

NEWSLETTER - October 2011 - N°399

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EUROPEAN UNION NEWS

Commission tables plan for a resource-efficient economy



The European Commission (EC) unveiled plans on 20 September to decouple the EU's economic growth from natural resource consumption, suggesting that the EUROPEAN bloc's 27 governments sign up to a myriad of short- and long-term environmental

COMMISSION targets by the end of 2013. The EC's Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe suggests introducing resource efficiency indicators and targets across the 27-nation bloc. Except for mandatory efficiency requirements on water-using devices, which are already set to be tabled in 2012, the paper does not talk about legally-binding targets for now. In any case, before proposing any binding legislative measures, the EU executive is committed to conduct an impact assessment on each of them. Presenting the initial policy paper on resource efficiency in January, EU Environment Commissioner Janez Potočnik stressed that the last century had seen the world's population quadruple, with output growing 40 times, fish catches 35 times, water consumption 9 times, CO2 emissions 17 times and energy consumption 16 times. "We can simply not continue like that," Potočnik said, stressing that the initiative presents a framework for the "gradual transformation of our economy" and marks the start of "a systemic approach to resource efficiency" in all of the EU's policies. However, the EC suggests measuring progress toward a resource efficient economy immediately, before "robust and easily understandable indicators" are defined by the end of 2013. To do this, the EU executive suggests mapping progress via a provisional lead indicator – called "resource productivity" – that would measure GDP against material consumption expressed in euro/tonne. A higher ratio would indicate better performance, with growth consuming relatively fewer resources. The lead indicator would be complemented by a series of other indicators on key natural resources such as water, land, materials and carbon that will take account of the EU's global consumption of these resources. A key and potentially most controversial plank of the Commission proposal is to shift taxation from labour to resource use. The roadmap also suggests turning waste into a key resource with the aim of decreasing the EU's dependency on imports of raw materials, lower impacts on the environment and open up new markets. But in order to feed waste back into the economy as a raw material, "much higher priority needs to be given to re-use and recycling," the EC notes. To create such a recycling economy, the EU executive proposes a combination of policies - product design integrating a life-cycle approach, better cooperation along all market actors along the value chain, better waste collection, incentives for waste prevention and recycling, as well as public investments in modern facilities for waste treatment and high quality recycling. The roadmap sets a 2020 target for all key resources – ecosystem services, biodiversity, minerals and metals, water, air, land and soil and marine resources and lists a series of actions and initiatives the EU and its member states should embark on. Source: Euractiv.com

Commission gives guidance on waste framework directive



Long awaited guidance to member state authorities and businesses on how to interpret key provisions of the revised EU waste framework directive (WFD) are now in the pipeline – with a 65-page draft document from the EC discussed by the COMMISSION Technical Adaptation Committee over the summer. The guidelines are not legally

binding, but are based on several rulings from the European Court of Justice (ECJ). The draft gives information on waste definitions, for example by-products and the end of waste; and waste management options such as prevention, reuse, recycling, recovery and disposal. The

document also aims to give help on interpreting what is excluded from the WFD scope. The EC has also approved a Decision on calculation methods for recycling and recovery rates – with a 50 per cent household and 70 per cent construction waste recycling target for 2020 laid down in the directive. The aim is that countries use the same standards for calculating their rates to verify if the WFD targets are being met. The paper is linked to provisions on paper, glass, metal and plastic household and construction and demolition waste. It sets criteria that member states must use when presenting statistics to the European statistical office Eurostat. Under the regulatory procedure with scrutiny, the draft Decision has been forwarded to the EP. If the EP raises no objections, final adoption of the Decision will take place, followed by publication in the EU's Official Journal.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

European Commission rules out EU wide deposit systems for glass



Irish MEP Jim Higgins has recently asked the European Commission an official question on EU wide deposit systems for glass bottles: "Would the Commission be in favour of introducing a Europe-wide deposit scheme for glass bottles, such as

that which operates in Belgium, and is it currently considering such a scheme?" European Environment Commissioner Potocnic answered on behalf of the Commission, acknowledging the benefits of deposit systems but ruling out deposit systems for glass bottles in the years to come due to subsidiarity: "The Commission acknowledges that deposit schemes can achieve high return rates for beverage packaging, thus contributing to the objectives of a cleaner environment and resource efficiency. Experience shows, however, that some national systems operating without deposits can also achieve high packaging recycling rates. In the light of the principle of subsidiarity, at this moment the Commission does not intend to propose an EU-wide deposit system for beverage packaging. Nevertheless, the Commission is currently running a pilot project study assessing potential problems related to the lack of harmonisation of deposit systems for metal beverage cans and options for enhanced interoperability. The results of the study are expected end 2011."

Source: European Parliament/FEVE

Greece to ban "greenwash" around packaging and plastics



Greece is planning to ban false environmental claims on packaging or plastics – so-called "greenwash" – under a draft law notified to the EC on standstill to allow time for comment until 3 November. The proposal, a draft Joint Ministerial Decision on "Determination of the conditions for the use of environmental claims

on plastic objects and packaging", aims to "help consumers maintain their trust in environmental claims" according to a 'brief statement of grounds' from the Greek government. It also aims to ensure fair competition between companies by preventing greenwash. The proposal will ban the use of "vague and misleading" claims about general environmental benefits and lay down conditions for using the term 'ecological.' Whenever a claim is made on a plastic object or packaging about degradation, biodegradation or composting then the product must also carry a specific label. Special provisions would apply to bioplastics. In particular, they would have to meet the relevant standards of the Hellenic Organisation for Standardisation on compostable packaging and objects allowing them to be labelled "appropriate for composting". Labelling on goods carrying green claims would also have to give information about the person responsible for placing the product on the market and if not made in the EU, the country of production. The proposal moreover sets out evaluation and control procedures to check green claims, including setting up an expert committee. Fines will apply if firms are found guilty of greenwash based on provisions in a Greek consumer protection law (2251/94).

