

# SPE THE SPECIALIST

December 2007

Volume 35

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## Section Mini-Tech

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 4, 2007**

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**Speakers:** Plastics Industry Specialist Computrac Division, Mr. Fred Curren 4 years with AZI and Mr. Scott Gifford 2 years with AZI.

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### 2nd Topic:

#### **POLYMER DRYING: SEPARATING FACT FROM FICTION AND HOW TO CHOOSE THE BEST DRYER FOR YOUR NEEDS**

**Speaker:** Jamie Jamison - Dryer Product Sales Manager, Conair

Love them or hate them, dryers are an indispensable cost of production. Used properly, they ensure that the parts or products made will be free of defects caused by water - but the variability of materials, molding and extrusion processes too often lead to practices that result in part scrap and/or unrecoverable energy costs.

To help processors gain an efficiency edge, several new technologies have appeared that “promise” to cut drying times and/or reduce energy demands; all offering significant savings. All make claims of being the best - some are, some are not. So, how is a processor to sort truth from fiction?

*Polymer Drying and Reservation Information continued on page 4*

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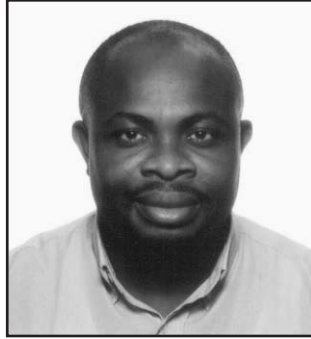
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# Outgoing President

## Remarks

**Domasius Nwabunma, Ph.D**



Dear Upper Midwest  
S22 Section Members,

A popular saying has it that everything must come to an end. Thus, am I writing to inform you that my two-year term as your president ended September 2007. During my tenure, many accomplishments were made, which I communicated to you through our quarterly Newsletter. I am happy to introduce to you the new president Mr. Paul Rothweiller of Aspen Research. Thank you for your support and I ask that you extend the same level of support if not more to Mr. Rothweiller. I will still be part of the board at least for a year as your past president.

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## *Mini-Tech Polymer Drying continued from cover*

### **What Attendees Will Learn**

- \* How to choose when deciding on drying equipment
- \* Advantages and disadvantages of different drying technologies, limitations and capabilities: desiccant wheel vs. desiccant tanks - vacuum - compressed air - infrared
- \* Recent technological advances, and process optimization
- \* Energy savings technologies and advances

### **Bio on speaker for**

#### **Jamie Jamison - Dryer Product Sales Manager, Conair**

Jamie is a 16 year veteran of Conair and is responsible for managing innovative technology developments through the validation stage and then the application of that technology in commercial processes. This includes dryer product quality and performance, energy reduction, specialized applications - including PET preform and extrusion systems, client contact, and liaison to market research, engineering and manufacturing functions. He has broad experience in plant-wide systems engineering and project management for the full range of Conair material handling and conditioning equipment.

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# President Remarks

Paul Rothweilert

In my first column as your new President, I would like to start by thanking Domasius Nwabunma for his leadership. The good news is Domasius will continue to be a contributing member of our Section, as a Board member. This will provide our Section continuity in serving the general membership.



There are a lot of great things about this Section that are a foundation we can build upon. We have a dedicated Board that is currently hard at work developing the agenda for 2008. We have scheduled four Mini-Tech's for 2008 that will be based on your input from a survey. (Look for and be sure to respond to, the survey!) The Mini-Tech's are scheduled for the afternoons of February 19th, April 22nd, September 23rd and November 18th. Book those days on your calendar now, to ensure you will be able to attend. I also encourage you to spend time after the Mini-Tech's networking and getting to know your fellow SPE Members. More details on post Mini-Tech activities will be coming soon.

