufactured to withstand high pressures. This implies that the weight is much higher than would be needed if the core was just a packaging. Therefore certain industries have reasoned that cores should not be seen as packaging. The Article 21 Committee meets again on 28 November to discuss this issue. In the meantime the Commission is also to publish a report on the implementation of Directive 94/62/EC. This report was initially due for June and is now expected by the end of 2005. Since this report may include suggestions for further legislative proposals it might well be a starting point for the 2nd revision of the Packaging Waste Directive which should already be adopted by 31 December 2007.

The Commission has been assisted by two research reports drafted by consortia of external consultants. One of the studies focused on information on the level of implementation versus recycling and recovery rates. The other report mainly studied possible future mechanisms like for example the Packaging Environmental Indicator, a tool to measure the environmental impact of different packaging materials. Given the fact that the first revision of the Packaging Waste Directive was only finalized a year ago it is also possible that the Commission only proposes a revision of the targets for recycling and recovery. This is even more likely since the Commission is trying to finalize new legislative proposals in the form of the Thematic Strategies on Prevention and Recycling of Waste and on Sustainable Use of Natural Resources. These are likely to influence the final report too.

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

ADCCAT - UNITED KINGDOM

Company News:

Adccat, the UK Association of Distributors, Coaters and Converters of adhesive Tapes is pleased to announce that Roger Churchill, Managing Director of *Lohmann Adhesive Tape Systems* has joined the Adccat management committee.

Mr. Churchill will strengthen the management committee team, which consists of Kevin Carroll of Cotek Papers, Bob Edwards of Premier Tape Converters, Mark Newby of Fastening News and Mike Attard of Eurograv.

Technical Information:

Lohmann Adhesive Tape Systems is just completing an expansion programme at their Aylesbury facilities. This will now provide an additional 5,500 square feet of warehousing. It has also enabled the company to add considerably to their converting capabilities, offering a "full service" to UK Distributors, Converters and end user customers. With this expansion comes the opportunity for Lohmann to now be able to stock and convert other coated materials, form a wider range of suppliers.

ADCCAT is seen as an important voice and face of the adhesive tape converting trade in the UK and one which Lohmann is pleased to become a more active member of.

AERO D.D. - SLOVENIA

This year AERO, d.d. has opened a new production line for lamination of self-adhesive materials under the Aerotac brand name intended for label producers. In addition to the commodity products AERO, d.d. will specialize in developing label materials based on films and ultra removable adhesives for which we already have mastered the technology. The equipment was supplied by the Swiss producer BMB.

CMC CONVERTING MACHINERY CEVENINI SRL. - ITALY

Today's productions of PSAT to meet the different market requests, can be achieved by small, medium and big size manufacturing/converting plants, thanks

to the help of the wide range of log roll slitting machines models available from CMC CEVENINI.

During ICE Exhibition in München, CMC Cevenini will present the new generation of the NM5 CMC AUTOMATIC LOG SLITTING MACHINES which offer the following enhanced benefits:

- The entire drip collection tray fitted to the full width of the machine is manufactured from stainless steel for life long durability, trouble free maintenance and corrosion resistant;
- Blade shaft and flanges are manufactured from stainless steel for extra strength and to resist corrosion;
- To ensure extra operator safety the blade carriage indexes to a preset hold position and a flip guard automatically closes to shield the blade from the operator when main guard protection is opened;
- The lift-up guarding shield has been strengthened using an even stronger aluminium profile framework and includes impact resistant polycarbonate for full safety.
- Guarding around the base of the machine has been extended for greater safety;
- New brushless technology has been used for blade carriage indexing. This development has notably increased the working speed of the NM5 generation and reduced the maintenance operation needed;
- Blade sharpening unit completely improved with possibility to adjust the grinder both from back and front side of the machine;
- A new swivel arm control panel system has been installed to render it easier and more ergonomically user friendly to operate when inputting programming data and making adjustments.