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

CONTAINER GLASS INDUSTRY

Europe

French container glass industry stabilising in 2010

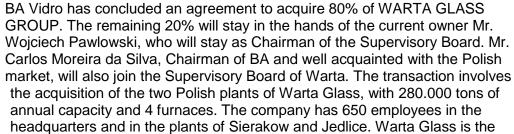


After having suffered from partly heavy slumps in production and sales in the crisis year 2009 the French container glass industry took a breather in 2010. According to the Paris-based French federation of glass industry associations Fédération des chambres syndicales de l'industrie du verre (Fedeverre), last

year production and sales increased slightly by about 1.7% and reached €2.385m or 3.432m t. The number of employees within the French container glass industry continued to decline to 14,140 while the number of factories remained unchanged with 22 facilities. Source: Euwid-packaging.com

BA Vidro concluded agreement to acquire 80% of Warta Glass group







Polish leader in spirits bottles and food jars, with a market share of 46% and 20% in those segments. With this acquisition BA Vidro expands its natural market to Eastern Europe, where the economic potential may support the continuous and steady growth that BA has been experimenting in the last decade. Sandra Santos, the CFO of BA who led the negotiations, stated that he "is very hopeful that this acquisition will be the springboard for a consistent growth of the group in Eastern Europe and, with this new platform, BA will be better positioned to serve our current international customer base". "We strongly believe through this partnership, significant value added will be created for both our clients as well as our companies" adds Joanna Jaroszyk, CEO of Warta Glass. BA Vidro is the Portuguese based glass packaging manufacturer with 3 plants in Portugal and 2 in Spain, has 11 furnaces with an annual capacity of 1 million tons and an Iberian market share of 24% and employees 1460 people in the two countries. The transaction is still subject to the approval of the Polish Authorities.

Source: Press Release BA Vidro

Vidrala: growth in sales and cutting debts



Vidrala closed 2010 with record sales and profits, and its forecasts for this year point to a further increase in their business through diversification and its positioning in foreign markets, which started in 2003 with the purchase of

production facilities in Portugal, Italy and Belgium. The Basque group was correct in its bid to position itself as a manufacturer of reference in Southern Europe, a strategy that now is allowing the business to offset the drop in Spain, which represents about 50% of the group's overall turnover, compared to 90% ten years ago, as highlighted by its president Carlos Delclaux. Vidrala produces in six plants in four countries over 3,500 million glass containers for food products and beverages that meet the needs of nearly 1,500 clients including multinationals and SMEs. The group increased its turnover by 6% to total 405.9 million Euros, while net profit reached a record high of 49.6 million Euros, 21% more than in 2009. The Vidrala president recognizes that although revenue increased again this year thanks to demand in Europe (Germany, France and Benelux), it does not seem likely that profits will also increase this year, due to a "moderate margin compression" caused by the increase of production costs, mainly energy and other inflation-linked. He also believes that in January

2012 he should be able to pass on these costs. Another priority for Vidrala is cash generation. The group closed 2010 with a reduction in debt by 15 per cent. "We manage a strong balance sheet and the debt is below 70% of own funds," he stresses. Vidrala will spend between 150 million and 200 million Euros over the next five years to improve the six Vidrala production facilities located in Spain, Portugal, Italy, and Belgium. Delclaux said that "profitability and performance" for each factory will be determinant in the distribution of the planned investments. He further clarifies that the purchase of other production facilities is something that is not ruled out in the long term, but not planned to happen at least in the next 'two or three years.'

Source: Expansion.com

Anadolu Cam domestic sales will increase by 6.9% in 2012



Anadolu Cam is the lead brand name of Sisecam's glass packaging segment. The company foresses domestic sales to increase by 6.5% in 2011 and 6.9% in 2012. It also perceives the additional capacities at the Yenisehir and Eskisehir facilities in being crucial in meeting domestic demand going forward. The anti-alcohol

campaign and new regulations may pressure beer production in Russia. This may affect the company negatively due to company's exposure in beer segment. On the other hand, pet bottle beer ban will have positive affects by 2013. 17% price increase in Russia will improve sales and EBITDA margin in 2011. Anadolu Cam expects to post 27.0% EBITDA margin on the back of new prices. Company's EBITDA margins are expected to stabilize at 25.0% in the mid-term, including the beer production decrease risk in Russia.

Source: bne

Glass packaging flying high in premium market



The natural benefits of glass as a packaging form have been recognised by premium organic food and body care product specialist Roots & Wings. The company has chosen Beatson Clark.

to provide a white flint jar for its organic preserve range. Roots & Wings an independent artisan company chose Beatson Clark to supply it with a 292ml dodecagon white flint jar to ensure its award winning products were packaged in a form that displays the same values as the company. "Roots & Wings philosophy is simple - using the finest organic ingredients together with the best British master craftsmen we create the "best tasting" organic and natural food for consumers. Ethical sourcing and sustainability are central to all we do, so the packaging is a major factor in continuing our philosophy, we are keen to ensure our products are as natural as possible and that the impact on the environment is minimal," commented Belinda Gooding Founder & Managing Director of Roots & Wings. Source: Foodingredientsfirst.com

USA

2011 Clear Choice Awards: Innovation in glass pack design recognized



The US Glass Packaging Institute (GPI) has announced the winners of its 2011 Clear Choice Awards. The awards honour consumer product goods manufacturers that expand the frontiers of glass packaging design by using glass containers in innovative ways. This year's awards recognize

achievements in 10 categories: Beer, Wine, Food, Carbonated Beverage, Non-Carbonated Beverage, Organic Food or Beverage, Distilled Spirits, Flavored Alcoholic Beverage, Cosmetics or Fragrances, and Conversion Recognition (products that have been converted to glass packaging from other forms of packaging). "These winning package designs demonstrate that glass continues to be the 'clear choice' for consumers who want a package that complements today's healthy and environmentally conscious lifestyles," says Lynn Bragg, GPI president, who notes that glass is one of the "greenest" packaging choices, being 100% and endlessly recyclable. "Additionally, nothing communicates purity, quality, and value to consumers like a well-designed glass package." The winners are as follows: Beer: Tank 7 Farmhouse Ale, Verallia

Wine: Freemark Abbey 125th Anniversary Blend, Verallia

Food: Sir Kensington's Gourmet Scooping Ketchup, Leone Industries

Carbonated Beverage: H-E-B Dr. B., Vitro Packaging, Inc. Non-Carbonated Beverage: Kyäni Sunrise, Vitro Packaging, Inc.

Organic Food or Beverage: TruBee Honey, O-I

Distilled Spirits: Finlandia Vodka, O-I

Flavored Alcoholic Beverage: Calypso Bay, Anchor Glass Container Cosmetics or Fragrance: Espirit D'Oscar, Vitro Packaging, Inc.

