

Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1872)

1625 EYE STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

PLASTICS COMMITTEE Minutes of Meeting January 12, 1954 Manhattan Club, New York City

PRESENT:

Dan M. Rugg, Chairman
C. B. Branch, Vice Chairman
Roger S. Firestone
M. G. Milliken
George C. Miller
R. A. Hoekelman
E. T. Handley
Charles Lichtenberg
E. F. Schumacher
F. H. Carman
Guests: W. F. Busse
Robert Burns

Mr. Rugg opened the meeting by introducing Mr. R. A. Hoekelman newly appointed member approved by the Board of Directors earlier in the day. He stated that Mr. Hoekelman was eminently qualified to assist the Committee, particularly because he is in a branch of the industry which heretofore has not been well represented on the Plastics Committee.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS - PLASTICS

Messrs. Robert Burns and W. F. Busse were guests early in the meeting to discuss the International Standards Organization plastics committee scope of activities, its methods of operations, and problems presently facing the American Group. Following this explanation and questions, it was generally concluded that cooperation in this ISO work would be beneficial if it is felt this branch of the chemical industry has a definite stake in international trade. Participation by American industry would insure standard test methods and procedures acceptable in this country. Members pointed out the changing trends in international trade have made it very difficult for the executives to decide just what position should be taken on a long range activity of this nature. The discussion did serve to clarify this committee's work, and it is hoped that further contacts with member representatives will be possible in the next several months on this subject.

The Chairman suggested that the Washington office keep in touch with the ISO committee chairman and endeavor to assist him in selling the importance of participation in the meeting to be held in England this Fall.

BUILDING RESEARCH
TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

Since the previous meeting, a number of members have designated representatives to consider sponsorship of a technical conference in cooperation with the Building Research Advisory Board. A meeting has been tentatively arranged for January 27, at which time representatives of M.I.T. and the BRAB will be present. The objective is to consider all aspects of an industry-sponsored conference on plastics and to make recommendations on what should be done by the Association. In discussion, the Committee approved the suggestion that representatives of S.P.I., such as laminators and reinforced plastics manufacturers, be included. The Committee also stressed that steps should be considered to make the conference a two-way program, that is, engineers and architects be urged to participate and tell the industry what is needed.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The special task committee had a meeting earlier in the day with Mr. Cleveland Lane, who is in charge of public relations activities for MCA. Mr. Schumacher, chairman, reported that plans are going forward to publicize the Statement of Principles as follows:

- (1) Include the Statement in the Buyers' Handbook now being revised.
- (2) Have the Statement endorsed by the S.P.E. and the Plastic Coatings & Film Association, as was done with S.P.I.
- (3) Arrange publicity in cooperation with the MCA office; this to include picture of presidents of MCA, SPI, and SPE signing the Statement and then possibly a press conference at which time press releases giving background information on this activity would be available.

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It was agreed that three types of releases would be required; one for the general press, such as the New York Times, one for plastics publications, and a third for general magazines, such as Good Housekeeping with a view of getting comment here if at all possible. Plans also include a move to have editors in the industry magazines endorse the Statement editorially.

It is the understanding that stories and the press releases will be prepared in draft form by MCA and referred to the task committee for further consideration.

- (4) The committee is currently aiming at March 9, 1954 as a tentative date for signing of the Statement by the Associations' presidents and start of publicity.

Mr. Schumacher then stressed the need for keeping the "pot boiling" on this subject and suggested that an over-all industry committee be formed with representatives from MCA, SPI, and SPE. The Plastics Committee approved this suggestion and asked Mr. Schumacher to be the MCA representative for implementation of this work.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Chairman stated that the group had given consideration to the need for additional members on the Plastics Committee to provide better representation of some of the newer materials and on coating resins now included as plastics, and in recognition of the growth of the industry since the original concept of the seven-member committee. He stated that such a plan was permitted in the Terms of Reference for the Plastics Committee and that he had advised the Board of the proposal to increase the membership.

Following consideration of those materials not now adequately represented and individuals who could serve as provided in the Terms of Reference, two names were proposed and the Chairman will contact them to check on their availability for serving on the Committee.

BUYERS' HANDBOOK

In cooperation with the S.P.I., Morrison and Gottlieb have been retained to undertake revision of the Buyers' Handbook and work is currently underway. The membership has been circularized for delegation of individuals to whom specific sections of the book should be referred for approval.

This activity is part of the financial package for which funds are now available to finance this work in cooperation with the S.P.I.

FINANCING
GROUP PROJECTS

The Chairman has sent a letter to non-Plastics Group MCA members who have some interest in the plastics industry, inviting them to participate in the financing of special activities. Oronite Chemical Co. and Harshaw Chemical Co. have already approved such participation, and replies were received from two others to date. Further report will be made at a later meeting.

SPRING OUTING

It was the sense of the group that plans should be made for an outing in May, as has been done each year. Baltusrol Golf Club is first choice, and if this is not available, then Seaview Country Club should be considered.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Plastics Committee will be February 9, 1954, 4:00 P.M., Manhattan Club, New York City.

WHEREUPON, adjournment was taken at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. Carman
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FHC/mw
January 15, 1954