

SPE THE SPECIALIST

Selecting the Proper Plastic Material

November 4, 2010

8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Pre-registration Strongly Encouraged

Hennepin Technical College

9000 Brooklyn Blvd

Brooklyn Park, MN 55445-2320

AGENDA

- 7:30 – 8:00 Coffee and registration
- 8:00 – 8:30 Introduction - Paul Rothweiler, Aspen Research
- 8:30 – 9:15 Polymer Fundamentals – Tom McNamara, Thermotech
- 9:15 – 9:30 Break
- 9:30 – 10:45 Material Selection Process - Sean Mertes, Ashland
- 10:45 – 11:30 Commodity resins – Steve Maki, RTP Company
- 11:30 – 12:30 Lunch
- 12:30 – 2:00 Engineering resins – Steve Maki, RTP Company
- 2:00 – 2:15 Break
- 2:15 – 3:45 High Performance resins - Tim Spahr, Oxford Performance Materials
- 3:45 – 4:30 Search Strategies utilizing database queries - IDES Prospector

Who should attend:

Engineers, Designers, OEM's, Purchasing Agents, R&D, Academia,
Quality Assurance & Sales and Marketing

What will I learn:

Fundamentals of plastics and the types of plastics
Drivers that determine which plastic to choose
What tools/help are available to choose a plastic

Registration

Please register at the website www.uppermidwestspe.org/MegaTech2010.htm

Reservations can only be held by prepaying online or email Sean Mertes
(sdmertes@ashland.com) 612-801-2417 for other registration payment options.



SPE Members: \$99.00 Non-Members: \$129.00 Party of Four: \$99/person

Available payment options

Un-reserved seats and abandoned reservations can be purchased with cash/check at the door.





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**November
2010**

Volume 38

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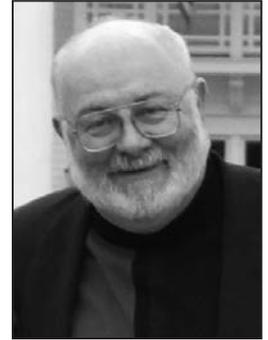
Councilor's Corner

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President's Remarks

Dick Bopp

October 2010



By now I'm sure you all are back in the swing of your normal work schedule as summer just seemed to rocket by in a flash. Here it is October already and the holidays are just around the corner. In fact, I've already seen Christmas items displayed in some stores. On the local SPE front, we had our 1st networking meeting of the season on Tuesday, Oct. 12th at Champs— this time on the east side of the Twin Cities. I'm told by Eric Swensied that it was a great success and that our next networking happy hour will be held in early December in the same general location. So, please make a note of it and join us for some good fellowship and a great networking opportunity with other plastics professionals .

Sean Mertes, Technical Program Chair, has been working with his team of Paul Rothweiler, Tom McNamara and Jesse Lund to bring you a very stimulating symposium focused on "Selecting the Proper Plastic Material" at our 2nd Annual MegaTEC which will be held at Hennepin Technical College in Brooklyn Park on Thursday, November 4th. This full day event starts off at 8:00 am with an Introduction by Past President, Paul Rothweiler (Aspen Research Corp.) followed at 8:30 am with a comprehensive tutorial on Polymer Fundamentals from our Councilor, Tom McNamara (Thermotech). After that, there will be five additional sessions covering everything from commodity plastics to high performance engineered polymers. Finally, we'll learn some successful search strategies for finding "the right resin" using IDES Prospector. So, in all there will be six speakers and lunch and refreshments are included. Pre-registration is required.

To join us you can conveniently register on line at our website: www.uppermidwestspe.org. Payment of the registration fee (\$ 99.00 SPE members, \$129.00 non-members and discounts for groups of four or more) is very quick and safe using PayPal. Space is limited so please don't wait until the last minute to register. It's a heck of a deal. Hope to see you there.

