



# FOCUS

EUROPEAN PLASTICS CONVERTERS NEWSLETTER

PROVIDES **EuPC** MEMBERS WITH A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF **EuPC** ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES

## Technical Parts ISSUE

June 2014

### **NPA directors celebrated at General Assembly EuPC**

During the 2014 General assembly **EuPC** elected a new President, Michael Kundel but also thanked 6 NPA directors that served all together more than 100 years the plastics converting industry. This recognition demonstrated the need for strong leadership and knowledge on issues affecting plastics converters in Europe which are mainly family owned SME. Very tight personal relationship with an industrial network of company owners is essential for trade association to operate efficiently in today's business environment in Europe. The NPA directors that were given the **EuPC** award are pictured from left to right: Geert Scheys (Federplast - Essencia), Peter Davis (BPF); Gustaaf Bos (Federplast - Agoria); Enrique Gallego (ANAIP); Peter Skov (DPF). (Missing: Ernesto Engel from Swiss Plastics).



### **Shipments of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)**

The European Commission is expected to come forward with a draft measure on shipments of waste from electrical and electronic equipment towards the end of 2014. Under Article 10 (3) of the WEEE Directive (2012/19/EU), the Commission was required to present a draft measure on shipments of WEEE by February 2014, however this measure was delayed. According to Article 10 of the WEEE Directive, treatment operations for WEEE could also be undertaken outside the EU; however, exported WEEE should only count towards the fulfilment of legal obligations and recovery targets under the WEEE Directive if the exporter can prove that the treatment took place in conditions that are equivalent to requirements laid out in the WEEE Directive. The expected draft measure would lay out a set of criteria for the assessment of 'equivalent conditions' in non-EU facilities. **EuPC** has also learned that a preparatory study on shipments of WEEE has been finalised towards the end of 2013 (as of yet not available) and the results of this study will feed into the Commission's draft measure towards the end of 2014. More info: [Padraig.Nolan@eupc.org](mailto:Padraig.Nolan@eupc.org)

### **End of Life Vehicles Monitoring**

**EuPC** has learned that the European Commission is still discussing internally whether to present a draft measure to amend EU rules on monitoring requirements of reuse/recovery and reuse/recycling targets as set out in the End of Life Vehicles Directive (2000/53/EC). The Commission is paying particular attention to whether a guidance document on 'How to perform a shredder campaign' would be clear enough for stakeholders (available here: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/pdf/shredder.pdf>), or whether an amendment to Commission Decision 2005/293/EC is needed. **EuPC** has also learned that the Commission would wait for the results of fitness checks carried out on the End-of-life Vehicle Directive, before coming forward with any proposal. The results of fitness checks carried out will be published together with the Commission's EU waste policy review (expected in July 2014). Member State experts are due to discuss the latest developments regarding this potential amendment of Decision 2005/293/EC during a meeting of the 'Committee for the Adaptation to Scientific and Technical progress and implementation of the end-of-Life Vehicles Directive' in September 2014. More info: [Padraig.Nolan@eupc.org](mailto:Padraig.Nolan@eupc.org)

### **Growing EU Regulatory concerns for plastics converters, recyclers and compounders**

**EuPC** announces the development of its services company to cope with the growing need for appropriate information and regulatory advice to companies in Europe. Small and larger plastics converting companies need further advice on how to cope with this burden and they need proper advice from the best EU experts in our industry. For this **EuPC** decided to develop a pool out of its EU plastics experts network under its service company that will be renamed **Polymer Comply Europe CVBA (PCE)** based in Brussels. Polymer Comply Europe CVBA will have 3 core activities: EU Regulatory Compliance, Association Management & Advocacy and Project & Studies. More info can be found at [www.polymercomply.eu](http://www.polymercomply.eu). At the same time **EuPC** will continue to advocate towards the new EU Commission and future MEPS for less burden on companies with less regulations in order to relaunch the markets in Europe. More info: [Alexandre.Dangis@eupc.org](mailto:Alexandre.Dangis@eupc.org)



## RoHS II - Substance Prioritization for Restrictions

The European Commission's external consultant on RoHS, the Öko-Institute has concluded its final study and its recommendations on a review of restricted substances under the new RoHS II on restrictions of certain hazardous substances in new electrical and electronic goods. The final study contains a review of quantitative information concerning substances on the prioritised shortlist. In addition to several monomers and additives used in plastics the polymer PVC is also included on the list for restriction under RoHS II. According to the recommendations of the Öko-Institute, a comprehensive assessment should be made to look into the various types of PVC used in EEE, both in terms of relevance, possible substitutions and possible impacts on the environment and on health. Recycled PVC is also an issue of concern which would require a separate assessment. Based on these recommendations, the European Commission is expected to begin drafting a delegated act to amend RoHS Annex II. The study may be found at: [http://rohs.exemptions.oeko.info/fileadmin/user\\_upload/reports/20140604\\_Substance\\_Review\\_plus\\_Dossier\\_final.pdf](http://rohs.exemptions.oeko.info/fileadmin/user_upload/reports/20140604_Substance_Review_plus_Dossier_final.pdf). More info: [Padraig.Nolan@eupc.org](mailto:Padraig.Nolan@eupc.org)

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## EUPC Packaging Forum on 5 June: Final Programme

On 5 June 2014 MedPharmPlast Europe, EuPC's sector group on medical devices and pharmaceutical packaging, held its first workshop in Brussels. More than 40 members and interested parties participated to this event bringing together the medical devices and pharmaceutical packaging value chain. Main topic on the agenda: An overview of and interactive Q&A session on the Future European legislation that could/will have a profound impact on the medical devices and pharmaceutical packaging supply chain. Key mission of MedPharmPlast Europe is to provide information to companies on latest developments in European regulations that impact the medical device and plastics packaging supply chain. Next to that it will represent the supply chain to arrive at regulations that protect the patient without increasing complexity and costs for the industry, without reducing competitiveness in Europe or threatening innovation. Next to that MedPharmPlast Europe was proud to present officially its new website <http://www.medpharmplasteurope.org> and to reveal its new logo.



## REACH Update

The next important REACH/CLP deadline will be 1 June 2015 when all Mixtures will have to be classified according to the CLP rules and Safety Data Sheets modified accordingly. The REACH Candidate List now counts 155 substances and the Authorization List Annex XIV 22 with 5 more being recommended. For Azodicarbonamide EuPC took the lead in setting up a Consortium of ADCA Plastics Users. A Voluntary Commitment is proposed as an alternative to an Authorisation. A new challenge is the reclassification of formaldehyde from carcinogenic 2 to 1B resulting in new labelling requirements, exposure limits and emission thresholds. After the prescribed "Consultation Period", and a successful "Triologue" meeting between both Committees and the Applicants, the Risk Assessment- and the Socio-Economic Assessment Committees of the EU Chemicals Agency (ECHA) now started the examination of the DEHP Authorisation Application dossier. More info: [Walter.Claes@eupc.org](mailto:Walter.Claes@eupc.org)

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## EuPC Calendar Events & Meetings

16-09-2014	EuPC Packaging Excom EuPC B&C Excom	Brussels - Belgium
17-09-2014	EuPC Steering Committee	Brussels - Belgium
10-10-2014	EuPC B&C Technical Committee	Brussels - Belgium
15-10-2014	EuPC MEF	Sofia - Bulgaria
16-10-2014	EuPC MEF/PE	Sofia - Bulgaria
25-11-2014	EuPC Packaging Excom	Brussels - Belgium
26-11-2014	EuPC Steering Committee	Brussels - Belgium
21&22-05- 2015	EuPC Annual Meeting	Krakow - Poland