



**Society of
Plastics
Engineers**

Newsletter

June 2008



Welcome to the Summer Edition of your newsletter.

Dear members

Within the blink of an eye my two years as Chair of the European Thermoforming Division have passed and I have handed over this position into the very capable hands of Ken Darby.

Since Salzburg, we have introduced this newsletter and we have created a seminar on the 'Basics of Thermoforming' which had its successful debut at the conference in Berlin.

I started off the first ever



Kitty Beijer

Senoplast Klepsch & Co.
Chair E-T-D 2006-2008

newsletter by mentioning that the Salzburg conference would be very hard to beat and it was. The conference in Berlin was visited by more than 250 attendees and we were able to give over 50 table top exhibitors the chance to present their products and services. Again we found that we are still learning, but, judging by the evaluation forms that we received, it will be an impossible task to please everybody. What the one found the absolutely worst presentation, another filled out as the best.

However there was something new at this conference, which was more or less unanimously welcomed as very good. Those were the commercial presentations as parallel sessions to the normal programme.

Mission Statement

It is the purpose of The European Thermoforming Division to stimulate and diffuse knowledge of all aspects of the Thermoforming Industry. This will be achieved by providing conferences, training seminars and regular topical news bulletins. It will provide a dynamic network platform and encourage and promote technical and scientific participation by its members.



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We are and will always be a non-commercial society. We want to provide you with good, unbiased information, but this was a good opportunity for our sponsors to present themselves and have more value for their money. I think all of you understood, that this information were not 'unbiased', but they did provide you with the latest product developments of the suppliers into the thermoforming industry. Therefore it is an item that we will have to seriously consider continuing in the future.

The second parts competition was a great success and will be discussed further in our newsletter.

It only remains for me to thank all the board members for their support in the last two years. Unfortunately we will miss some of them as they have now retired from the board. Last but not least I want to thank all the members that keep our society alive and vibrant and wish Ken Darby all the best for the coming two years. Let us all try to keep at least a little bit of fun in this tough business.



**Berlin Thermoforming
Conference April 2008**

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As the new Division Chair for the next two years, I must start by offering my thanks to the past Chair, Kitty Beijer. She has not only managed to keep all the board members in check but presided over a very successful Thermoforming Conference in Berlin. For my own part, having been involved as a thermoformer for more years than I care to remember, I still find this conference is a unique source of knowledge and communication for our industry.

As far as the future is concerned, the aim would be to expand the role of the European Thermoforming Division.



Ken Darby
ETD Chair 2008-2010

This would benefit our valued members and those companies on whom we rely for support and sponsorship of our conferences.

In keeping with our mission statement, we will continue to promote the thermoforming industry by a continued presence at relevant events. We would hope also to offer a wider availability of affordable training with, for example, our Fundamentals of Thermoforming Seminar already presented at K2007 and Berlin.

It would also be our intention to expand the ETD Board - bringing in members with fresh ideas as well as candidates from countries with no current representation. This ensures that it is true pan European organisation.

Finally I would like to remind everyone that the ETD is there for our members. This newsletter is your publication, and we would welcome your comments and views.

Please look forward, with me, to a successful future.



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NEWS

At the recent ANTEC conference in Milwaukee USA, two presentations were made and the first one was to Yetty Pauwels. This was a presentation made by Vicki Flaris to celebrate the work that Yetty has put into the SPE organization and the ongoing enthusiasm that she

Fortunately The European Thermoforming Division is in discussion with Yetty to ensure that she has a role to play in the coming years after she officially retires from SPE Europe.

Also at the ANTEC conference ETD were presented with the Pinnacle Silver Award in recognition of the activities and communications it provides for all of our members.



**Yetty Pauwels with
SPE President Vicki Flaris
plus Ludo (Yetty's partner)**

brings to the European Thermoforming Division. She is a major reason why both are so successful in Europe.