It may sound like we have every detail planned, and there isn't any room for your input. I would counter by saying — we definitely want to hear your ideas. Please contact any of the Board members with your comments and ideas at any time. We will do everything possible to incorporate your ideas and needs into our upcoming programs. We are also interested in hearing from you regarding your ability to serve the SPE Membership. We are in need of a variety of talents to achieve our Section's 2008 goals.

I look forward to serving you as the Section President in 2008. It's going to be an exciting and fun year.

# October Mini-Tech

## A "Bio" Plastics Overview

Bio-materials are an ever-important part of the global economy. The drive to find environmentally friendly materials and process, coupled with the costs associated with petroleum, has made this switch to bio-materials a choice for some manufacturers. October Mini-Tech speakers Vikram Gopal- Sabic Innovative Plastics (formerly GE Plastics), Richard Bopp - NatureWorks, Zuzzane Cygan and Peg Schipper - Arkema, presented an informative program introducing the information needed in order to understand the dynamics of the bio-materials market, become familiar with some the materials derived from renewable sources and materials that are designed to provide the desired performance from bio-materials.

## OCTOBER 2007 SPE SEMINAR ATTENDEE'S

John Chen	BSCI
Tim Jertson	Rhino Markers
Shawn Pomeroy	Rhino Markers
Paul Earl-Torniainen	General Mills Inc
Gary Noble	DiaServe
Eric Swensied	Harbor Plastics
Shaun Duhaime	3M
Dave Fosse	Lindar
Todd Kidder	Federal Foam Technologies
Darin Grinsteinner	Composite Products
Dan Dahlberg	E & O Tool
Ling Zhang	Grad Student at U of M
Steve Maki	RTP
Karl Martinson	BSCI
Rachel Haabala	BSCI
Jeremy Dworshak	Steinwall
Vincent Berger	A&B Associates
Amelia Debaggis	Honeywell
Milton Riebel	Diversi-Plast
Mike Riebel	DiaServe
Bob Shaw	DiaServe
Missy Sanden	Natureworks
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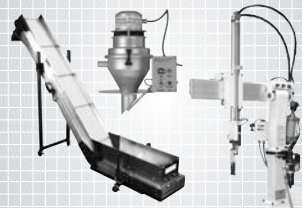
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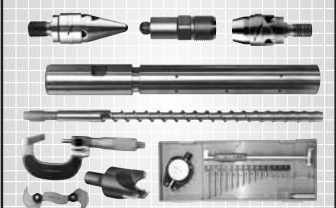
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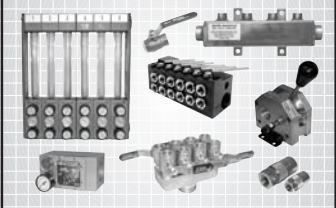
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# Membership

October 31, 2007

Total .....557

*Welcome New Members*

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**ANNOUNCE**

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## Councilor's Corner - Tom McNamara

At the last council meeting, September 29, Executive Director Susan Oderwald reported that SPE is working on a number of new initiatives and programs in response to the findings of the all-member value survey that was completed earlier this year. The New Technology Committee has agreed to support SPE's efforts to produce a New Technology Symposium on a variety of topics. They are also working with the new Biopolymers SIG and the Plastics Environmental Division to develop a Green Building Symposium in the near future.

The 2008 budget was approved which calls for gross income of \$5,495,000, expenses of \$5,418,600, and a net income of \$76,400. The budget does include rebates to Sections and our local board is in the process of submitting all required documents to support us getting our full 2008 rebate.

With the push to grow the international side of SPE, a seminar program was put on by the SPE at the recent K-Show in Dusseldorf, Germany. A new slate of instructors was recruited exclusively from the European Divisions and SIG's. It was felt that an all-European core of instructors would enhance attendance at the K-Show and get the SPE European Seminars program off to a faster start in 2008.

