

## **Polyester related conferences – spoiled for choice?**

(published in *Chemical Fibers International*, 3, 2006, page 144 – 145)

**U. K. Thiele, Consulting Dr. Thiele Polyester Technology, Bruchköbel/Germany**

When the management in the global polyester industry is looking at the limited budget for education and conference attendance it becomes more and more difficult to decide where to spend the money with the best efficiency. About ten years ago it was pretty easy to decide between less than one hand full of events. The Manmade Fiber Congress Dornbirn was a must even though it was related to fiber and textile issues in general and polyester was only one issue among others. The MBS Polyester World Conference was just founded and the Schotland Business Research presenting Bevpack and later Novapack conferences was number one in the field of polyester packaging issues. Not to forget CMAI and PCI as provider of profound market knowledge from raw material to resin, fiber and recycling.

The impressive development of the polyester production, which increased within the last ten years by nearly the triple output created numbers of new conferences which are containing polyester related issues starting from raw materials and ending up with polyester recycling. Being for a long time attendant of different polyester conferences it was a challenge to analyze the current conferencing market to find some hints where to go with high efficiency or even to know more about the current conference market. As in each growing market one is observing that the product “Polyester Conference” is breaking down in bulk products and specialties meanwhile. And so we have wholesaler who are trying to serve from raw material via process and processing till end products the information about market, technology and science.

Typical representatives of this type are the “Polyester World Congress” of MBS and increasingly the “China International Man-made Fiber Conference” of CCFA whereas both are serving from a fixed place in Europe and China respective. The positive side of those conferences is the unique meeting place culture. Because of their size the participant has the chance to meet important people cross the whole polyester industry. The negative side is that despite a duration time of 3 days it is difficult to present the meanwhile very broad economical, technical and scientifically issues in detail. The attempt of MBS to solve the problem with parallel sessions is annoying for such participants which are interested in both parallel ongoing presentations. Further aggravating is that a number of papers is not present in the conference book and will be delivered piece by piece or afterwards. In difference the CCFA “Man-made Fiber Conference” is structured straight but has still a high concentration on the traditional fiber business and all fiber and textile related issues. PET resin and packaging area are not yet fully covered. With the matter of fact that China is the country with the largest polyester production in the World every player in this field will come sooner or later to the perception to visit also the important conferences there.

Increasingly we see besides the generalists the growing number of specialists which are concentrating whether on a special World region or on a specific topic. CMT and PCI are organizing round the World polyester related conferences which are bringing the information to the customer which is an appreciated approach. Besides the broad market information provided by PCI, MCT is bringing together local representatives with international companies.

Another area of specialization is covered by SCHOTLAND, PETnology and PETpoint in PET resin production and packaging materials mainly. In this area we are observing a still growing number of conferences which are all more or less concentrated on PET-resin and which are each either way of high quality. The latest conference of this type will be hosted by PETCORE in 2006 the first time and is called “The European PET Conference”. A further specialization is recycling related like the “Polyester Recycling Forum” where mainly Germany and Swiss based companies

are getting a platform to introduce their latest know how, equipment and technology related to the processing of PET bottle flakes and waste. This conference is turning frequently to the customers in different world regions.

In Eastern Europe one is observing also new conferences which are focused to a single market region like the “Moscow International Conference PET 2006” hosted by CREON for the PET market in Russia and the annual conference “Technique and Technology of Chemical Fibers” organized by Chimtextilmash in Tschernigov, Ukraine which is a one week familial meeting of scientists, managers and vendors.

The table 1 “WORLD WIDE POLYESTER RELATED CONFERENCES” is containing the international known and public advertised events which are providing information about the polyester chain as core content. Some local activities might be missed. One can easily see the wide span of conference fees but it is difficult to attach a price-performance ratio. Like always when demand and supply are becoming unbalanced the sales of the product will be assured by reduction in price or increase in quality and added value. For the polyester conferencing market it would be in any case eligible that high supply will guide to further improvements in quality and may be to cooperation of providers like we see it with CMAI+CCFA and PCI+MCT to serve the conference customers in the most convenient and efficient way.