COLLANO AG - SWITZERLAND

New UV curable hotmelt adhesives for automotive applications

Collano's UV curable pressure sensitive hotmelt adhesives have been successfully used for label, tape and self adhesive insulation materials for several years. A novel formulation technique has now

been developed by Collano which opens up new application in self adhesive insulation materials for the automotive market.

The combination of UV-curable additives can create new properties as well as excellent adhesive and cohesive performance.

EXXONMOBIL CHEMICAL EUROPE INC. - BELGIUM



ExxonMobil Chemical Company has appointed Darren W. Woods to be vice president, Adhesion Industry Global Business Unit. The appointment was effective April 2005.

Prior to assuming oversight of the company's worldwide adhesion industry business, Woods managed the ExxonMobil Joliet Refinery in Illinois (U.S.) for more than two years.

Woods joined the company in 1992 and worked for three years in Downstream Planning, Supply and Business Development. Following increasing responsibilities in Europe from 1995 to 2001, including management of retail operations in Scotland, North England and Northern Ireland, he moved to Exxon Mobil Corporation headquarters in Irving, Texas (U.S.), as manager of Investor Relations.

The world's leading producer of polymers and the largest supplier of hydrocarbon resins to the adhesives industry, ExxonMobil Chemical offers the broadest portfolio of polymers specifically designed for adhesive applications. That portfolio includes Escorez™ tackifiers, Vector™ styrenic block copolymers (SIS and SBS), Escorene™ (EVA) specialty ethylene copolymers and Exact™ metalocene plastomers.

About ExxonMobil Chemical

ExxonMobil Chemical is a global leader in technology, product quality and customer service with petrochemical manufacturing and/or marketing operations in more than 150 countries around the world. Its products include olefins, aromatics, fluids, synthetic rubber, polyethylene, polypropylene, oriented polypropylene packaging films, plasticizers, synthetic lubricant basestocks and additives for fuels and lubricants.

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Editor's note: The term "ExxonMobil Chemical" or "company" refers collectively to some or all of the companies affiliated with Exxon Mobil Corporation and/or which have chemical manufacturing and/or marketing operations around the world. Escorex, Escorene and Exact are trademarks of Exxon Mobil Corporation. Vector is a trademark of Dexco Polymers, LP, a Dow/ExxonMobil partnership.

FIBERMARK GESSNER GMBH & CO - GERMANY

FiberMark Gessner has become the first provider of latex-treated base papers for PSA tapes that comply with FDA regulations.

The German manufacturer of specialty papers recently developed base papers for PSA tapes for use in food packaging. By carefully selecting appropriate raw materials, a paper backing is now available that matches the strict requirements of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

This new latex-treated backing complies with the Code of Federal Regulations §§ 21 CFR 176.170 and 21 CFR 176.180 and may be used safely in the field of food packaging and stand in contact with dry, aqueous and fatty foodstuffs.

FiberMark Gessner trusts this important new development will help provide new solutions to customers in the food packaging market.

HENKEL KGAA - GERMANY

To inaugurate its latest pilot coater for Tapes & Labels, Henkel held an Open House for its European customers on 14th & 15th Sept. 2005 in Düsseldorf, Germany. Over 100 people from 15 countries attended the event in the new

Technical Service Center which consisted of an industry symposium, a pilot run with clear-on-clear UV-PSA, and a visit to Henkel's Analytical Center. The new hotmelt coater enables customers and co-suppliers to thoroughly test specific applications without disruption of their own production processes. It operates at 340 mm maximum web width and a coating speed of up to 250 m/min.

ICHEMCO S.R.L. - ITALY

Company News:

A new plant for the production of UVACRIL (solventless UV curable acrylic p.s. adhesives) and TACKMELT (special SIS based hotmelt p.s.a.) is under construction and will be on stream by end of November.