Divisions Committee reported that three new Special Interest Groups (SIG's) were approved. They include: Plastics in Building Construction, Biopolymers, and Medical Polymers Europe. Also, an existing SIG request for name change was approved changing the 'North American Radiation Processing' SIG to the 'Radiation Processing of Polymers North America' SIG

Discussions continued on Sections and Regionalization. This is a difficult topic with several Sections struggling for survival but Regionalization has functional problems with serving all members with expanding geography. Three Sections were put on Provisional status; Buffalo, Mexico City, and Wichita, with Arizona being moved to abandoned status.

Our Section is in reasonably good shape but your Board is trying to promote more active participation

with our local members. We are looking at re-establishing the once popular holiday party and the very popular golf outing. We are also committing to regular Mini-Tech's to help serve the educational needs of our Section. We need your support to make our Section more vibrant with the goal of better serving our membership and fulfilling our mission of education in plastics. Please volunteer to help by contacting any Board member.

**A  
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***May 4 - 8  
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***Milwaukee  
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# SPE Education Awards

SPE sponsors several education awards each year for its membership. One of the awards is for Sections, two are for student chapters and one is an individual award. Our Section will be applying for the Section award and we are encouraging our student chapters and individuals to enter these award programs. A description of each award is as follows:

## **The SPE Section Education Award (Husky Award)**

This award is sponsored by Husky Injection Molding Systems, Ltd and is open to all SPE Sections. The winning Section, determined by the Education Awards Committee, will receive a cash award of \$5,000. The award will be given to the Section that provides the best plan or use of the funds...not what the Section has done, but what it will do. Australia Section won last year. Our Section is in the process of formulating a plan for the funds. If you have suggestions on how we should use the money if awarded, please contact one of our Section Education Co-Chairs, Scott Soderstrom (Scott.Soderstrom@polyone.com) or Tom McNamara (thomas.mcnamara@thermotech.com).

## **The Chase Plastics Student Chapter Award**

This award is sponsored by Chase Plastics Services and is focused on the educational activity of Student Chapters. A cash award of \$2,500 will be presented to the Student Chapter that provides the best educational plan for the future use of the award money. Western Washington University won this award last year. The goal of the program is to advance the perception and reception of plastics at the college and community levels through educational activities driven and sponsored by SPE Student Chapters. The definition of community for the award includes:  
Grade schools, high schools, community colleges, trade schools, and universities.  
General public (all ages)

## **The Outstand Student Chapter Award**

This award recognizes Student Chapters whose programs, activities, and levels of participation are especially noteworthy. Multiple Chapters can win this award and those meeting the specified criteria will receive a \$500 cash award, funded by the SPE Thermoforming Division.

## **The Wonders of Plastics Essay Contest**

This is an individual contest open to all middle/junior high and high school students. The essay must be sponsored by a teacher and must meet certain requirements. The essays will be judged on topic depth and coverage, factual accuracy, writing, grammar, creativity, details, and correctness. The winning entry for each Section will be published in our newsletter. In addition, the winning essay from our Section will be forwarded to SPE Headquarters for inclusion in the International Essay Contest. The International winner will receive a plaque and \$1000 honorarium. An additional \$1000 will be given to the winner's school. Contact Scott or Tom for more information.