TABLE1: WORLD WIDE POLYESTER RELATED CONFERENCES

| No | Name   | Host Organization                                 | Main Content   | Homepage/Contact   | Since Events/annum                     | Duration/Days | Price / Book                          |
|----|--|---|--|--|--|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1  | DORNBIRN Manmade Fiber Congress  | Austrian Man-Made Fibers Institute (Austrian-MFI) | Mainly fiber related issues, all man made fibers are included, polyester only one among others, no contribution to PET resin<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> Man made fiber technology  | <a href="mailto:oechiwien@EUnet.at">oechiwien@EUnet.at</a><br><br><a href="http://www.dornbirn-fibcon.com">www.dornbirn-fibcon.com</a>   | 1961<br><br>1/a                        | 3             | 600 – 650 €                           |
| 2  | European Polyester Conference<br>Polyester Industry Conference<br>International Polyester Chain Conference   | PCI<br><br>Co-Organizer: PCI                      | Market development of raw materials and polyester in general, processes, PET production, processing of fiber and film, PET recycling<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> General consulting market and technology   | <a href="http://www.thepcigroup.com">http://www.thepcigroup.com</a><br><br><a href="http://www.pcipetpackaging.co.uk">www.pcipetpackaging.co.uk</a>  | 1990<br><br>variable                   | 2             | about 1700 US\$ .<br><br>n.n.         |
| 3  | Nova Pack<br>Europe<br>America<br>Asia   | SCHOTLAND Business Research                       | PET resin, production and processing to packaging materials in general<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> New technology, packaging  | <a href="https://www.schotland.com/about_content.html">https://www.schotland.com/about_content.html</a>  | 1981<br><br>2/a                        | 3             | about 1200 US\$<br><br>about 400 US\$ |
| 4  | Polyester World Congress   | MAACK Business Service                            | Polyester general, market studies, raw materials, process technology, textile PET, PET-resin, specialties, downstream processing textile and packaging, PET recycling included<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> Polyester industry in general          | <a href="http://www.mbspolymer.com">www.mbspolymer.com</a><br><a href="http://www.mbspolymer.org">www.mbspolymer.org</a><br><a href="http://www.mbspolymer.biz">www.mbspolymer.biz</a><br><a href="http://www.mbspolymer.net">www.mbspolymer.net</a><br><a href="mailto:MBSpolymer@bluewin.ch">MBSpolymer@bluewin.ch</a> | 1995<br><br>1/a                        | 3             | 1600-1750 €<br><br>490 €              |
| 5  | Middle East PET Conference<br>Eastern Europe PET Conference<br>Asia PET Conference<br>Mexico Central America PET Market<br>Mediterrane PET Markets | Centre for Management Technology (CMT)            | Polyester general, market studies, raw material, process technology, PET- resin, downstream processing, all packaging related, PET recycling included<br><br>Since 2006 in cooperation with PCI<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> Market and technology | <a href="http://www.cmtevents.com/">http://www.cmtevents.com/</a>  | 1983<br>PET since 1996<br><br>variable | 2             | about 1100 €<br><br>n.n.              |