Technical Information:

We list the initial grades scheduled for production:

UVACRIL P1: permanent p.s.a. for labels

UVACRIL P2: permanent p.s.a. for medical applications

UVACRIL R1: removable p.s.a. for labels

TACKMELT A2: superpermanent p.s.a. for labels

TACKMELT A40: permanent p.s.a. for low temperatures applications

TACKMELT E47: permanent p.s.a. for labels; FDA approved.

PROTECTIVE FILMS: we offer a really complete range of water and solvent p.s. adhesives, either rubber or acrylic based (trademarks: TACKSOL, SOLACRIL, TACKWHITE) with specific curing agents.

Market information:

We confirm a yearly sales growth of 6%, which for our standards is weak and it shows a status of persisting market difficulties.

NOVACEL - FRANCE

NOVACEL 9390 for the protection of the fragile glossy surfaces.

Based on requests for the protection of fragile glossy surfaces, in particular for colaminated metals with a PET film or a PVC foil (household appliances market), NOVACEL is introducing to its wide products range the 9390. It can also protect thermoforming glossy PVC foil for the 3D forming market (furniture).

The Novacel 9390 features a top-of-the-range film, with a thickness of 40 µm, clear transparent and has an adhesive type without solvent. Thus Novacel pursues its commitment in a Sustainable Development policy.

The Novacel 9390 is characterised by its high brightness and its high transparency which allows to emphasize the protected surface, by avoiding any defect of installation, specially the microbubbles.

The Novacel 9390 is supplied in rolls of 1000 m or 3000 m and up to 2800 mm in width.

For further information, contact NOVACEL on +33.2.32.82.72.33 or visit www.novacel.fr.

NOVAMELT GMBH - GERMANY

Company News:

Novamelt has invested more than 1.5 Mio. Euro in a new storage/logistic centre with an area of 2000 m² in order to satisfy the ongoing growth of its business and to meet the increasing demands of their international customer base. In addition Novamelt has further expanded its research and development centre.

Technical Information:

Novamelt, Europe's market leading pressure sensitive specialist would like to announce the arrival of their new 'state-of-the-art' coating facility:

The machine has the ability to coat up to widths of 40 cm incorporating the latest curtain coating technology in combination with UV lamps. This new technology offers a number of benefits such as reduction of coating weights and increased line speed. Furthermore, it is possible to coat porous substrates without adhesive penetration. An additional new feature is the possibility to coat directly thermo sensitive substrates. This expansion to the service centre offers customers the facility to test new product solutions under practical conditions.

Market information:

During the last 12 months there have been significant increases in some key raw materials as well as some availability problems; however Novamelt has managed to grow its core business as well as seeing sizable growth in new markets with newly developed PSA products.

PAGENDARM BTT GMBH

Pagendarm has developed a new application machine in the field of UV networked acrylics that will shortly be supplied to BASF AG. At the same time a 2.40m wide installation with a UV hotmelt application machine has been installed and goes into operation at the end of the year. With this contact-free coating procedure clear&clear products in particular can be manufactured at a speed of up to 350m/min. Likewise, this year Pagendarm will supply a conventional Hotmelt coating machine with which, on a working length of

2.40m, thermal hotmelts can be applied at a speed of 450m/min.

PSTC - U.S.A.

The Pressure Sensitive Tape Council (PSTC) selected 20-plus papers for presentation at TECH XXIX, to be held May 3-5, 2006 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Nevada. This technical papers offer leading edge ideas in processes, materials, technology, test methods and environmental issues related to advancing the science of pressure sensitive adhesives were received. Detail on the selections is posted at www.pstc.org.

Michael Tumeay, Ph.D., 3M, is TECH XXIX chair.

SIKA AG - GERMANY**New Hotmelt PSA by Sika AG**

SikaMelt-9209 HT is a recently developed HM-PSA which is especially designed for self adhesive products with specific requirements in terms of high tack at low temperature and good adhesion to nonpolar substrates like polyethylene and polypropylene. Therefore it is used for e.g. insulation tapes and duct tapes with excellent application properties particularly during winter season. The SikaMelt-9209 HT is suitable also for liquid (melted) delivery in heated/ insulated IBC's.