Conversion Recognition: Traders Point Creamery Cottage Cheese, Verallia

Source: GPI.org

Anchor Glass reach contract agreement with union to end strike

Steel workers will be back on the job here soon as officials from the United Steel Workers Union (USW) announced the end of an unfair labor practice strike at the Anchor Glass Container Corp. plant, located on Griffith Street. The USW and Anchor had been working to complete a new collective bargaining agreement for the union since July 28. The previous contract expired on Aug. 31. General Counsel for Anchor Glass Jim Warner said that Anchor Glass and representatives from the United Steel Workers have agreed in principle to the terms of a new Collective Bargaining Agreement. "Anchor is pleased that the strike is now ended," said Warner. "Anchor welcomes back its USW members." USW representative Wayne Ranick said the strike began at Anchor Glass on Sept. 1 and included approximately 150 workers at nine U.S. Anchor locations. Source: Nj.com

South America

Owens-Illinois seeks arbitration against Venezuela

Owens-Illinois Inc. said it is seeking international arbitration in a dispute with Venezuela over the expropriation of two factories in the South American nation. President Hugo Chavez ordered the nationalization of the company's Venezuelan subsidiary last October. The arbitration case was filed earlier this month before the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, a World Bank-affiliated arbitration body. "Having been unable to reach an agreement with the Venezuelan government regarding fair compensation for two expropriated plants, O-I's Dutch subsidiary, OI European Group BV, has elected to seek compensation," company spokeswoman Stephanie Johnston said in a statement. The subsidiary made the claim under an investment treaty between the Netherlands and Venezuela, Johnston said. She said the company would not discuss how much it is seeking in compensation. Venezuela's government did not respond to a request for comment about the case. At the time the two Venezuelan plants were expropriated, the company said they employed more than 1,000 people and produced glass containers for companies such as Nestle SA and PepsiCo Inc. Chavez has nationalized or expropriated a wide range of companies, including cement makers, retail stores and a steel maker, while calling for a socialist system in Venezuela.

Source: Rdmag.com

FLACONNAGE

New management board at Pochet Group



With 15 manufacturing sites on four continents, a total staff of over 6000 people, and about EUR 500 million in sales forecasted for this year, the Pochet Group can now rely on a whole set of skills for designing highend glass bottles for the perfume, cosmetic and personal care markets. The Pochet Group, a glassmaker since its origins in 1623 (!) which is

also operating in plastic processing since 1990 with Qualipac, has considerably accelerated its industrial repositioning, not only in the field of finishing techniques, but also in the field of

processing both metal and plastic parts. A strategy which resulted in 2011 in the setting up of a newly organized Board of Managers, which is currently chaired by Irène Gosset. The positioning of Pochet beyond glassmaking was undertaken at very fast pace. Following the acquisition of the entire Qualipac entity in 2004, the Group created from scratch a metal processing plant in China in 2008, Qualimetal. Then Pochet took over the Brazilian plastic converter Ipel in February 2009. After that followed the acquisition of Lisi Cosmetics in April 2011 - also a plastic and metal converter. Finally, the group acquired in May 2011, the French company Soley, a recognized specialist for finishing techniques like vacuum coating, varnishing, inner lacquering and laser decoration of high end packaging items made from glass, plastic and metal. These developments required reinforcing the Group's organization, including the creation of several new corporate functions around a new Management Board. "This new board", explains Irène Gosset, President of the Pochet Group, "is really the expression of the 'new Pochet' we wanted to develop". The new management board is organized around a Glassmaking 'Pole', headed by Charles de Forges, President of Pochet du Courval, and a Plastic/Metal 'Pole', directed by Pierre Marand, President of Qualipac. Hubert Varlet is General Manager Business Strategy and Marketing and Alain Mauriès serves as Director of Human Resources for the Group. Jean-François Bouygues complements the team as Chief Financial Officer of the Group since 1 September. (Picture: From left to right, Alain Mauriès, Charles de Forges, Irène Gosset, Hubert Varlet, Pierre Marand, members of the Groupe Pochet's management board).

Source: Pochet Group/ Premiumbeautynews.com

BRIC markets to drive super premium fragrance

Euromonitor International forecasts that Russia is soon to overtake the UK as the world's biggest market for super premium fragrance sales as high net worth individuals from the BRIC markets set a new pace of growth that signals a shift in the global luxury consumption culture. Super premium fragrance sales in the UK totaled \$340mn (€250mn) in 2009 which anticipates that the BRIC markets and Saudi Arabia will account for five of the ten biggest growth markets for super premium fragrances to 2015. According to Irina Barbalova, head of beauty and personal care research at Euromonitor International, the ability to make products stand out in a crowded market remains the biggest challenge for fragrance brands today. With respect to super premium fragrance brands, she said, packaging and positioning are more important than the scent itself. Euromonitor International underlines that it is these aspects on which brands need to focus their emerging market investments over the period to 2015. It was noted that cash-rich consumers from emerging markets are attracted to brands that reflect their social status, and Barbalova expects fragrance houses to focus on creating greater authenticity and uniqueness through limited editions, artisanal scents or standalone brands. Euromonitor International highlighted Clive Christian No. 1 and Armani Prive La Femme Bleue as examples of super premium fragrances that focus on packaging and positioning. Just 1,000 bottles of Giorgio Armani's recently launched Armani Prive La Femme Bleue fragrance were produced. The limited edition Clive Christian No. 1 costs around US\$200,000 for 30ml and is the world's most expensive fragrance. The main contributor to its price tag is the packaging, with a bottle made from Baccarat handmade crystal featuring an 18-carat gold collar inset with a 5-carat white diamond.

Source: Cosmeticsdesign-Europe.com

TABLEWARE

Steuben Glass closes

Steuben Glass

Luxury glass manufacturer Steuben Glass has announced that it will cease production at the end of November, leaving 60 workers without a job. The Corning Museum of Glass will discontinue its Steuben line, and the flagship store in New York City will close. "The difficult economy, declining sales and high expenses

continue to have a negative impact on the company's profitability," said Mark Sammit, president of Steuben LLC, which is owned by Schottenstein. Schottenstein, a family-

controlled, private investment firm based in Ohio, purchased Steuben Glass from Corning Inc. in 2008 and renamed it Steuben Glass LLC. Even then, Steuben Glass was struggling as younger generations preferred to buy other luxury items, such as big-screen televisions. The business lost almost USD 6 million in 2007, and, according to company spokesman Ron Sykes, Schottenstein was unable to reverse the slide and never saw a profit. Sammitt thanked Steuben employees for their efforts to save the company: "Our employees and Local 1000 worked in cooperation with the company to change the trend, but the efforts at restructuring and repositioning the brand were unsuccessful," he said. A deal made at the time of purchase may help some of those 60 employees – union workers – find jobs. In fact, as per a contract with Local 1000, if Steuben Glass failed within five years, the former Corning Inc. workers could bid on open jobs at Corning for which they were qualified. Source: Glassonline.com