**Kitty Beijer receiving
the Pinnacle award from
SPE President Vicki Flaris**



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Berlin Thermoforming Conference April 2008

The 6th European Thermoforming Conference

was an outstanding success. Held at the Maritim Hotel in Berlin from 3rd to the 5th April 2008, 250 delegates attended from 23 countries.

The high standard of presentations was continued and highlights such as the presentation from Jim Griffing from Boeing Corporation were outstanding.



737 / 757 Window Shade Sheath

Twin Sheet Thermoformed parts for Boeing Aircraft

He spoke on the subject of thermoforming in the aircraft industry and the safety standards that are set. This aspect of the aircraft is vital to ensure the highest levels of safety and with the advent of new materials such as composites, as shown in the new Dreamliner[®]. This new development is a major step forward as planes' lighter weight helps to reduce the fuel costs and in today's high energy priced market, it is a major consideration in the airlines' overall strategy.



**Boeing Aircraft interior
being installed**



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Another presentation that was well received was by Reiner Albrecht of Illig who spoke on the forming of bottles. He took as his comparison the wellness drinks (bioactive yogurts) and the history which up to now had been by manufacturing by the blow moulded method. He gave examples of how bottles can now be thermoformed using new technology

Rik Hillaert of Samsonite presented the current range being developed by his company. He explained that the corporation's philosophy had been to move all production to cheaper parts of the world to ensure they stayed competitive in the market place, however with the advent of a new material it became obvious that they could not find the expertise in lower cost countries to manufacture their new luggage range in a difficult but rewarding new material.



The thermoformed bottle is only half the weight of the blow moulded bottle but it has the stability to meet the standards set in the industry.



Samsonite Travel Lite Case



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Therefore they invested in the development in the European plant. Here they designed the new range of luggage called 'Travel Lite' from a new polypropylene material called Curv[®]

This is a combination of sheet and polypropylene fibre web that makes it very strong and it has the ability to withstand major damage. This is vital as luggage is subject to a great deal of rough handling during its use. The forming of the material is also a challenge as it has restrictions in the depth of form you can achieve by standard vacuum methods and pressure has to be applied to achieve the perfect shape.



These are just a few of the many presentations, workshops and discussions that took place in Berlin 2008. If you were among the 250 delegates you can go to www.e-t-d.org and read all of the presentations that were made. If you did not go to the conference, you missed a great opportunity to hear excellent speakers on major topics and to meet all of your fellow thermoformers in the industry.





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One of the new innovations at this years European Thermoforming Conference was the commercial presentations that were made.

This were twenty minute sessions when each company were allowed to introduce new product or services that they were currently offering.

The list of presenters were:

Tjerk Lenstra -
Sabic Europe

Willy Onclin -
Eastman Chemical

Manfred Geiss -
Geiss

Sven Engelmann -
Gerhard Schubert

Frank Thorn -
KMT Robotic Solutions

Claudio Bottos -
Selfgroup

Gary Steen -
Vitasheet Group

Luca Giacomozzi -
ILPA-MP3.



This was a very well received group of presentations. Everyone was aware that they were commercial and the information obtained was welcomed by all delegates.

We at ETD will be in favour of continuing this type of presentation at the 2010 conference.

WWW.E-T-D.ORG



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Thermoforming Seminar

Before the conference started The European Thermoforming Division held a seminar. It was called 'Fundamentals of Thermoforming' and it was a one day seminar covering both the thin and thick sheet markets.

It was presented by Peter Lichtherte who has developed this seminar in association with SPE and it was originally presented at K2007 in Dusseldorf.



ETD subsidised the cost of the one day seminar to ensure we reached out to the new members of our industry who needed not only a basic

knowledge of both thin and thick sheet thermoforming, but also on machinery, tools, Ancillary equipment such as routers, granulators, printers etc. The seminar was well attended and towards the end of the program a discussion took place on a variety of subjects related not only to thermoforming but also to alternative methods of manufacturing.