Finally, I have some bittersweet news to report from our board. Our fellow board member and Education Committee Chair, Shilpa Manjure, has decided to step down for a period of 1 year so that she can attend to her daughter, Trisha, who was born on May 28, 2010. We will all miss Shilpa's enthusiasm, hard work and happy smile, but we also know that it won't be all that long before she returns. Thanks for your service, Shilpa, and best wishes.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Dan Mishek, Membership Chairman
Email: Dan@vistatek.com • Phone: (651) 653-0400

Please welcome the newest 31 members to SPE. This brings the total to 73 new members for the year 2010! It is refreshing and exciting to see the new members joining the current members at the local events. The networking, sharing of industry experience and gaining education has never been stronger.



Dan Mishek

<u>NEW MEMBER</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NEW MEMBER</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Virgil Poore		Hanover, MN	Nicole Whiteman	NatureWorks LLC	Minnetonka, MN
Sean Carroll	Carroll Enterprises	Orono, MN	Jeremy Braaten	Polaris Industries	Roseau, MN
Phil LaViolette	Minimizer	Blooming Prairie, MN	Ben Maulorico	The RTP Company	Winona, MN
Christopher Graley	Stratasys	Eden Prairie, MN	Sharon Weinel		Rosemount, MN
Larry Sletten	Douglas Corporation	Eden Prairie, MN	Kevin Pedersen	Persona Inc	Watertown, SD
Shawn Slane	Navitor	North Mankato, MN	Long Jiang	North Dakota State University	Fargo, ND
Peter Will	Universal Pormotions Inc	Rogers, MN	Saeed Ziaee		Winona State
Biawo Abani		Minneapolis, MN	University		Winona, MN
Dave Reasor	Product Development Solutions	Minneapolis, MN	Fred Simonson	Multisource Mfg LLC/Victory Tool	Anoka, MN
Gene Rupp		Waconia, MN	Jammie Arens	Advanced Extrusion Inc	Becker, MN
Thomas Fitzgerald	Winona State University	Winona, MN	Sandy Crasper	Advanced Extrusion Inc	Becker, MN
Andrew Brady	South Dakota (Mines & Tech)	Rapid City, SD	Chad Kampa	Advanced Extrusion Inc	Becker, MN
Jeff Lindquist	Boston Scientific Corp.	Maple Grove, MN	Jeff Baker		Hudson, WI
Carl Carlson	Zirc Company	Buffalo, MN	Savanna Daley	UW-Stout	Menomonie, WI
John Hoogenakker	Micromedics Inc	Saint Paul, MN	Roderick Kleiss	Kleiss Gears Inc	Grantsburg, WI
Jim Howard	Interfacial Solutions	River Falls, WI	Duane Putnam	APG Cash Drawer	Minneapolis, MN
Corey Claussen	Custom Roto-mold Inc	Benson, MN			

SPOTLIGHT ON THE BOARD

Bill Friedman, Advertising Chair

Our "Spotlight on the Board" for this issue shines on Bill Friedeman who has taken on the task of Advertising Chair for *The SPEcialist*.

Bill started his career in plastics in 1979 when he began working at the Avery International Research and Development Center Los Angeles as a part-time polymer analyst while attending Occidental College. After graduating Occidental with a degree in Chemistry, Bill moved to the Midwest and earned a MS in Chemical Engineering at Purdue University in 1982.

He then "came north" to St. Paul to join 3M's Film & Allied Products Manufacturing Technology Group (Now, Specialty Products). He says that it was while he was at 3M that he first became involved with SPE. He attended local meetings, educational seminars and ANTEC on and off over the years.

He later transferred to the 3M Health Care Division where he worked on the development of fluorocarbon contact lenses and became familiar with precision injection molding. From 1989 to 1991 his

experience was broadened to include profile extrusion at Schneider USA (now a division of Pfizer) where he developed catheters and other minimally invasive medical devices.

In 1991 Bill stepped into the futuristic world of fused deposition modeling and rapid prototyping at Stratasys, Inc. as Director of Materials Development where he received several patents during his 17 year tenure.