COMPETING MATERIALS

Cans

Ball targets new markets with Serbian canning line

Ball Packaging Europe has opened a new €35m production line at its Serbian plant in Belgrade, as it aims to penetrate into "new markets". The company said its new line would increase production at the site in the Zemun district of Belgrade from 750m to over 1.5bn aluminium cans a year, and create 50 new jobs. Ball Packaging Europe Belgrade factory director David Banjai said: "New investment, aside from confirming the strength and efficiency of our business, leads to growth and expansion into new markets." Cans produced at the site were principally exported to 12 European countries (85% to neighbouring countries according to Ball) at the current time, Banjaj said. "Now the aim is to further expand our business into new markets and also to take advantage of favourable trade arrangements with Serbia's neighbouring countries," he added. Ball Corporation president and chief executive John Hayes said: "The factory in Serbia has so far justified our investment. We hope we will continue to do business here successfully into the future." Ball Packaging Europe president Gerrit Heske added that he hoped the company's investment in Serbia would encourage other concerns to invest in the country. "The plant in Zemun has previously achieved excellent results and features on the list of the most successful Ball factories in Europe," Heske said.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Rexam releases packaging intelligence analysis

Rexam has released the 2011/2012 edition of its 'Consumer Packaging Report', the fifth of its kind over the last eight years. Under the title "Packaging Unwrapped", this year's edition looks at the global trends in consumer packaging, statistical

market data drawn from a number of sources including Rexam's own business intelligence, and the key growth drivers in mature and developing markets around the world. It also includes insight into the evolution of beverage packaging and to what the future may hold. Although acknowledging the turbulence caused by the global economic downturn and an increasingly demanding consumer base, the combined data points to a positive future for the global consumer packaging industry as a whole. Rexam's Chief Executive, Graham Chipchase, commented: "Consumer packaging is not only an essential component of modern living, but it makes a positive contribution to a sustainable society. As a global leader, Rexam is constantly seeking to forge closer relationships with customers. This report is a testimony to our ambitions to strengthen these relationships through understanding and anticipating market trends in order to provide product and service solutions that add value to our customers' business."

Source: Ceepackaging.com

Metal packaging organisation grows



Empac (European Metal Packaging), the association bringing together European producers of rigid metal packaging and their supply chain partners, announced the addition of two new associate members, KBA-MetalPrint and Sidermec/

Indumet. As new members, KBA-MetalPrint and Sidermec/Indumet will support Empac in its mission to defend and promote the rigid metal packaging industry in Europe. The two new members take the number of associates up to six. 2011 has been characterized by Empac hosting for the first time ever, the Metal Packaging Forum at Interpack in Düsseldorf. Source: Ceepackaging.com

Britvic and PepsiCo launch compact 250ml cans in UK



A 250ml drinks can has hit UK supermarket shelves for the first time in a new multipack launch from soft drinks manufacturers Britvic and PepsiCo UK. The cans, which are manufactured by Ball Packaging Europe, are designed to stand

out from the standard 330ml cans at the point of sale. Pepsi Max, Diet Pepsi and Pepsi are being sold in the format, while 7UP Free and Tango will. They are as wide as the 330ml cans but shorter, making them, according to Ball, apparently easier to carry in a handbag or a picnic. The Handy Can format, as it is known, is being sold in a variety of pack sizes of 10, 12, 15, 18, 24, 30 and 36 cans. The new steel can was developed in a close collaboration between Ball and Britvic, which manufactures PepsiCo's brands in the UK. Both companies invested in adjusting machines and equipment at the production facility in Rugby, where the two factories are located next door to each other and connected by a tunnel. Source: Packagingnnews.co.uk

Water being packaged in metal bottle



German Hassia Mineralquellen, has launched its newly developed beautywater Q10 in a metal container. The manufacturers claims that Beautywater Q10 is a refreshing beauty drink containing vitamin E and a hint of grapefruit, which apparently helps to make the consumer beautiful on the inside and their skin to look better on the outside. The resealable 25cl aluminium bottles are designed to support the image of the new

beauty drink.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

Wine in cans



French filler Cacolac has signed a contract with Australian company Barokes Pty Ltd licensing them to fill wine in a can using Barokes' Vinsafe technology. Cacolac is the second European filling facility to be awarded this license after the Spanish company Font Salem. Ball signed the contract to manufacture and supply the

specially produced cans for wine using the Vinsafe production process in December 2010. Ball will produce the aluminum cans with the Vinsafe logo to demonstrate that both can and content comply with the specially patented standards.

Source: Ceepackaging.com

Plastics & Bioplastics

APPE to launch new 'radical' plastic bottles



APPE has said that it will be launching a "radical" alternative to extrusion blow moulded HDPE bottles with integrated handles at the Brau Beviale exhibition in November. The convertor and manufacturer of PET preforms and bottles will

also be launching a new barrier technology at the show that takes place in Nuremberg.In a statement, APPE said that its 'Deep Grip' bottles will offer a recess of up to 25mm each side to create an "effective hand hold, providing convenience and easy handling for containers up to seven litres in size combined with the many established benefits of PET including clarity, light weight and design flexibility". The company said that typical applications will include

juice and dairy. APPE said that its new barrier technology will be ideal for juice and wine applications and will "offer a number of important enhancements over existing barrier technologies in terms of performance, clarity of material and recycling potential". Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Coca Cola and Eco Plastics unveil joint venture name

Coca-Cola Enterprises Ltd (CCE) and Eco Plastics have revealed the name of their joint venture. The new business will be known as 'Continuum

Recycling'. According to Coca-Cola and Eco Plastics, the name reflects the idea that the joint venture company will establish a continuous process for re-processing plastic bottles in Great Britain. Used plastic bottles shall be recycled in Lincolnshire and the materials produced shall be re-used in new Coca-Cola bottles.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Cartonage

ACE appoints new Director General



The Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment (ACE) has appointed Katarina Molin as the new Director General. Before joining ACE, she worked as Environmental Strategy Manager for Hewlett Packard, and as Policy Adviser and Communications Manager for the Association for the Sustainable Use and

Recovery of Resources in Europe (Assurre). Prior to this, she worked on environmental issues in the European Parliament and in the European Environmental Bureau. ACE members include beverage carton producers Tetra Pak, SIG Combibloc and Elopak. They develop, manufacture and market systems for the processing, packaging and distribution of beverages and food, and produce packaging material at 23 plants in Europe. Manufacturers in ACE together employ close to 30,000 people worldwide.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

Beverage carton industry on track to meet wood traceability pledge

ACE (the Alliance for Beverage Cartons & the Environment) has said that progress has been made by ACE beverage carton manufacturers towards achieving certification of the wood fibre used in cartons, worldwide, demonstrating legality and traceability. A total of 63% of the converting plants owned by Tetra Pak, Elopak and SIG Combibloc are now FSC Chain of Custody (CoC) certified. According to ACE, this is double the number of plants certified in 2010, with 33 of the 52 plants now holding certificates. In addition, 2.02 million tonnes or 78% of the fibres purchased by the three companies are now FSC certified or FSC controlled wood. This is apparently the conclusion of ProForest, an independent verifier of natural resource management, in its fourth annual report on the chain

FSC certified or FSC controlled wood. This is apparently the conclusion of ProForest, an independent verifier of natural resource management, in its fourth annual report on the chain of custody commitment made globally by the three companies in 2007. According to ACE, their commitment is two-fold. First, the companies undertake by 2015 to reach 100% chain of custody certification of all wood fibre used in mills producing paperboard for the three beverage carton manufacturers. Second, they commit to secure by 2018 chain of custody certification for all their manufacturing plants.