This seminar is evolving and we are trying to ensure it meets the criteria for all people who need to understand the fundamentals of thermoforming. ETD is committed to providing education and understanding to all members of the division and would welcome the opportunity to present this seminar in your company or area. Please contact us to discuss your needs.

Please note in autumn of 2008 a e-live presentation of this seminar will be presented by SPE.

Further details will be released when known



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Parts Competition

Our second Parts Competition was held at the Thermoforming Conference in Berlin.



Industrial Manfred Jacob
Kunststofftechnik
Twin-Sheet pallet for Heavy content

Point of Purchase/Display
Batelaan Kunststoffen
Footsize measurer

Technical Applications
Arthur Krüger
Casing for Filtration Unit

We had a wide selection of entrees from both Europe and North America. The winners of the Parts Competition in two categories

Thick Gauge

Automotive Kaysersberg
Plastics (Ducaplast) Carpet
covered Loadstopper





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Sanitary

Thompson Plastics Group
Renaissance cubicle (shower)

Thin Gauge

Food Applications

Queen's University / Huhtamaki
Beverage cup for Airline Industry

Medical Applications

Batelaan Kunststoffen
Workstation

General Applications

Prent Corporation
Goex 2007 Holiday Package

Electronic Applications

Manfred Jacob Kunststofftechnik
Hugh one-piece-folding blister





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one step ahead



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E.T.D is pleased to publish announcements regarding fellow members who are looking for opportunities in the industry.

Contact should be made direct with the individual not with ETD, unless specified

POSITION REQUIRED

General Manager /Sales Director International.

Experienced with 20+ years in International Sales Capital Equipment.

- International B2B and B2C
- Successful in company reorganisations.
- Production and Product mix selection, experienced from Far East.
- Implementation of marketing plans, driven to take business forward
- Motivator and initiator that can listen.
- Team player, strong operational, customer focus
- Language skills, English, German, French, Dutch(native)
- Preferred European base (Netherlands, Belgium, Germany)

Please respond to spe.europe@skynet.be for further detailed CV/Resume

Fabio Vergeat is a member of SPE since 1992, and is volunteering as treasurer of the local section SPE Italia. He has worked for almost 20 years in his family business "R. Vergeat & Figlio", a manufacturer of moulds for thermoforming. After the closure of the company he started his own business as consultant to the thermoforming industry about mold-making. He has a wide experience in the design of moulds for thin gage thermoforming and an excellent knowledge about machining, heat and surface treatments, mould assembling and maintenance. He is now at the disposal of customers who want to be advised about moulds from an independent source. Fabio can be contacted by e-mail: fabio.vergeat@vergeat.com



**Society of
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UK & Ireland
Section**

The Society of Plastics Engineers UK & Ireland Section

2008 Plastics Industry Dinner

The Evening Event During Interplas 2008

With Guest Speaker

1st October 2008 7.30pm

**The Metropole Hotel NEC
Birmingham**

Tickets £60.00 plus VAT each

Table of 10 £550.00 plus VAT

Contact, Tony Pringle on 07795 668 216
Or email sales@tpplast.com

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E.T.D Board Members 2008/2010

Ken Darby	Chair
Reinhold Plot	Chair Elect
Kitty Beijer	Past Chair and SPE Councillor
Cor Janssen	Treasurer
Yetty Pauwels	Secretary
Hubert Kittelmann	Programme Committee Chair
Hans Lauridsen	Programme Committee
Jeff Pitt	Programme Committee
Kitty Beijer	Programme Committee
Reinhold Plot	PR /Website Committee Chair
Marco Self	PR Committee
Jeff Pitt	PR Committee
Marc Ommeslagh	Parts Committee Chair
Ray Lewis	Parts Committee
Grahame Chapman	Sponsors Committee Chair
Marco Self	Sponsorship Committee
Andy Eavis	Sponsorship Committee
Yetty Pauwels	Sponsorship Committee
Peter Lichtherte	Technology Committee Chair
Jeff Pitt	Membership Chair
Manfred Jacob	Advisor
Ken Braney	SPE Liaison officer

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