

FATS & OILS NEWS

to catalyst R&D facilities in Beachwood, Ohio. **Dennis Taylor** is providing support to ensure continuity of the Engelhard business.

California Rendering Co. and Peterson Manufacturing Co. have changed their name to **Darling-Delaware Co. of Los Angeles.**

Yoshio Kato has been appointed president and general manager of **Applied Biosystems Japan.** Meanwhile, **Applied Biosystems Inc.** has purchased land outside Tokyo as an expansion site for chemical manufacturing and related support activities.

The **American College of Nutrition (ACN)** has given its first official "Product Acceptance" award to **Puritan Oil**, a **Procter & Gamble** product. Puritan, which is made from canola oil, received the award because ACN considers it "an excellent choice for those who are modifying their diets to reduce intake of saturated fat and cholesterol to help lower their blood cholesterol levels." The ACN established its "Product Evaluation and Acceptance Program" to educate consumers about cholesterol and saturated fat.

Hershey Foods Corp. will construct an office complex

and data center in Derry Township, Pennsylvania. Groundbreaking is set for mid-1989, with completion targeted for late 1991. The site of a proposed manufacturing facility is expected to be announced by mid-May.

Supercritical Processing Inc. (SCP) has expanded capacity to 220 liters at its supercritical extraction pilot plant in Allentown, Pennsylvania. An automated 160-liter high-pressure extraction vessel has been added which can extract oil from oilseeds and meal.

The **ASEAN Oleochemicals Manufacturers' Group (AOMG)** has elected **Alfredo D. Yniguez Jr.** of **Pilipinas Kao Inc.** as its chairman. **Mohd Kassim Salleh** of Malaysia will serve as vice chairman.

American companies with a subsidiary or joint venture in the **People's Republic of China** that are seeking qualified food scientists and technologists may contact Prof. **Steven S. Chang**, 29 Gloucester Ct., East Brunswick, NJ 08816. Chang and his wife, Lucy, fund an endowment at the Jinan University, Guangzhou, People's Republic of China, for five student fellowships each year in the field of food science and technology.

SURFACTANTS & DETERGENTS NEWS

Section luncheon

The Surfactants and Detergents Section of AOCs will hold its first section luncheon at the 1989 AOCs annual meeting in Cincinnati in May. The luncheon is scheduled for noon on Friday, May 5, 1989, and will be held at the Albert B. Sabin Convention Center, site of the annual meeting.

John A. Hockey, vice president for development for **Lever Brothers Co.**, Edgewater, New Jersey, will

be the featured speaker. The topic of his talk will be "Detergents Research: Challenges of the Next Decade." **Arno Cahn**, section chairman, also will give a report. Anyone interested in surfactants and detergents is welcome to attend the luncheon and to join the section.

Tickets for the luncheon cost \$20 and can be purchased at the registration desk at the annual meeting in Cincinnati.

Also at the annual meeting, the Soap and Deter-

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gent Association (SDA) Award will be presented to the authors of the best technical paper on soaps and detergents published in *JAACS* during 1988. The SDA Award will be presented during the inaugural and awards breakfast which begins at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, May 6.

Technical sessions at the AOCS annual meeting will include five devoted to surfactants and detergents. Surfactant and detergent session topics are performance evaluation and formulation technology; recent advances in detergent technologies; cosmetics and toiletries; surface chemistry of surfactants; and new directions in surfactants and higher alcohols.

Preceding the AOCS annual meeting, a short course on Soap Technology for the 1990s will be held at Kings Island Inn, Kings Island, Ohio. The short course is slated for April 30–May 2, 1989. For more information, see the Annual Meeting section in this issue.

Unilever purchase

Unilever Group has agreed to buy the bulk of Fabergé Inc. of the U.S. for \$1.55 billion. The purchase is Unilever's second major acquisition in the U.S. in the past two years.

Under the agreement, Unilever will acquire Fabergé's toiletries, cosmetics and fragrance businesses from Riklis Family Corp. The purchase will increase Unilever's annual personal products sales to about \$3.6 billion from \$2.8 billion and boost its share in the worldwide market to 9.5%, from 7.5%. The acquisition follows Unilever's \$3.1 billion purchase of Chesebrough-Pond's Inc. of the U.S. in 1987.

Witco expansion

Witco Corp. has announced plans for a \$6.5 million expansion of its Memphis, Tennessee, plant operated by its Humko Chemical Division.

The bulk of the investment will be in the installation of an additional continuous pressure splitter at the Tennessee facility. This will be the fourth splitter at the plant and will increase oleochemical production there by a third.

'Natural' alcohols

By 1993, more than half of all surfactant alcohol capacity will be natural oil-based, according to Cornelia Schirber, surfactants business analyst for Vista Chemical Co. Schirber, who addressed the Chemical Marketing Research Association earlier this year, forecast that worldwide ethylene-based surfactant alcohol capacity would fall to 47% and natural oil-based capacity would rise to 53%.

