

# Surfactants & Detergents News

## Detergent conference to provide update

The Second World Conference on Detergents, to be held Oct. 5-10, 1986, in Montreux, Switzerland, will provide a detailed update on the technical, economic, legislative and commercial trends for the detergent industry in the 1990s.

The first world conference on soaps and detergents was held approximately 10 years ago, in 1977, also in Montreux. The second conference in essence is to provide a new generation of industry executives and researchers with the latest available information. An international planning committee has been working for the past two years to develop a program, select session chairmen and invite speakers.

Tentative plans are to open the conference on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 5, with a keynote session and a social event. The tentative technical program follows:

### Monday, Oct. 6

**World Trends**, a geographic review of the detergent industry including raw materials used, types of products, environmental and safety concerns, consumer issues, trends in fabrics, laundry appliances, energy concerns and demographic trends.

### Tuesday, Oct. 7

**Raw Materials**, a review of petrochemicals, oleochemicals from natural feedstocks and inorganics, including supply and production capacity, cost trends and new processes for manufacturers.

**Equipment and Textiles**, a review on laundry appliances and fabrics, including different types and trends, anticipated changes, consumer habits and demographics that may mean changes and how these may affect the detergent industry.

**Formulation Technology: Surfactants in Laundry Detergent Products**, including a look at European, North American and Far Eastern laundry powders, detergent bars and pastes, and laundry liquids. Speakers will cover use of individual surfactants and trends, performance data, new surfactants, interaction with other product components, systems for dual-function products, cost factors and other topics.

### Wednesday, Oct. 8

**Formulation Technology: Surfactants in Nonlaundry Detergent Products**, including U.S. and European dishwashing products, household cleaners, industrial and institutional products and personal care products. Speakers will cover same general topics as in previous session on laundry detergent products.

### Thursday, Oct. 9

**Formulation Technology: Builder Systems in Detergent Products**, including phosphate laundry powders, nonphosphate laundry powders, laundry liquids, dishwashing compounds, and industrial and institutional products. Speakers will emphasize the performance of individual builders, relation of calcium sequestration and

building, compatibility with surfactants, ease of processing and cost factors.

**Formulation Technology: Special Functions**, including antiredeposition, fabric conditioners, bleaching systems, enzymes, foam control agents, fluorescent whitening agents and fragrances, with speakers providing information on effectiveness, cost, raw materials, compatibility, usage trends and other topics as pertinent.

### Friday, Oct. 10

**Processing/Packaging**, including spray drying, nontower processing, quality control and packaging (materials of construction with emphasis on new plastics and carton/plastic combinations).

**Research and Consumer Interface**, including product appraisal in the laboratory and the field, consumer habits, interface between manufacturer and consumers, and government and consumer interactions.

Conference summary, chaired by Adolf L. de Jong.

In addition to the technical program, the conference will include an accompanying exposition at which suppliers to the industry can exhibit their latest products, equipment or services. There will be ample opportunity as well for informal conversation between registrants and speakers. Tentative plans are to arrange an all-conference outing on Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 5.

The planning committee is headed by Ted P. Matson of Vista Chemical Company in Ponca City, Oklahoma, and Dr. de Jong of Unilever in The Netherlands. Full details on the program are expected to be available early next year. Persons who wish to receive an informational brochure and registration materials should write to: Meetings Manager, American Oil Chemists' Society, 508 S. Sixth St., Champaign, IL 61820.

## Akzo Chemie expands

Armak Chemicals unit of Akzo Chemie America is expanding its Morris, Illinois, fatty amines plant. Company officials said production capacity of hydrogenated amines is being increased by 30% while quaternary ammonium surfactant capacity is being increased by 100%. A new process to improve the quality and color of amines and derivatives was completed late in 1984. The proprietary process was developed at Akzo Chemie America's McCook, Illinois, central research laboratory.

