SOCMA chairman

Conrad S. Kent, vice-president of Chesebrough-Pond's Inc. and president of the Specialty and Food Products Division of Stauffer Chemical Co., has been elected chairman of the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers Association (SOCMA). He will serve a one-year term. Kent has been active on SOCMA's board for three years, serving most recently as vice-chairman.

News briefs

Sherex Chemical Corp. has announced it will shut down its Oakland, California, facility on March 1, 1986. Sherex attributed the move to shifting markets and economic conditions. The Oakland product line of fatty nitriles, amines and powdered quaternaries will be taken over by the company's expanded multipurpose facility in Mapleton, Illinois.

Emery Chemicals in December announced it had acquired 50% interest in Custom Essence Inc. of Somerset, New Jersey, a fragrance manufacturer and marketer. Meanwhile, Jerry C. Bertrand has been promoted to project manager of aroma chemicals for Emery Chemicals. As such, he will be responsible for all company activities relating to the fragrance and flavor industries.

The Board of Directors of Stepan Co. has elected Jeffrey W. Bartlett to be vice-president. Bartlett is general counsel and corporate secretary for Stepan. In other changes at Stepan, Richard H. Wehman Jr. has been promoted to account manager of national accounts while Diane E. Stevermer has been named customer service representative.

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