Source: Packagingnews.co.uk

Tetra Pak pledges to 'accelerate' green product innovation

Tetra Pak has pledged to accelerate green product innovation after an environmental report commissioned by the company showed that consumers want well-priced eco-friendly packaging. The 'Global Packaging Report 2011' compiled by Euromonitor International, conveyed key consumer feedback. As well as assessing industry responses to packagining, the report contained responses from 500 to 1,000 consumers in each participant country conducted throughout December and January: Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Japan, Russia, Turkey, the UK and US. The spokeswoman said: "(...) We must accelerate green product innovation to develop greener packages that offer the convenience and quality of traditional packaging at a competitive cost. Consumers

want to buy green, but they want affordable green products," the spokeswoman said, adding that 83 per cent of food manufacturers and retailers surveyed in 2011 also said they considered environmental impact when choosing beverage packaging. One interesting statistic in the report showed that only 35 per cent of UK consumers thought cartons were 'less harmful' to the environment (choosing 4 or 5 on a 5-point scale) compared with other packaging types. This was a low figure in comparison with France (72 per cent) and Germany (62 per cent), where consumers assessed cartons more favourably. Source: Beveragedaily.com

CONTAINER GLASS ACCESSORIES & SUPPLIERS

Italian glassworking machinery gains momentum



The GIMAV Board (Italian Association of Glassworking Machinery and Accessories Suppliers) has approved the official 2010 figures for the industry, which reflect an overall growth for all the indicators. Exports (+5.58% versus 2009) show that the sector is making up for lost ground, especially as a result of demand from Europe and

Asia, with China ranking first among the export markets for Italian goods. In just a few years, the markets of Italian companies in the industry have changed, with Asia and Latin America growing significantly as they are the countries offering greater prospects for development. Dino Fenzi, President of GIMAV, gave a snapshot of exports by the industry: "The great driving force of the new markets, headed by China, has been decisive in the vigorous pickup in exports. Europe still remains very important in percentage terms, but its importance is faltering, as is all of the western European manufacturing sector, apart from some niches of excellence. This is a long-term trend and a better balance needs to struck achieved for the health of the European industry."

Source: Glassonline.com

RETAILERS

French retailer Leclerc abandons glass



Private Label (MDD) E. Leclerc centers announced, what is in fact, the replacement of glass containers for some consumer products with polyethylene terephthalate (PET). "Contrary to popular belief, PET has only advantages: in addition to its

excellent keeping qualities, its lightness and shock resistance, it turns out to be a particularly environmentally friendly packaging," said the retailer in a statement. "A process that allows consumers to dispose of everyday products that are friendlier to the environment, while giving a brand the opportunity to reduce its CO2 emissions by reducing the burden of its packaging." MDD wants to place now a logo on the product that says: "Reduces Environmental Impact".

Source: Retailer E.Leclerc

Sainsbury's switches peanut butter packaging to plastic jars



Sainsbury's has replaced the glass used in its peanut butter jars with plastic, cutting packaging by 83 percent or 882,000 kilos. The change is the first of its kind by a U.K. retailer. "We have the most ambitious packaging reduction

target in the industry and meeting it will require hundreds of initiatives such as this," says Stuart Lendrum, Sainsbury's head of packaging. "Our work on peanut butter is a great example of how you can reduce packaging without sacrificing its effectiveness. In fact, the new jars will be less prone to breaking making them even better than the previous ones. "Excess packaging is one of the top concerns among customers, so it is a real priority for us. It is vital that we strike the correct balance between ensuring packaging is functional and reducing the volume we use.

Source: Packagingdigest.com

Rumours: Carrefour to make second attempt at Russia





In October 2009, an employee of Carrefour said that Russia had gone from one end of a strategic necessity to another - to get in and get out. Now it appears Carrefour is about to have a second attempt. The official reason

given for the withdrawal in 2009 was 'the absence of potential growth perspectives and M&A deals opportunities'. According to local newspaper reports, Carrefour is looking to re-enter Russia,. The retailer has asked its franchise partner in the Middle East, Majid al Futtaim Group, to develop a plan for a second market entry into the country - presumably armed with the knowledge of what went wrong the first time. Carrefour refused to comment on its plans when contacted and dismissed the reports in the Russian financial press. Source: Ceepackaging.com

UK on-trade suffers more than off-trade as sales of alcohol fall



Sales of alcohol in Britain continue to fall, with the on-trade suffering more that the off-trade, according to analysis by the Wilson Drinks Report WDR. Overall volume sales in the off-trade were down 1% to August, whilst total volumes in the

on-trade were down 3%, to July. In the off-trade bright spots include the sales of Cider which continue to grow (up 2% in volume and 7% in value), spirits such as vodka and liqueurs also showed volume growth as well as strong sales value growth and ready to drink/ready to serve RTS was the best performing of the major categories. The WDR sees the on-trade splitting in two with hotels, managed pubs and restaurants performing well, with net increases in both volume and value sales, but non-managed pubs, proprietary clubs and sports/social clubs, showing both total volumes and total sales value declining for the 12 months to July 9. Tim Wilson, said: "Still wine sales across hotels and restaurants were particularly strong: total still wine sales volumes increased by 6% and total still wine sales value increased by 23% to £1.7 billion, according to the CGA Strategy data. "It is not all gloom and doom in the on-trade, as these wine sales figures show. "The drinks industry is having a tough time in the current economic circumstances, and the drop in most people's net disposable income is reflected in declining sales of alcohol, at least in terms of volumes. "However, total sales in terms of value appear to show growth, as the total sales value increased by 4% for the same periods in both the off and on trade channels. "But most of this is attributable to significant increases in duty on alcohol, and the increase in VAT to 20%". Wilson adds that duty will keep going up "Although total volumes have been declining steadily over recent times, the total duty on alcohol collected by HM Revenue & Customs continues to rise."