More recently, Bill joined Promed Pharma in Plymouth as New Product/Technical Service Manager where he leads the development of drug eluting silicone implants.

I first met Bill at one of our local SPE events and am delighted to have him on our board to manage the advertising of our newsletter. Bill has a great can-do attitude and can always be counted on to get the job done. I also appreciate his personal familiarity with many of the plastics businesses in the region.

When I asked him why he volunteers his time to our SPE section, he said that he enjoys keeping in touch with the local community of plastics professionals and keeping up with the new technologies coming down the pike, both at local Mini/MegaTECs and ANTEC—in his opinion the best comprehensive plastics technical conference held anywhere.

Continued on page 9



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WANTED

Archivist/Historian

Recently, our past and longtime editor of *The SPEcialist*, Nancy Kochenderfer, transferred all the past section newsletters to me. Nicely preserved in boxes and Tupperware containers is a treasure trove of historical information about our section and the plastics industry in the Upper Midwest going back many decades. It would be wonderful if these materials could be preserved and made more accessible.

So, I'm calling out to the membership for a volunteer who would be willing to serve on our board as the section archivist/historian. No formal training is required.

Some of the activities associated with this position might be to arrange for these materials to be scanned into computer files; working with Rolly Enderes, our Webmaster and Newsletter Editor, to get the materials archived on the section website; authoring a regular column in *The SPEcialist* with a reprinting of news items from days gone by; and possibly even working with a professional binder to assemble and better preserve these precious documents for posterity.

Anyone interested in applying for this position should contact, Dick Bopp, President at Richard_C_Bopp@NatureWorksLLC.com or (952) 742-0454.

Visit The Upper Midwest Section of SPE's Website
WWW.UPPERMIDWESTSPE.ORG

SPE EUROTEC™ Conference **CALL FOR PAPERS**

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Submit your technical abstract and paper online at:
www.4spe.org/spe-eurotec-conference



For more details, contact:
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SPE Senior Event Manager
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Upper Midwest Section (S22) Membership

November 1, 2010

Section Total 437

OPEN Invitation to all Upper Midwest Section Schools/Colleges to JOIN the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE)

Here are Top 10 reasons to join the SPE

Student Members of SPE have all the privileges of SPE membership afforded to other member grades, including:

- Reduced SPE membership dues – ONLY \$31.00 per year
- *Plastics Engineering* magazine every month
- Reduced registration for all educational seminars; Reduced registration at ANTEC and other technical conferences
- Discounts on over 100 important publications
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- 3 free “position wanted” ads in *Plastics Engineering*; Access to *Career Solutions*, SPE’s Online Plastics Employment Network
- Scholarships offered through the SPE Foundation, SPE Sections and Divisions; Cash Awards for Best Paper/Poster at many SPE-sponsored Conferences.
- FREE membership to your local SPE Section; FREE Division affiliation
- Section dinner meetings; technical programs and even Special Events.
- Professional contacts

... and much more!!!

Please contact

Shilpa Manjure, Education Chair – Upper Midwest Section SPE to learn more about the benefits of being a member of SPE and a few easy-steps to form a student chapter:
email smanjure@ntic.com or call (763) 225 6646

Councilor's Corner

Tom McNamara



Councilor's Corner

The last Council meeting took place on September 25th. I was unable to attend due to business travels and I want to thank our Past President, Paul Rothweiler, for participating as my proxy for the meeting. It is important for our Section to actively participate in Council meetings because of requirements that must be fulfilled to qualify for our Section rebates. Paul was very accommodating to our Sections needs by giving up a beautiful Saturday to attend via web-meeting.

Current SPE President, Ken Braney, presided over the meeting. This was the first Council meeting where electronic participation was offered for the Sections, Divisions, and Council Committee of the Whole meetings.

A moment of silence was observed in honor of two longtime SPE members and Fellows of the Society: William K. McConnell, Jr and Dr. Richard Cowell. I knew Dr. Cowell personally and his loss will be felt by many within and outside of the Society.

