

New Philippine oleochemical plant

United Coconut Chemicals Inc. in 1985 will go to full capacity at its new oleochemical facility at New Danglayan, Bauan, Batangas, the Philippines. The facility, in operation since mid 1984, is slated to process 70,000 metric tons (MT) of crude coconut oil annually to produce 65,000 MT of fatty acids and 8,000 MT of glycerine. Full production is set to begin in the second quarter of 1985.

The plant complex occupies 10 hectares of the 42-hectare company property south of Manila. The firm says the plant is the biggest coco-chemical complex in Southeast Asia and the first to produce fatty alcohols from fatty acid feedstock. Of the 65,000 MT of fatty acids to be produced each year, 35,000 MT will be further processed into 30,000 MT of fatty alcohols.

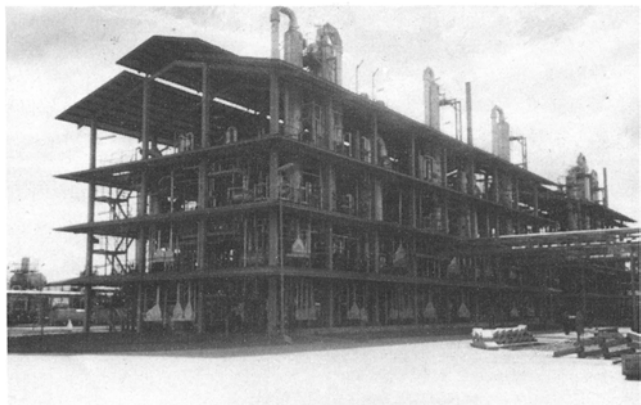
End products are intended for export and domestic consumption, and will be channeled to the soap and detergent industry, for food processing, pharmaceutical and textile purposes.

Process sections at the facility include fat splitting, fatty acid distillation, fatty acid fractionation, alcohol plant, fatty alcohol distillation, fatty alcohol fractionation and glycerine plant for crude and refined glycerine. In addition, there are hydrogen plant, nitrogen section, utility plant and supply facilities, including a jetty for vessels up to 35,000 DWT.

Turnkey contractor for the project has been Lurgi GmbH of Frankfurt, West Germany, and prime sub-contractor is AG&P, Manila, the Philippines.



United Coconut Chemicals' new coco-chemical complex in the Philippines.



United Coconut Chemicals' fatty acid plant is expected to handle 65,000 metric tons of fatty acids annually.

Coconut trade deregulated

Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos issued a presidential decree Jan. 11, 1985, which called for the deregulation of the Philippine coconut industry in line with the structural economic adjustment program of the coconut industry. This has allowed all coconut oil millers to export coconut oil directly.

A meeting called on Jan. 30 by Minister Rolando de la Cuesta, Philippine Coconut Authority chairman, was attended by the different sectors of the industry to discuss relevant issues related to the decree and to gather suggestions from the exporters prior to the formulation of the implementing rules and guidelines of the decree.

On Feb. 8, the Philippine Coconut Authority issued the implementing guidelines, PCA Administrative Order 01 Series of 1985. The order declares a regulatory policy of less government intervention in the marketing of coconut products and allows the private sector greater access to the world market. It also has simplified the export procedures for an expeditious exportation of coconut commodities.

According to Leonardo F. Ignacio Jr., executive secretary of the United Coconut Association of the Philippines, these changes in the industry are not expected to affect to a great extent the total amount of coconut oil moving into international trade, as availability depends on the annual coconut crop. What probably could change is the rate of export due to the increased number of participants, he said.

On one hand, with the bigger number of coconut oil exporters each struggling to develop or renew a market base, it is possible that prices would soften to some extent at least at the early stage. The market still determines prices. Fundamental and technical factors still interplay, Ignacio added.

Ignacio said the issuance of the order is enough encouragement for coconut products exporters. However, while export of all forms of coconut products is given encouragement, there are no indications of the lifting of the temporary ban on Philippine copra movement to points outside the country, as crushing utilization is still low, with capacity surpassing supply.

Soviet crop report

The USSR harvested 4.5 million metric tons (MT) of sunflowerseed in 1984, the smallest crop since 1963, according to the Soviet's official 1984 report. Soviet cottonseed production, meanwhile, totalled 4.73 million MT, the lowest since 1978.

According to the German oilseed newsletter *Oil World*, Soviet vegetable oil production has remained far behind schedule, which could indicate significant imports in the coming months. The American Soybean Association reported Feb. 4 that the USSR had purchased 25,000 MT of U.S. soybean oil that week. This was the first Soviet purchase of U.S. soybean oil since 1979, when the USSR bought approximately 24,700 MT.

Soybean Update noted that the purchase, combined with purchases of 40,000 to 50,000 MT of Malaysian palm oil, should fulfill Soviet vegetable oil needs through April,

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when the South American crop is ready to go on the world market. The Soviets currently have a five-year agreement with Brazil to purchase 50,000 MT of Brazilian soybean oil a year.

Ong to head new group

Augustine Ong Soon Hock of the Palm Oil Research Institute of Malaysia has been selected chairman of the governing committee for the new Oil and Fats Section of the Malaysian Institute of Chemistry.

The group formally organized during the recent World Conference on Processing of Palm, Palm Kernel and Coconut Oils held in Kuala Lumpur. Other committee members include Coi Cheng Keat, PORIM, secretary; Mary Ann Augustin, Universiti Pertanian Malaysia; Mary Chan, Jomalina (M) Sdn. Bhd.; Boh Swee Hock, University of Malaya; Oo Khaik Cheang, University of Malaya, and Lim Kang Hoe, Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad.