Source: Harpers.co.uk

CUSTOMER INDUSTRIES

Soft drinks

Coca Cola suing Pepsi over shape of bottle



Coca Cola is suing Pepsi in Australia's Federal Court, claiming that the shape of its bottle has been stolen being "substantially identical with or deceptively similar to" Coke's bottle which is a registered trademark. Coca-Cola now needs to show that Pepsi deliberately used the shape to confuse consumers. In Australia the cola

market is worth around EUR720m per year, of which Coca-Cola now has about 70 per cent. Pepsi will probably claim that its logo is clearly visible and the shape is not exactly the same. The argument could well focus on if consumers are more concerned with the logo or the shape of the bottle. The disputed bottles have been on sale in Australia since 2007. Source: Ceepackaging.com

Coca-Cola Enterprises reaffirms plan to invest €17m in France



Coca-Cola Enterprises (CCE) has reaffirmed its plan to invest €17m in its Les Pennes-Mirabeau facility in France. Media reports stated that Coca-Cola

France had suspended the investment following a government decision to increase valueadded tax (VAT) on soft drinks with added sugar, as part of a new €12bn austerity package announced in September. From January 2012, VAT on soft drinks will rise from 5.5% to 19.6% in a move that the French government believes will generate an extra €120m in tax returns. A regional company spokesperson said that the investment had "not been cancelled, but is being re-evaluated within the uncertain context created by this tax". However, in a statement released soon after, Hubert Patricot, European group president for CCE said: "We regret that our local team caused confusion ... related to Coca-Cola's sincere commitment to France and the growth of its economy." "I would like to set the record straight. We are reconfirming our €17m investment to our Les Pennes-Mirabeau facility." "Let there be no doubt, and let me say it as a Frenchman: Coca-Cola is committed to France. We employ 3,000 people here and have invested EUR260 million in France over the last six years." However, Patricot said CCE remained "strongly opposed to a tax that unjustly targets the purchasing power of the French people and one category of beverages under the pretext of addressing public health concerns". A French website statement from the CCE said the tax hike could affect its activities in the country and 3,000 employees therein. The tax would mean prices rose 3.5%, said CCE, since the tax followed raw material prices rises for inputs such as sugar, which has increased by about 40% in 12 months. "As a player in the French economy, Coca-Cola shares collective efforts to reduce the public deficit. But we are strongly opposed to...stigmatisation of our products... unfairly considered as products such as spirits and tobacco," the firm said. Patricot said that consumer education on exercise and balanced diets, rather than "discriminatory taxes" should be preferred as a way forward. He said CCE remained committed to working with government, nutritionists, and public policy experts to address ongoing public health concerns.

Source: Foodproductiondaily.com

Coca-Cola plant-based PET bottle lands in UK market



Coca-Cola has launched its new PET PlantBottle in the UK and many other European countries. The company has designed this new bottle, which is apparently developed from plant-based materials and recycled PET, for some of its brands. The brands including Coke Zero and diet Coke in 500ml

bottles have rolled out in the UK, and will be sold in PlantBottle packaging. As part of a wider rollout, Coca-Cola plans to produce nearly 200 million bottles this year. The company said the new eco-friendly bottles will replace all of its Great Britain's conventional 500ml bottles for its Coca-Cola, Coke Zero and diet Coke brands. Coca-Cola Great Britain and Ireland country manager Jon Woods said the release of the new PET PlantBottle package is a significant step in the company's journey towards more sustainable packaging. Coca-Cola said it has been working closely with WWF and the Bonsucro organisation to choose sugarcane from plantations in Brazil.

Source: Packaging.drinks-business-review.com

Spirits

Gin repositions itself after 250 years

G&J Greenall's London Dry Gin is celebrating its 250th anniversary with a new look. With the repositioning, the company hopes to attract a new generation of gin drinkers. A bold and clean logo replaces the old script one and rests prominently on a contemporary dark green square label. "The Great British Spirit since 1761" at the bottom of the front panel reassures customers of its tradition. A proprietary green abstract "Union Jack" on the inside back label acknowledges the brand's heritage, but

provides an edgy new look and feel. According to David Jenkins, Dragon Rouge, "The objective was to create a new visual identity and package design to increase shelf impact, build awareness and appeal to a new generation of gin drinkers. We started by defining the brand essence as, 'The Great British Spirit,' which directly references the brand's origins and traditions and then focused on creating a new visual identity that combines tradition and heritage, but with a modern twist."

Source: Foodanddrinkspackaging.com

New Zealand: Absolut and Brancott produce vodka-Sauvignon blend



Swedish vodka producer Absolut has paired up with Pernod Ricard stablemate Brancott Estate to produce a 'sparkling fusion' of vodka and Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc. A spokesman for the new blend, called Absolut Tune, said he would not be 'sharing the specifics' on how the sparkle was created other than that

it was a 'fusion process'. A blend of 60% vodka and 40% Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, the final alcohol level is 14%.

Source: Winebiz.com.au

Sparkling Wine

UK wine producers enjoy a good year with fine sparkling wine



Growing demand for English 'bubbly' has resulted in wine production almost doubling in the past year to four million bottles, with more small wineries getting in on the act. Charles Humphreys owns Hazel End Farm near Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, one of 400 vineyards in England and Wales. About

4,000 bottles of wine are made every year from Charles's three-acre vineyard plot. He says: The English weather means it is difficult to grow grapes that produce tannins for red wines. but we have good conditions for sparkling white wines. Few people can tell the difference between our sparkling wines and champagne.' The weather has also helped with this year's crop, says Charles. 'We are picking earlier than ever in September, but the early summer sunshine means that the sugar content is as high as it was in October last year. 'Climate change has had a positive impact on wine growing but the weather has also made it more unpredictable. English sparkling wine is finally being recognised as a worthy alternative to champagne.'

Source: Thisismoney.co.uk

New Freixenet sparkling wine from Argentina: Vivace Rosé Dolce



Freixenet Argentina launched worldwide Vivace Dolce Rosé, a sweet sparkling wine of high quality, produced in Mendoza, Argentina. The sparkling wine features an exquisite blend of Muscat grape, Torrontes and Malbec. The new product targets active and dynamic women who dare to be innovative. The packaging design was done by the Study Design in Marina Mendoza Martinotti the basis for development of the previous design Vivace Dolce Spumante. The bottle has a very special design, fully transparent,

in order to emphasize the visual qualities of the product. The bottle is produced by Verallia. Source: P0ackaging.enfasis.com

Wine

UK alcohol market set to shrink



The UK's above-inflation tax hikes will see alcoholic market decline by 6% in real terms over the next five years, according to market research firm Mintel. Data for the last decade saw initially strong growth slow in 2008 thanks to the combined

impact of health conscious social attitudes, the economic downturn and the duty escalator. Overall the value of the UK's alcoholic drinks market increased by 15.6% between 2000 and 2010 to £37,913m. This growth was driven by wine, which saw a 53.3% value increase. Source: Winebiz.com.au