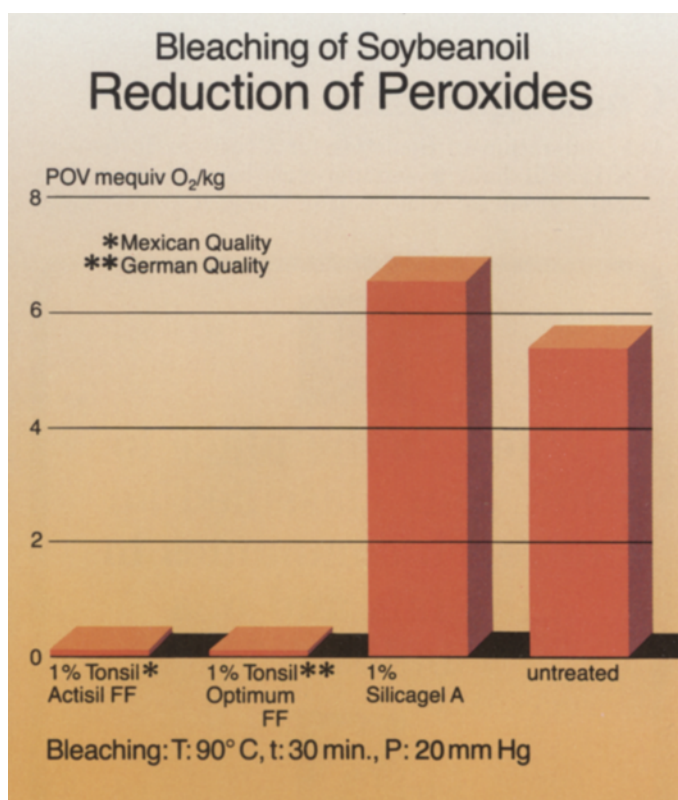
Current worldwide capacity for ethylene-based surfactant alcohols is 62%; natural-based capacity is

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38%. In the U.S., ethylene-based capacity would drop to 63%, from 81%, and natural oil-based capacity would nearly double to 37%, from 19% in the same period, she said.

Schirber's projections were based on industry announcements in the past year that indicated natural oil-based capacity would be expanded. Although surfactant alcohols made from coconut oils traditionally have been less competitive than those from ethylene, that may change as palm kernel oil production increases. However, before any of the natural alcohol capacity announced for the U.S. is built, the industry will have to overcome current and future worldwide overcapacity for both surfactant alcohols and linear alkylbenzene, the competitiveness of existing synthetic plants, and the competitiveness of natural alcohol plants being built in lauric oil-producing countries, she said.

Coatings seminar

The Federation of Societies for Coatings Technology (FSCT) will hold a seminar entitled "Modern Analytical Resources: The Coating Chemist's Ally," May

16-17, 1989, at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott, Los Angeles, California. The keynote address will be "The Philosophy of Problem-Solving in Coatings Science and Technology," by Clifford K. Schoff of PPG Industries Inc.

FSCT has published a guide to 1989 coatings courses, symposia and seminars offered in the U.S. and Canada. The 41-page guide is available for \$5. Also, FSCT has published a monograph on **Inorganic Primer Pigments**, priced at \$5. For further information about the seminar, 1989 course guide or monograph, contact the Federation of Societies for Coatings Technology, 1315 Walnut St., Suite 832, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

News briefs

Meccaniche Moderne has been commissioned by the Beijing Everbright Industrial Co. to supply a continuous saponification plant to the Tianjin Toilet Soap Factory in Tianjin, China.

BASF Corp. has announced the creation of five operating divisions. They include: fibers division; consumer product and life science division; coatings and colorants division; polymers division; and chemicals division.

Epsilon Products Co. will construct a 120,000-metric-tons-per-year polypropylene plant adjacent to the Sun Refinery at Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania. Detailed engineering and procurement began in February. The facility is expected to be in operation by the end of 1990. Rust International is the engineering construction contractor for the project.

Colgate-Palmolive Co. has named **William Shanahan** to the newly created post of chief operating officer, centralizing control over the company's U.S. and international operations. He is responsible for the company's U.S. division and remains in charge of the international division. Also, **Edward Fogarty** has been named president of Colgate-U.S.

Chester Szymanski, former vice president of Unilever subsidiary National Starch and Chemical Corp., has been appointed president of **Lever Research**.

Joh A. Benckiser GmbH has sold its industrial cleaners unit and acquired **Panigal S.p.A.**, a family-owned detergent and food company based in Bologna, Italy. Benckiser sold its industrial cleaners business based in Ladenburg, West Germany, to **Laporte Industries** of the United Kingdom.

Mitsubishi Petrochemical Co. of Japan will export technology to China for the manufacture of long-chain alcohols. The contract agreement with China's General Firm for Technology Advancement calls for the construction of a plant in Fushan, Liaoning Prov-

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ince. The plant, which will be the first of its type in China, will have a capacity of 50,000 metric tons (MT) per year. The cost of the contract is 2.5 billion yen.

Kao Corp. of Japan has developed technology to produce isopropyl *cis*-6-hexadecenoate (F1) using a bioreactor. With the new method, F1 can be made from isopropyl palmitate using a mutant microorganism that utilizes alkanes. The production technology is expected to be on-line this fiscal year; the product will be used in cosmetics and medicines.

Procter & Gamble has announced it will establish **Procter & Gamble STC** in South Korea. It will be jointly incorporated with STC Corp., a major South Korean package stuff manufacturer. The new firm will import toiletries and develop them for the Korean market.

AOCS member **Marjorie Besemer** has been named technical services representative for the western region of **PQ Corp.**'s Industrial Chemicals Division. **Bruce Peterson** has been appointed eastern region sales representative.

FROM WASHINGTON

FDA tightens regs on infant formula

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has amended its product recall regulations and is proposing stricter record-keeping requirements and microbiological testing for infant formula.

FDA requires infant formula manufacturers to conduct recalls only when infant formulas present a risk to human health. Under the new rules, any company deciding to carry out a recall must inform FDA by telephone within 24 hours of the decision and must submit a written report within 14 days of the recall's outset. Companies also will be required to request retail establishments distributing the recalled

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