

Briefing and Press Conference on Sortation Technology at Rutgers held May 21

A briefing and press conference at the Center For Plastics Recycling Research (CPRR) at Rutgers University was held May 21 to publicize the technology developed at the Center to enable automatic sortation of PVC containers in a mixed plastics stream. Funding to enable this development came from the Council For Solid Waste Solutions, the Plastics Recycling Foundation and the Vinyl Institute.

Roy Gottesman's opening remarks focused on an overview of vinyl plastics. Darrell Morrow, Senior Project Manager at the Center and his staff conducted a tour of the pilot plant and demonstration of the sortation apparatus for the press and visiting dignitaries, including Aletha Spang, who serves as the administrator for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Office of Recycling.

Representatives of VI member companies, Bill Carroll of Occidental Chemical, Jim Kochanski of Georgia Gulf and Bela Mikofalvy of BFGoodrich participated in the program and had an opportunity to describe their individual company efforts on recycling. Since the briefing, there have been several newspaper stories on this development and Roy Gottesman has also been interviewed by three local radio stations and a local TV news show.

PVC-DWV Pipe Approved By Chicago City Council On May 16

On May 16th, the Chicago City Council approved an amendment to the Chicago Building Code to allow the use of PVC pipe in drain waste and vent (DWV) pipe in above-ground applications in residential construction of buildings three stories or less. The 29-12 vote reaffirmed action taken on May 1 by the Council's Building Committee. A similar amendment was proposed during the administration of Mayor Jane Byrne. During the administration of the late Mayor Harold Washington, who supported the measure, several VI witnesses appeared at hearings attesting to the safety of the product. This time, proponents were led by members of the City Council with the support of Mayor Richard Daley and advocates of affordable housing.

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Chicago was the last remaining major U.S. city that did not allow any use of plastic pipe.

Vinyl Sortation Technology To Be Installed in U.K.

European Vinyls Corporation (EVC) and PVC through their joint venture company Reprise, Ltd., have concluded an exclusive letter of agreement with National Recovery Technologies, Inc. (NRT) of Nashville, Tennessee to "jointly develop and commercially exploit a fully-integrated closed loop system for the automatic separation and reprocessing of mixed plastic containers that will yield pure streams of recovered polymers for recycling".

John York, Chairman of EVC, in sharing this information with the Vinyl Institute Executive Board on May 12th prior to the general public release of this announcement, indicated that a detailed arrangement between the parties will be worked out in the next few months. A pilot plant that will act as a demonstration unit, will be installed in the U.K. and is expected to be operational before the end of 1990.

The Vinyl Institute had entered into a contract with NRT in November of last year to develop an automatic sortation device to enable separation of vinyl from a mixed plastics stream. Mr. York emphasized that EVC will honor in every respect, the NRT/VI agreement and that its program will not conflict with VI activities. The Vinyl Institute contract calls for availability of a prototype unit for demonstrations in the U.S. at the end of the year and a further two-year period in which such demonstrations can be carried-out.

Petroquímica Colombiana Becomes Institute Associate Member

At the Executive Board Meeting of the Vinyl Institute on May 12th, the membership application of Petroquímica Colombiana, S.A. to become an associate member of the Institute was unanimously approved. The company which is headquartered in Bogota, Colombia is a licensee of BFGoodrich resin and Oxychem compound technology.

As an associate member, Petroquímica Colombiana joins European Vinyls Corporation in this membership category, which is limited to foreign PVC/VCM producers. Gonzalo Sandino will be his company's voting representative to the Vinyl Institute.

Fiscal Year 1990-1991 Budget Received Approval

A record budget of \$1,856,881 for Vinyl Institute operations and programs during the fiscal year starting June 1 was recently approved by the Institute Executive Board. Of this amount, 82.8% is self-funded and raised by member company assessments, the remainder being core support received from the Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc. of which the VI is a division.

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Of the self-funded monies, 75% will be used for technical and communications programs that are aimed at promoting vinyl products or developing recycling programs and defending the product against unwarranted attacks against vinyl because of alleged environmental problems.

**Italian Feeding Studies Show PVC
Non-Carcinogenic**

A copy of a report giving the results of a recent study by Professor Cesare Maltoni concludes that repeated administration of PVC dust in olive oil suspension by gavage to rats did not result in any carcinogenic effects.

The full report is to be published shortly in the medical review, Acta Oncologia.

Coming Attractions.....

At press time, the following meetings have been scheduled for Vinyl Institute committees during the summer months:

VIGOR Meeting - July 17, 1990
(Vista Hotel, Newark Airport)

ELECTRICAL MATERIALS Meeting - July 23-25, 1990
(Hilton Hotel, Chicago O'Hare Airport)

TECHNICAL Meeting - July 26, 1990
(Vista Hotel, Newark Airport)

PRO Meeting - August 22, 1990
(VI Offices, Wayne, New Jersey)

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