Executive Director, Susan Oderwald, gave an overview of staffing and updated technology changes, in particular the about-to-be-purchased association management software. She also informed the Council of a new program for selling booth space at ANTEC 2011. The new program will allow Sections/Divisions to sell exposition booth space and receive a portion of the funds for the space they sell. We will want to promote this within our Section for all companies that have members in our Section. If your company has an interest in learning more about exhibiting at ANTEC 2011, please contact me and I will forward the information.

The Council elected a new slate of officers to serve the Society for the 2011-2012 term, which begins at ANTEC 2011. The new officers are as follows:

President-Elect - - - James Griffing
Senior Vice President - - - Jon Ratzlaff
Vice President - - - Vijay Boolani

There was a very strong list of nominees for these posts and all would have been good choices. I congratulate those elected and I believe the Society is in good hands with the above selections.

In addition to these formal offices, each year the Council also elects a Chair for the Council Committee of the Whole. Dick Cameron from the Pittsburgh Section will hold this position for the 2011-2012 year.

The major Council action was the approval of the 2011 calendar-year budget. The budget calls for a gross income of approximately \$3.8MM with a net income of about \$315M. Council approved the budget unchanged from the original presentation.

President-Elect Russell Broome went through the meeting schedule for 2011-2012 noting that the Fall Council meeting in 2011 will be held in conjunction with EUROTEC in Barcelona. The 2011-2012 operating plan is focused on continuing the three-year plan created by Past President Andersen and President Braney.

I would like to now switch from Council business to Section business. Please get out the word in your organization about our upcoming MegaTech, "Selecting the Proper Plastic Material". This should be a very informative technical session for Engineers, Designers, Quality Assurance, R&D, Marketing, Sales, Purchasing and Academia. It is for just about anyone that needs to brush up on all types of plastics available and not only learn how to choose the right material for your application, but also how and where to find the material. This should be very informative to anyone dealing with plastic materials and components. Make sure your colleagues are not missing out. Pass the information around your company. We have multiple participant discounts, so sign up today!!!

SPOTLIGHT ON THE BOARD – Bill Priedman

Continued from page 4

So, what message would he like to leave to the membership? He said, “I’ve enjoyed being Advertising Chair. Let’s promote this [the Upper Midwest SPE]. We’ve got a wonderful group of people.”

I certainly agree. And, why not say, “Hi!” to Bill at our next event? If you’ve got an idea for an ad in *The SPEcialist*, so much the better. He’s the man.

ADVERTISERS WANTED!!

The SPEcialist is the newsletter of the Upper Midwest Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers and currently circulates to over 800 plastics professionals in the region. At present, the newsletter is published and mailed four times a year. New this year is a website (<http://www.uppermidwestspe.org>) and our plan is to run the print ads on the website, too. Now when you advertise with SPE-Upper Midwest Section you will have even greater exposure than before and we plan to keep the rates we had in the past for the newsletter.

Rate (per issue): Full Page: \$900; Half-Page: \$450; Quarter-Page: \$225; Business Card: \$75

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Open positions \$50

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Once the newsletter is published, you will be invoiced and instructed to issue a check to “SPE, Upper Midwest Section” for the appropriate amount and mail it to Marv Grussing (Treasurer) at 7-SIGMA, 4832 Winterset Drive, Minnetonka, MN. Terms are net 30.

Thank you for your support!
Bill Priedeman (Advertising Chair)
SPE-Upper Midwest Section S22



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Applicant Information

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Demographics

Job Function (choose only one)

Consulting Purchasing
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Materials (choose all that apply)

Composites Polyolefins
 Film Polystyrene
 General Interest TPEs
 Nylon Thermoset
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Process (choose all that apply)

Blow Molding Injection Molding
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*extra savings. **European membership dues include a program fee to support SPE's activities in Europe.