French and Chinese join forces to fight wine fraud

French and Chinese wine authorities are collaborating in an effort to fight counterfeit bottles and educate Chinese consumers and importers. The CIVB the Bordeaux wine trade body – has been making random visits to Chinese supermarkets and wine shops in order to compile a database of false bottles, which has been passed on to Chinese investigators. 'This is so that they can see links between companies that sell those false bottles, and where those bottles may have been produced in China,' said Thomas Jullien of the CIVB, which represents some 60 appellations of Bordeaux and some 8,500

producers. Jullien said Chinese authorities had approached the CIVB for advice on counterfeit bottles. 'They want to establish links between importers and producers because they need proof that a product is false. They appreciate our help.' Officials have indicated they consider these suspicious. As an indication of the scale of the problem, US government economists at the Department of Homeland Security estimate that 8% of China's GDP comes from the sales of counterfeit goods, from wine to designer clothing. Counterfeit bottles 'remain a huge problem, from the top to the bottom in the industry,' Marcus Ford, of the Pudao wine boutique in Shanghai said. 'There is a real danger that consumers will start to lose confidence in some of the top brands and labels sold in China.' As wine education increases in China, protecting both consumers and Bordeaux brands increasingly represent a common cause, Jullien said. To that end, the CIVB is planning a series of wine education sessions across China in the next three months to help consumers understand labelling and appellation indications. But the learning curve is high, Christophe Tran, a Shanghai-based representative for the French wine marketing organization Sopexa said. 'We recently started courses for importers to explain labels from one French region to another, but not everyone here masters the language of Shakespeare or Moliere. Put yourself in their place and try to read the labels of Bai Jiu [a Chinese rice spirit wine] in the language of Confucius,' he said. Source: Decanter.com

Beer & Cider

Beer giant Foster's accepts SABMiller takeover

Australian beer giant Foster's has accepted an improved takeover worth Aus\$9.9 billion (£6.5 billion) from British-based brewer SABMiller, the pair announced. Foster's Group, whose leading lager brands include Corona and Foster's, had in August rejected a hostile bid of Aus\$9.51 billion from SABMiller, which produces rival beers Grolsch and Miller Lite. SABMiller said the Foster's board had since accepted an improved cash offer of Aus\$5.10 per Foster's share. SABMiller said it expects the takeover to be completed before the end of 2011 after approval by Foster's shareholders. "We are pleased that we have reached agreement on a recommended transaction to be put to Foster's shareholders," SABMiller chief executive Graham Mackay said in a statement. "Foster's has a long-standing and proud reputation as one of the leading companies in Australia. We look forward to working with Foster's employees and other stakeholders to ensure the success of Foster's in the future as the largest brewer in Australia with an outstanding portfolio of brands," Mackay added. The prospect of a takeover of Foster's, one of Australia's best known brands, had been anticipated since a recent demerger and amid consolidation within the Australian beverage industry.

Source: Ca.news.yahoo.com

Beer bottle allows for personal creativity

Anheuser-Busch InBev has joined forces with Spear to introduce a dynamic, interactive label. Brand developers of the best selling beer, Bud Light, turned to Spear to bring the product's fun personality to life, via a customizable pressure-sensitive label printed at Spear's Tennessee facility. Spear's technical team transformed the familiar Bud Light label to allow drinkers to add a personal touch. Incorporating metal activation technology, extensive testing was required to investigate accidental activation and abrasion problems. The end result is an exclusive area of the label on which consumers can customize their bottle by using a coin or key to write a message or draw an image. This not only allows the drinker to express their individuality, it also avoids bottle mix-ups and offers the chance for individuals to exchange messages or phone numbers.

Source: Foodandbeveragepackaging.com

Anheuser-Busch InBev announces changes to its board of directors



Peter Harf, chairman and board member of the world's leading brewing group AB InBev, will step down in April 2012, the company announced. He will be

replaced by Kees Storm, another board member, who is also chairman of the supervisory board of the Dutch airline KLM, member of the board of directors of Baxter International Inc. (BAX) and vice-chairman of the board of Unilever NV. Mr. Storm becomes vice-chairman of the board with immediate effect for the transitional period until the leaving of Mr. Harf. Source: Globalmalt.com

Food

Cottage cheese now available in glass jars

Traders Point Creamery's award-winning cottage cheese is now available in recyclable glass containers. The glass containers are manufactured by Verallia and distributed through Stan Pac. By using a glass container, the cottage cheese is preserved in a nonporous and impermeable container, extending the shelf life of the product compared to plastic containers. The glass jars maintain the cottage cheese's integrity, meaning none of the leaching that occurs with plastic containers happens in the new glass jar and the shelf life of the cheese is extended, especially compared to plastic packaging. Glass containers are 100% recyclable and rated Generally Regarded as Safe (GRAS) by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the only packaging material to receive that rating for foods and beverages. The transparent glass container allows the product to take center stage on the shelf allowing the cottage cheese to sell itself. And the Traders Point Creamery signature cow on the lid adds instant Americana to any kitchen. Traders Point Creamery Cottage Cheese in glass containers is available at Whole Foods and in the Traders Point Creamery Store.

Source: Foodandbeveragepackaging.com

RECYCLING/ COLLECTION

Eco-Emballages back in court for 2008 scandal over risky investments



French green dot scheme, Eco-Emballages announced that a criminal investigation is underway regarding the 2008 series of risky investments worth €70 million carried out by the previous management. According to the scheme, a judicial investigation for "abuse of corporate assets, complicity and

concealment" was opened by the Court of Nanterre near Paris, following a 2009 complaint by Eco-Emballages. The case must now establish the conditions under which the risky investments were decided. "The opening of a criminal case is, for Eco-Emballages, an important step in the proceedings. It will allow some light to be shed on this matter and establish, if any, violations and responsibilities," said Eco-Emballages, stating its intention to bring a civil action in an 8 September press release. According to a spokesperson, these financial investments did not affect the running of the scheme and nearly half of the blocked funds have been recovered. The role of Eco-Emballages, a scheme officially recognised by the government, is to provide financial support for the selective collection and sorting of household packaging waste. Under the previous management, it placed a significant portion of its cash in hedge funds in tax havens, some of which got blocked in 2008 because of the financial crisis. The then Director General, Bernard Hérodin, who took the initiative of making these investments with the help of a financial advisor he knew personally, was dismissed for "serious misconduct". In July 2009, the Association of Local Authorities, Amorce had also filed a complaint against "X" (the defendant, but as yet unknown) in this case. Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

Netherlands to up recycling target for 2015



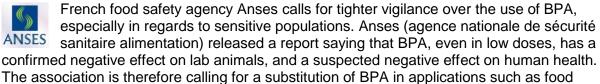
While the Netherlands currently recycles 80 per cent of its household and business waste, Environment Minister Joop Atsma says more can be done and is calling for his country to reach 83 per cent by 2015. At the end of last month, Atsma wrote to the Dutch Parliament outlining his "more value from waste" policy.