STOKVIS**Company News:****Finland:**

Stokvis Tapes Finland has rounded off the takeover of Fixtrade. For Finland this means that in addition to our converting activities for the telecom and construction industries, we are strengthening our position in standard products.

Germany:

- Stokvis Tapes Germany became certified in accordance with the TS 16949 quality system.
- Stokvis Tapes Germany moved to new, larger premises in Wuppertal on the 1st of September 2005

China:

- Stokvis Tapes Shanghai moved last summer to new, larger premises in the same industrial area in the Free Trade Zone in Shanghai.
- Besides Shanghai and Beijing, Stokvis Tapes also opened a third branch in Shenzhen.

Technical Information:**Hungary:**

Since June 2005, a new cleanroom is in use at Stokvis Tapes Hungary. This cleanroom is the third in the Stokvis Tapes organization and shows that we are increasingly focusing on applications with a high added value for our clients.

**Afera Technical Seminar &
Mini Exhibition 2006**
5 - 7 April
Brussels Marriott Hotel, Belgium



Afera Annual Conference 2006
4 - 7 October
Palais de la Mediterranée
Nice, France



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CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2005

- 15 Flame Pressure Sensitive Films for Surface Protection and Masking, WebSeminar by SpecialChem
22 – 24 International Converting Exhibition, Munich, Germany

DECEMBER 2005

- 7 – 9 Labelexpo China 2005, Shanghai, China

FEBRUARY 2006

- 2 – 3 ECMSA Profiting from Innovation, Barcelona, Spain
14 – 18 Ipack-Ima, Milan, Italy
20 – 25 Imprinta, Düsseldorf, Germany
21 – 22 Rubber Bonding 2006, Düsseldorf, Germany

MARCH 2006

- 8 – 9 Sign Ireland, Dublin, Ireland
14 – 17 Digiprintmedia, Moscow, Russia
27 – 31 Hispack, Barcelona, Spain

APRIL 2006

- 5 – 7 Afera Technical Seminar and Exhibition, Brussels, Belgium
4 – 11 IPEX, Birmingham, UK
11 – 14 Etiketka/LabelShow 2006, Moscow, Russia

MAY 2006

- 9 – 11 Sign UK 2006, Birmingham, UK
9 – 13 Grafitalia Converflex, Milan, Italy
16 – 18 FESPA Digital Solutions, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
16 – 18 Packaging Services Expo, Chicago, USA

JUNE 2006

- 7 – 9 FINAT World Congress 2006, Warsaw, Poland
12 – 13 Packaging Services Summit Europe, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

COLOPHON

AFERA News November 2005, No. 2

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Edited and published by Afera

Lejeune Association Management
Astrid Lejeune
Editor: Bathsheba Fulton van den Bosch
P.O. Box 85612 NL-2508 CH
The Hague, The Netherlands
Tel. +31 (0)70 3123916
Fax +31 (0)70 3636348
E-mail: mail@afera.com
Web site: www.afera.com

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In 2006, extra incentive for Afera advertisers, e.g. free editorial space, will be offered.

Afera is offering advertising opportunities in the next issue of Afera News. The Newsletter is aimed to keep its members abreast of the latest developments within Afera and the greater tape industry. Cover themes such as 'Coating Technology', 'The Environment with Relation to the Tape Industry' and 'Tape Converting Equipment' adds extra flavour.

Prices

Price per issue: 1.500 Euro for 1 full colour page and 750 Euro for 1/2 full colour page. The print run amounts to 1000 copies per issue.

If you are interested please contact the Secretariat for more detailed information.

Astrid Lejeune

Tel. +31 (0)70 312 39 16

Fax +31 (0)70 363 63 48

or by e-mail: alejeune@lejeune.nl