By signing below I agree to be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society and to promote the objectives of the Society. I certify that the statements made in the application are correct and I authorize SPE and its affiliates to use my phone, fax, address and email to contact me.

signature _____ date _____

recommended by member (optional) _____ id # _____

WWW

News from Around our Section:

Cited from Setember 2010 issue of PLASTIC ENGINEERING Magazine

- Newly formed Plarco, Inc., says it is the first company in the United States dedicated exclusively to recycling post-consumer and post-industrial polylactic acid (PLA) back into lactic acid. Plarco has contracted with supplier BioCor, which purchases and resells scrap PLA, to be BioCor's exclusive recycler of PLA. Nature Works LLC, reportedly the world's leading producer of PLA under its Ingeo brand name, has entered into an agreement to purchase all of Plarco's Productions of lactic acid. The lactic acid is shipped to NatureWorks' facility in Blair, Nebraska, USA, where it is polymerized into Ingeo biopolymer. Plarco says that currently, it is "effectively converting specific types of PLA waste into lactic acid suitable for production of virgin PLA resin, and in the near future will be accepting all kinds of PLA waste." Plarco is located at the WRR Environmental Services and EnviroGreen Solutions facility in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, USA. Belgium-based Galactic, a producer of lactic acid, and EnviroGreen are stockholders in the new venture.
- Nature Works LLC, headquartered in Minnetonka, Minnesota, USA, has announced that its Ingeo biopolymer- "made from plants, not oil"- is the first polymer to earn a four-star "OK biobased" rating from the European certification organization Vincotte of Vilvoorde, Belgium. The OK Biobased certification, which was introduced in September 2009, quantifies for consumers the amount of renewable carbon content in packaging materials and fibers, and in personal care, electronic, and other manufactured products. NatureWorks says that the Vincotte OK biobased certification meets the ASTM D6866 standard for determining the renewable/biobased carbon content of products. The certification recognizes four levels of renewable carbon content: one star for content comprising between 20% and 40% biobased carbon; two stars for 40%-60%; three stars for 60%-80%; and four stars for more than 80% biobased carbon content. According to the test, NatureWorks says, "Ingeo plastic resin is made from 99% renewable plants sugars—that is, renewable carbon. (In actuality, all of the carbon is biobased, but 99% reflects the accuracy of the test.) Every grade of Ingeo resin—40 is all—received the four-star certification." www.natureworkslc.com
- Sil-Pro, Delano, Minnesota, USA, has announced that it has added to its facilities a 3500-square-foot Class 10,000 clean room that "will incorporate new molding operations to serve the growing requirements of the medical device industry." According to company vice president of sales and marketing Brian Huggins, "Four new LIM presses will be added in the new space by year-end ranging from 40 to 90 tons. Additional equipment is also being installed to provide value-added operations such as slitting, bonding and pad printing." The company reports that it has 115 employees, and further says that it has ISO 9001:2000 certification and provides "liquid silicone molding, gum stock molding, and bonding silicone parts to plastics, metal and other silicone parts using medical grade adhesives." www.sil-pro.com
- VEC Composite Technology (Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA) has launched a new and updated website touting the benefits of its composite-manufacturing process. The updated website features information on VEC Composite Technology, applications, production process, and so on. The company says that VEC Composite Technology is a patented, state-of-the-art, computer-controlled manufacturing process that guarantees that every composite part built with VEC is made to the most exacting standard of fit and finish, resulting in "composite parts that have superior and unparalleled precision and unprecedented quality," and that VEC Composite Technology uses "advanced thermosetting and thermoforming techniques to dramatically reduce the capital and time needed to make composite products as well as ensure that VEC parts are superior in quality, appearance, and strength when compared to traditional manufacturing methods." The new website is located at VECTechnology.com.

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Selecting The Proper Plastic Material

December 14, 2010 - Awards Dinner

February 15-17, 2011 - ASIATEC - Tokyo
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May 1-5, 2011 - ANTEC 2011- Boston,
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November 14-15, 2011
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