He said that his target was to increase the amount of waste recycled from 1.5 to 2 million

tonnes, with a corresponding decrease of 250,000 tonnes of the amount of waste ending in landfill. More recycling and less landfilling should reduce the pressure on scarce raw materials, he said. In the Netherlands, the annual turnover of the waste sector is €6 billion with 30,000 people employed. "The Netherlands is the world leader when it comes to waste, 80 per cent of our waste is recycled, 16 per cent is used to generate energy. In all 96 per cent of our waste has a useful purpose," wrote Atsma. "Our waste is invaluable. In the past ten years the recycling sector experienced a growth of 300 per cent. Our waste industry is among the most innovative in the world. A leadership position that we should try to preserve." The minister's aim is to increase recycling rates to stimulate innovation and knowledge. Atsma also planned to increase the number of materials banned from landfills to 14, including bottom ash from waste incineration plants. He said this material could instead be used in road construction as it saves using gravel and stones. Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS

French food safety agency calls for tighter vigilance over the use of BPA



contact materials, toys and child-care products, in a view to protect 'sensitive populations' such as infants and pregnant women.

Source: Anses/ Europeanplasticsnews.com

PlasticsEurope blasts French Bisphenol A report

PlasticsEurope has slammed the report from French food safety agency Anses. The association has criticised the methodology of the scientific review, which placed significant weight on studies that use non-oral exposure routes, such as subcutaneous injection, as a basis for their assessment. In non-oral exposure studies, BPA does not pass through the body's metabolism, where there is comprehensive evidence showing that BPA is efficiently metabolised to an inactive kind of sugar and excreted within hours via urine, says EFSA. EFSA also pointed out how Anses' findings contradict the opinion of other regulatory bodies. "Without having had the time yet to read the full report in detail, we must assume that Anses has made a different interpretation of the existing data on BPA than the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA) and other regulatory authorities, which concluded that exposure to BPA from food contact materials is very low and poses no risk to human health" Jasmin Bird, of the PC/BPA-group, said in a statement.

Source: Europeanplasticsnews.com

US: States and counties battle the proposal to ban BPA

The California State Senate on 30 August approved a bill to ban bisphenol A (BPA) in baby bottles and sippy cups, sending the bill (AB 1319) back to the Assembly for a final concurrence vote on or after 2 September. Governor Jerry Brown is expected to sign the measure if it reaches his desk. Meanwhile, in Oregon, Multnomah County Chair Jeff Cogen is considering proposing a countywide BPA ban after the state legislature failed to pass a bill to ban BPA in baby bottles and sippy cups, the *Portland Tribune* reported on 25 August. It is unclear if Cogen will pursue a ban on products beyond baby bottles and sippy cups, or when he might propose a ban.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

STUDIES/RESEARCH

Commission to study cocktail effect of endocrine disruptors



The EC is calling for a framework allowing both individual chemicals and mixtures of chemicals to be assessed for endocrine disrupting effects, and it intends to develop a systematic approach to identify and assess endocrine

disruptors that can be applied across various pieces of EU legislation, such as REACH and the Plant Protection Products Regulation. "The detailed application of a general framework will necessarily need to be adapted to the specific requirements of each piece of legislation," the EC said. "However, the general concept should be consistent and should ensure that endocrine disruptors are dealt with in a consistent and coordinated manner." The EC makes this pronouncement in its fourth report, released this month, on the implementation of its strategy to address the potential human health and environmental impacts of endocrine disrupting substances. In addition, the Council asked the EC to include recommendations on how to address exposure to multiple endocrine disruptors in current EU legislation. The EC notes that existing legislation offers some possibilities for evaluating the cocktail effect where several chemicals act together. For example, a member state has proposed a group of phthalates be considered as candidates for restriction under REACH based on concerns regarding their endocrine disrupting effects. In addition, methods for assessing the cocktail effect of active ingredients under the Plant Protection Products Regulation are being evaluated. Once they are validated, they will relate to active ingredients that impact the endocrine system, according to the EC. The EC says a major study on the state of endocrine disruptor assessment, which will include a review of approaches used in members states, other countries and by international bodies, will be completed soon and "provide a solid scientific and technical foundation" for the its future work.

Source: European Environment & Packaging Law

RAW MATERIALS

Rhodia - part of Solvay



Solvay and Rhodia announced the total success of Solvay tender offer for Rhodia, which was unanimously recommended by Rhodia's Board of directors. With sales of EUR 12 billion* the new group will become a large global chemical company firmly committed to sustainable development. The future group will capitalize on its

excellent market positions with 90 percent of combined sales realized in businesses where it is one of the top three worldwide market leaders. The new Group will have a broader business portfolio, less exposed to economic cycles, geographically balanced and focused on emerging markets, which already account for 40 percent of the new Group's sales. Capitalizing on its strong complementarities and a common culture based on sustainable responsibility, operational excellence and innovation, the new Group will be in a position to seize all opportunities for growth.

Source: Rhodia.com

PEOPLE

New President glasstec 2012



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Udo Ungeheuer, Chairman of the Board of SCHOTT AG, is the new President of glasstec 2012. He succeeds Martin Gregor Gutmann, the Federal Guild Master of the Glazier Trades. In line with the biannual cycle of glasstec presidency alternates between the Federal Association of the Glass Industry (BV

Glas e.V.), which is also chaired by Ungeheuer as a President, and the Federal Association of Glazier Trades (BIV). Both organisations serve as conceptual sponsors for glasstec

alongside the Association of German Machine and Plant Builders (VDMA e.V.).

Source: Glassonweb.com

EVENTS

Packaging Innovations London 2011



6 - 7 October 2011 London, UK

ANUGA



8 - 12 October 2011 Cologge C

Luxe Pack 2011



LUXEPACK October 2011 Grimaldi Forum, Monaco

Vitrum 2011



26 - 29 October 2011 Milan, Italy

Brau Beviale



9 – 11 November 2011 Nuernberg, Germany

EUROPACK-EUROMANUT



15 - 16 November 2011 Lyon, France

Glassman Turkey



22 - 23 November 2011 Istanbul, Turkey

Simei



Fiera Milano City 22 – 26 November 2011

Milan, Italy

GlassPrint



23 - 24 November 2011 Duesseldorf, Germany

ProWein 2012



4 - 6 March 2012 Duesseldorf, Germany

Barcelona Food Technology & Hispack International Packaging Exhibition

15 - 18 May 2012 Barcelona, Spain

Fachpack



25 - 27 September 2012 Nuernberg, Germany

Glasstec



23 - 26 October 2012 Duesseldorf, Germany

Emballage



19 - 22 November 2012 Paris Nord Villepinte, France

DrinkTec



16 - 20 September 2013 Munich, Germany

Interpack



8 - 14 May 2014 Duesseldorf, Germany



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