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<input type="checkbox"/> Additives & Color Europe (D45) <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Plastics (D36) <input type="checkbox"/> Automotive (D31) <input type="checkbox"/> Mold Making & Mold Design (D35) <input type="checkbox"/> Blow Molding (D30) <input type="checkbox"/> Plastics Environmental (D40) <input type="checkbox"/> Color & Appearance (D21) <input type="checkbox"/> Polymer Analysis (D33) <input type="checkbox"/> Composites (D39) <input type="checkbox"/> Polymer Modifiers & Additives (D38) <input type="checkbox"/> Decorating & Assembly (D34) <input type="checkbox"/> Product Design & Development (D41) <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical & Electronic (D24) <input type="checkbox"/> Rotational Molding (D42) <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering Properties & Structure (D26) <input type="checkbox"/> Thermoforming (D25) <input type="checkbox"/> Extrusion (D22) <input type="checkbox"/> Thermoforming, European (D43) <input type="checkbox"/> Flexible Packaging (D44) <input type="checkbox"/> Thermoplastic Materials & Foams (D29) <input type="checkbox"/> Injection Molding (D23) <input type="checkbox"/> Thermoset (D28) <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing & Management (D37) <input type="checkbox"/> Vinyl Plastics (D27)			<b>Additional Division(s)</b> costs for each Additional Division <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>1yr.</th> <th>2 yrs.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>US</td> <td>\$6.00</td> <td>\$12.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Canada</td> <td>\$7.00</td> <td>\$14.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Euros</td> <td>€5.00</td> <td>€10.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		1yr.	2 yrs.	US	\$6.00	\$12.00	Canada	\$7.00	\$14.00	Euros	€5.00	€10.00
	1yr.	2 yrs.													
US	\$6.00	\$12.00													
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# Upcoming Conferences, Seminars and Events

- November 29-30, 2007** **ASTM Mtrl Workshop**  
*Cleveland, Ohio*  
*Contact: ASTM, 800-336-5152*
- December 3-5, 2007** **ASTM International Committee D24 on Carbon Black**  
*Tampa, Florida*  
*Website: [www.astm.org/COMMIT/D24.htm](http://www.astm.org/COMMIT/D24.htm)*
- February 25-28, 2008** **SPE Polytech, Polymer Technology Seminars**  
*Held in conjunction with the SPE International Polyolefins and FlexPackCon® Conferences*  
*Marriott Houston North at Greenspoint Hotel, Houston Texas*  
*Contact: [www.4spe.org](http://www.4spe.org) for a complete list of PolyTech Seminar descriptions*
- February 24-27, 2008** **SPE's Polyolefins and FlexPackCon® 2008**  
*Wyndham Hotel, Houston Texas*  
*Contact: Bill Diecks, 281-381-1264 or [bill.diecks@ametek.com](mailto:bill.diecks@ametek.com)*
- March 9-12, 2008** **SPE's Global Plastics Environmental Conf. 2008**  
*Orlando, Florida*  
*Contact: Gwen Mathis, 705-235-9298 or [gwensmathis@aol.com](mailto:gwensmathis@aol.com)*
- March 24-26, 2008** **SPE's Automotive Injection Molding TopCon**  
*Greenville, South Carolina*  
*Contact: Michael Uhrain, 440-292-5112 or [michael.uhrain@dgp.com](mailto:michael.uhrain@dgp.com)*
- April 6-10, 2008** **Symposium on Nonlinear Dynamics in Polymer Systems**  
*New Orleans, Louisiana*  
*Contact: Jon A Pojman, 601-266-5035 or [john@pojman.com](mailto:john@pojman.com)*
- April 13-15, 2008** **Hollow Parts Conference**  
*Shanghai, China*  
*Contact: Jon Ratzlaff at [ratzljrd@cpchem.com](mailto:ratzljrd@cpchem.com)*
- May 4-8, 2008** **Plastics Encounter at ANTEC™ 2008**  
*Midwest Express Center and Milwaukee Hilton City Center, Milwaukee WI*  
*Contact: Leslie Kyle, 203-740-5452 or [antec@4spe.org](mailto:antec@4spe.org)*
- October 21-23, 2008** **Plastics and Rubber Vietnam 2008**  
*Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam*  
*Contact: Messe Dusseldorf North America, 312-781-5180 or [info@mdna.com](mailto:info@mdna.com)*
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## TWIN CITY AREA CALENDAR

Mini Seminar . . . . . December 4, 2007  
*Hennepin Technical Ctr, North Campus*

ANTEC . . . . . May 4 - 8, 2008  
*Milwaukee Wisconsin*

Plastics Encounter Trade Show . . . . .  
. . . . . May 5-7, 2008  
*Milwaukee Wisconsin*

## WESTERN WISCONSIN CALENDAR

## SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA CALENDAR

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