Meanwhile, Akzo Chemie has begun construction of facilities at its Pasadena, Texas, plant to produce a new family of advanced zeolites for use in octane boosting catalysts.

## Swiss phosphate ban

The government of Switzerland has banned the use of phosphates in laundry detergents, effective July 1, 1986.

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The ban is expected to reduce phosphorus runoff into Swiss lakes by about 4,000 tons a year, but represents only 10% of phosphate runoff. Total phosphorus runoff has been estimated at 40,000 tons a year, mostly from fertilizer.

As in other places where such bans have been enacted, the proposal was made to reduce eutrophication in lakes. Switzerland is the first European country to enact a nationwide ban on fertilizers.

### Call for papers

Participants from the United States are being sought for a symposium on analytical methods for surfactants and surfactant materials that will be held as part of the World Surfactant Congress II, scheduled for May 24-27, 1988, in Paris, France.

Persons interested in participating should write for details to Dr. W. C. Campbell, senior analyst, Imperial Chemical Industries PLC, Petrochemicals and Plastics Division, PO Box 90, Wilton Centre, Middlesborough, Cleveland, TS6 BJ8, England.

### News briefs

The PQ Corporation has appointed two new sales representatives in its industrial chemicals division. Dennis Kapela is responsible for northern New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Montana and Idaho while Kevin P. Maguire has been assigned to cover Nevada,

Arizona, southern New Mexico and the southern Los Angeles area.

American Oil & Supply Co. of Newark, New Jersey, has sold its Lafayette Metalworking Division to Cook's Industrial Lubricants of Linden, New Jersey.

Arizona Chemical Co., a producer of basic and intermediate chemicals from byproducts of the pulp and paper industry, has moved its headquarter offices to Panama City, Florida. The new address is 200 S. Sudduth Pl., Panama City, FL 32404.

AOCS member Vincent P. Kuceski, formerly vice president of research and development for the C.P. Hall Co., has formed Vincent Associates and Co. Inc. in Chicago Heights, Illinois. Kuceski, experienced with plasticizers for the rubber and plastics industries, pioneered work on glutarates derived from the waste products of nylon. His background includes work with dimethyl fatty acids, fatty acid amides, insect repellents, synthetic lubricants, fire retardants, animal litter, pharmaceutical intermediates and rubber and plastics additives.

Baychem International Inc. of Houston, Texas, and El Paso Products Co. of Odessa, Texas, have agreed to jointly develop and produce atactic polyalphaolefins. Production is targeted for early 1986, with an initial production capacity of 25 million pounds annually. Plans include future expansion to meet market demands.

# SHORT COURSE PROCEEDINGS

## DETERGENTS EIGHT-0

Held September 14-17, 1980, Hotel Hershey & Country Club, Hershey, Pennsylvania (86 p., \$10).

Proceedings of four sessions: "What Constraints Do We Operate under?" "What Do We Have to Work with?" "How Do We Make a Technical Product?" and "How Do We Make a Successful Consumer Product?" These topics were addressed by 23 contributors to the course.

## INDUSTRIAL FATTY ACIDS

Held June 10-13, 1979, Tamiment Resort and Country Club, Tamiment, Pennsylvania (150 p., \$12 for AOCS members and \$15 for nonmembers).

Thirty-eight papers constitute these proceedings. Topics include raw materials; hydrogenation; distillation; toxicological, bacteriocidal, and fungicidal properties; federal regulations; packaging; pollution control; analytical chemistry of fatty acids and their derivatives; and new applications.

## DETERGENTS IN THE CHANGING SCENE

Held June 15-18, 1975, Hotel Hershey, Hershey, Pennsylvania (76 p., \$6 for AOCS members and \$8 for nonmembers).

The volume includes 15 of the papers presented at the course. Topics include surfactant manufacture, raw materials, alcohol ethoxylates in laundry detergents, environmental acceptability and human safety.

ORDER FROM: American Oil Chemists' Society, 508 South Sixth Street, Champaign, IL 61820.