| No | Name  | Host Organization  | Main Content   | Homepage/Contact  | Since<br>Events/a | Duration<br>Days | Price<br>Book  |
|----|---|--|--|---|-------------------|------------------|--|
| 6  | PET POINT<br>CompPETence in<br>Congresses                       | Drinktec Messe<br>Munchen GmbH<br>and<br>PETplanet                           | PET resin production, packaging,<br>bottle, machinery<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> Packaging and technology  | <a href="http://www.drinktec.de">http://www.drinktec.de</a>   | 2004<br><br>1/a   | 3                | about 1000€<br><br>n.n.  |
| 7  | PETnology Forum<br>Europe<br><br>PETnology Forum<br>Asia        | Petnology GmbH   | Polyester resin, raw material, process<br>technology, SSP, specialties,<br>downstream processing<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> Polyester packaging  | <a href="http://www.petnology.de">http://www.petnology.de</a>   | 2002<br><br>2/a   | 2                | about 1000€<br><br>about 400 €   |
| 8  | Polyester and<br>Recycling Forum                                | Dr, Thiele Polyester<br>Technology and<br>Gneuß<br>Kunststofftechnik<br>GmbH | Polyester recycling, processing of<br>recycled polyester ,equipment and<br>processes<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> PET recycling  | <a href="http://www.polyester-technology.com/events">http://www.polyester-<br/>technology.com/events</a><br><a href="http://www.gneuss.de">http://www.gneuss.de</a> | 2002<br><br>2/a   |                  | from 120 € to<br>about 450 €<br>locally diff.<br>n.n.                                      |
| 9  | China International<br>Man-made Fiber<br>Conference             | CCFA<br><br>governmental based   | World & China chemical fiber industry<br>chain market, new technology and<br>new products (70% for PET)<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> PET-process , fibers, textile,<br>technology, general | <a href="mailto:ccfa9416@yahoo.com.cn">ccfa9416@yahoo.com.cn</a><br><a href="http://www.ccfa.com.cn">www.ccfa.com.cn</a>  | 1994<br><br>1/a   | 2                | non member:<br>RMB :6000<br>(about 600 €)<br>member:<br>RMB:3000<br>(about 300 €)<br>n.n.  |
| 10 | China Chemical<br>Fiber information<br>web annual<br>Conference | Hua Rei China<br>Chemical Fiber web<br><br>private based                     | China chemical fiber industry chain<br>market information such as price<br>trend analysis<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> PET fiber market  | <a href="http://www.ccf.com.cn">http://www.ccf.com.cn</a>   | 1998<br><br>1/a   | 1,5              | non-member:<br>RMB :4000<br>(about 400 €)<br>member:<br>RMB: 2000<br>(about 200 €)<br>n.n. |

| No | Name  | Host Organization                  | Main Content  | Homepage/Contact  | Since                | Duration | Price  |
|----|---|------------------------------------|---|---|----------------------|----------|--|
|    |   |                                    |   |   | Events/a             | Days     | Book   |
| 11 | China recycle PET technology forum  | CCFA<br>governmental based         | World & China recycle chemical fiber industry chain market, new technology ,new products and new machinery<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> PET Recycling         | <a href="http://www.ccfa.com.cn">http://www.ccfa.com.cn</a>   | 2005<br><br>1/a      | 1,5      | non-member:<br>RMB: 1200<br>(about 120 €)<br>member:<br>RMB: 800<br>(about 80 €)<br>n.n. |
| 12 | Moscow international conference PET 2006                                  | CREON                              | Mainly locally concentrated, market trends, technical innovation<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> Local East European market development                          | <a href="http://creon-online.ru/?ID=463414">http://creon-online.ru/?ID=463414</a><br><br><a href="mailto:org@creon-online.ru">org@creon-online.ru</a> | 2005<br><br>1/a      | 1        | 700 €<br><br>n.n.  |
| 13 | CMAI/CCFA 2006 Global Chemical Fiber & Feedstocks Conference and Workshop | CMAI in cooperation with CCFA      | Broad range of consulting, polyester and its raw materials as one main issue<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> Market and industry development                     | <a href="http://www.cmaiglobal.com">http://www.cmaiglobal.com</a>   | 1979<br><br>variable | 2        | 1200-1300 US\$<br><br>n.n.   |
| 14 | The European PET Conference   | PETCORE                            | Concentration on PET resin, market, production, processing and recycling<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> Packaging, technology, market                           | <a href="http://www.petcore.org">http://www.petcore.org</a>   | 2006<br><br>1/a      | 3        | 895 – 995 €  |
| 15 | Technique and Technology of Chemical Fibers                               | Chimtextilmash Tschernigov Ukraine | Concentration on specific market in former GUS countries, PET production and plant optimization, fiber processing<br><br><b>FOCUS:</b> PET Technology | chimtextilmash@ok.net.ua  | 2001<br><br>1/a      | 5        | 500 €  |