Speakers at the organizational meeting of Nov. 11, which was attended by approximately 60 persons, included *JAOCs* editor A. R. Baldwin; Kurt Berger, former chairman of the Oil and Fats Group of the Society of Chemical Industry in England; Bruno Werdelmann, president of the DGF (German fats and oils society); and A. T. James, biotechnology specialist with Unilever. James' group did research that has led to planting of oil palm clones in Malaysia.

News briefs

David S. Kravis, director of research and development for Bunge Edible Oil Corporation, has been named to the AOCS Foundation Action Board of Directors. The board oversees AOCS Foundation activities. Its major project now is speeding acceptance and development of new analytical methodology.

Robert Carlson is the new manager of Cargill Inc.'s sunflower and flax processing facility at Riverside, North Dakota. He succeeds Stephen Huemoller, who has been transferred to Australia to manage Cargill's multi-seed processing plants at Melbourne, Brisbane and Narrabri. Carlson has been employed in Cargill's soybean processing division since 1972. Huemoller, who has been with Cargill for 11 years, managed the Riverside plant since its opening in 1980.

Geoffrey Williamson has been appointed managing director of Simon-Rosedowns Ltd. of Hull, England, engineers to the vegetable oilseed processing industry. Williamson succeeds David Bates, who has become chairman of Simon-Rosedowns.

AOCS member Joseph Rackis retired late last year after nearly 30 years of service at USDA's Northern Regional Research Center. During his career, he devised and supervised basic and applied research on nutritional biochemistry, sensory, toxicology, flatulence and physico-chemical

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properties of proteins, lipids and carbohydrates in soy protein products. Rackis plans to do consulting work in research and technology of oilseeds and food legumes.

Ronald L. Fleming, director of purchasing, has been appointed vice president-purchasing, Capital City Products Company. The company, headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, manufactures edible vegetable oil products and detergent products.

Sullivan Systems Division of Alfa-Laval Inc., formerly in Larkspur, California, has moved to Alfa-Laval headquarters in Fort Lee, New Jersey. The division designs and markets systems and equipment for vegetable oil refining, degumming, bleaching, deodorization, hydrogenation, process control and other related systems for the vegetable oil industry.

Sherex Chemical Company is planning to increase its fatty nitrile and amine capacity at its Mapleton, Illinois, plant by 50% and to undertake environmental improvements at the Oakland, California site. The plans are part of a major expansion of quaternary and surfactant capacity, which includes a new surfactant capability at Janesville, Wisconsin. These expansions are to support growth in key markets served by Sherex, including household, personal care, mining and selected industrial areas. Sherex is a subsidiary of Schering AG Industrial Chemicals Division, West Germany, and is a basic producer of oleochemicals including fatty acids, amines, alcohols and their derivatives.

Angellini-Grace, a large Chilean consortium which markets oilseeds for planting and fertilizers, has entered the vegetable oil processing industry by opening a refinery on the outskirts of Santiago. The oil facility is designed to produce 35,000 tons of oil a year. The consortium also has two crushing facilities in Chile's chief sunflower and rapeseed growing areas.

Henkel Corporation announced in February that it had tentatively agreed to sell its food ingredients business to Ogilvie Mills Ltd. The sale would include Henkel's Keokuk, Iowa, production facilities.

Baker Commodities of Los Angeles, California, a commodity firm dealing in animal fats and vegetable oils, has been sold by Canadian Pacific to Jim Andreoli, Baker Commodities' president.

AOCS member **Ilija Gawrilow** has been named manager, Chemical Specialties R & D, at Capital City Products Company, Columbus, Ohio.

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Obituaries



ALFRED F. KAPECKI

Alfred F. Kapecki, national treasurer for AOCS from 1953 through 1966, died in late December in Sun City, Arizona, where he had moved after retiring from Wurster & Sanger in Chicago. He was 73.

Mr. Kapecki was a native of Czechoslovakia who came to the United States while still young, receiving his B.S. in chemical engineering from the Armour Institute of Technology in 1934. He did graduate work at the University of Chicago before joining the Wurster & Sanger staff in 1937. He joined AOCS four years later in 1941. He served on the local committee for national meetings in Chicago in 1949 and 1951, then served as general chairman for the meeting held there in 1953, the same year he began his lengthy tenure as AOCS treasurer. In addition to his work on finance and conference committees, Mr. Kapecki also had served on the AOCS membership committee.

Mr. Kapecki served as a consultant to Wurster & Sanger after his retirement.

Survivors include his wife, Jean; a son, John; daughters Susan Yore and Marcia McKinzie; four grandchildren and a sister.

HOWARD PACKER

AOCS has been informed of the death of Howard Packer. Mr. Packer first joined the society in 1945 while working as a chemist for Witco Chemical Co. in Chicago. He studied at the University of Chicago, receiving his B.S. in 1938 and M.S. in 1950. He later was director of research and development at McIntyre Chemical Co., Chicago, and went on to do consultant work in the soaps, detergents and cosmetics industry as president of Ray Chemical Co., Chicago.

New deodorizer dedicated

What its designers term the world's first "mixed-flow" deodorizer was dedicated last September at the Kashima plant of Asahi Denka Kyogyo of Tokyo, Japan.

The deodorizer was developed by Cambrian Engineering, Toyomenka Kaisha Ltd. and Miura Engineering Co. Ltd. The unit combines semi-continuous operation for deaeration, heating and heat recovery and cooling functions with continuous thin-film deodorizing/steam refining, all in one vertical shell. The unit can process up to 100 tons of oil per day. Total steam consumption, excluding steam for final heating, is about one-half the previous system.

Toyomenka Kaisha Ltd. and Miura Engineering are Cambrian licensees in Japan.