



Technical Conference Management
Dr. Kurt Fischer KEG

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Congress for the Worldwide Surfaces Industry:

Decorative Surface Conference 2011

Subtitle: The Decorative Surfaces Industry met in Munich, Germany, from 13-15 April.

Langenzersdorf, 21 April 2011 – The recent economic upswing marked the Decorative Surface Conference, which took place from 13 to 15 April 2011 at the Munich Marriott Hotel. The organiser, Technical Conference Management, welcomed 190 participants from 18 countries, thus having reached pre-crisis levels and corresponding to an increase of almost two thirds in comparison with the previous conference of 2009.

This positive trend already became clear prior to the event, when 14 sponsors – DTS Systemoberflächen, KapStone Paper, Bürkle, Cruse, Renolit, SESA, Johns Manville, Schattdecor, Dynea, Kotkamills, Impress Decor, Hymmen, Kleiberit and Surface & Panel Magazine, endorsed the conference.

On the eve of the conference, a reception was hosted by Impress Decor, already setting the positive mood of the meeting.

The first presentation given by George Goroyias and Tomi Hartikainen of Pöyry Management Consulting gave the background figures underlining the positive market trend in Europe. The forecast until 2015 are that demand will be going up in particular for LPM and foils, in Eastern Europe also for HPL.

The second speaker, Eren Gonul, sales manager of the Gentas Group, talked extensively about the booming Turkish economy. The third presentation of the day was given by Güclü Turkoglu of DuPont Titanium Technologies, who had the sensitive task of giving participants an overview of the delicate future prospects regarding the supply with titanium dioxide.

It goes without saying that the audience found the presentation of Peter Lantz and Anders Petterson from the IKEA Group particularly interesting. They talked about the use of different surface materials in IKEA products and invited suppliers to be more strongly involved in IKEA developments.

Like in previous years digital printing was one of the dominant issues of the conference. Presentation along this line were given by Jordi Reichert, Hymmen, Robert David, Interprint, Thomas Peter, Dieffenbacher System Automation, Tim Phillips, Xennia Technology, Monica Badila, WOOD Carinthian Competence Centre, and Thomas Schmidt, Tiger Coatings.

Volker Kettler of MeisterWerke talked about the effects of the new ISO standards for laminate floorings.

On the evening of day one Impress Decor invited all the participants to the Hackerhaus restaurant at the centre of Munich, where participants enjoyed traditional Bavarian food and drinks.

The morning session of day two was marked by decor printers Schattdecor (Klaus Müller and Peter Weidenschlager) as well as Impress Decor (Horst Pachowiak and Daniele Merla) who forged a bridge between technology and design.

Additional presentations were given by Tanis Marquette, Momentive Specialty Chemicals, Ulrich Strohbeck, IPA, Frank Herberg, Klöckner Pentaplast, Mario Beyer, Institut für Holztechnologie Dresden, Sheila Hamilton, Teknek, Franz-Georg Jüttner, Bürkle, Robert Wagner, Dynea Austria, and Ulf Panzer, Borealis Agrolinz Melamine.

The final speaker was Martin Kohlmayr of Impress Decor, who talked about the use of renewable resources in melamine formaldehyde resins – a development that received the Austrian Climate Protection Award 2010. Following the presentation, participants were given the opportunity to test the raw material used in this development – sugar – in one of its most pleasant forms at a cotton candy stand set up by Impress Decor.

The workshop on 15 April dealt with the use of laminates for exterior applications.

The first two speakers Ralf Gerigk, DTS Systemoberflächen, and Pedro Carteado Mena, Sonae Industria, talked about various production technologies. In the third presentation Jeremy Francis Würtz, Zaeske & Partner Architects, answered the question why and under what circumstances laminates are an architect's first choice for façades. In the final presentation Wolfgang Engelbert Gollner, civil engineer and professor at the University of Applied Sciences Joanneum in Graz, talked about his experience with the use of laminates for wall claddings.

A lively panel discussion with audience participation marked the official end of the workshop.

Conference Website

Images of the event can be found on our conference website:
www.surfaces-conference.com.

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Further Information:

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About Technical Conference Management:

Technical Conference Management was founded in January 2000 by Kurt Fischer and Claudia Fischer-Ballia with the aim of hosting and organizing scientific and technical conferences worldwide. The current focus is on the wood-processing industry and the decor industry.