



TAPPI Journal's Best Paper for 2010

This month, the *TJ* Editorial Board selected "Calendering effects on coating pore structure and ink setting behavior" by Peter Resch, Wolfgang Bauer, and Ulrich Hirn as *TJ*'s Best Research Paper for 2010. The paper appeared in the January 2010 issue and was one of eight nominated for the award. Editorial board members assessed the research based on innovation, creativity, scientific merit, and clear and concise presentation of ideas. The paper and its authors will be honored at the PaperCon Awards Gala Dinner on May 3 (www.papercon.org).

Primary author Peter Resch, who is a quality manager at Sappi Austria in Gratkorn, used this research as basis for his Ph.D., and publication in *TJ* counted towards Peter's fulfillment of his doctoral requirements. The research was also presented at the 2008 TAPPI Advanced Coating Fundamentals Symposium, where it was recognized as a best paper.

"This paper is an example of high-quality, impactful work done in an academic environment under guidance for relevancy from a paper company," said *TJ* editorial board member Nick Triantafillopoulos. "It also exemplifies the merging of academic requirements with industry needs. In addition, the paper demonstrates how a seasoned technical leader can elevate the quality of fundamental public, yet practical, research in a university environment."

According to Resch, this research highlights basics for the optimization of calendering parameters to reach a balance for paper gloss and ink setting. As did Resch in his paper, *TJ* thanks Sappi Fine Paper Europe for his permission to publish this work, along with its research support.

From BioPro Expo & IBBC

More than 300 attendees at TAPPI's BioPro Expo and International Bioenergy and Bioproducts Conference (IBBC) this March 14-16 in Atlanta heard a variety of viewpoints on technology and policy developments impacting this field. *TJ* editorial board members Art Ra-

gauskas and J.Y. Zhu gave presentations in joint IBBC-BioPro sessions on lignin and biochemical conversions.

From the BioPro front, several studies confirmed that the U.S. is at the ethanol "blending wall" or consumption saturation point, indicating that the transportation biofuels focus shifts even more emphatically to cellulosic "drop-in" biofuels to help meet the nation's Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) goals leading up to 2022.

"The U.S. DOE and USDA have already pumped billion of dollars in grant support of demonstration technologies, but even more financial support in the way of increased, more effective loan guarantees and new grant programs is desperately needed to push proven cellulosic technologies into the commercial stage," said Ken Patrick, BioPro program organizer and editor of TAPPI's *BioPro News Wire*. "Also, considerably more private investment, especially from the petro-fuels industry, is needed to accelerate commercialization."

PIMA executive honored

TAPPI and PIMA selected Mike Jackson, president and CEO of Verso Paper Corp., as the association's 2011 Executive of the Year. The award is given to senior-level executives for excellence in management and outstanding contributions to the industry.

Jackson joined Verso as CEO in November 2006. Under his leadership, the company became publically traded in less than two years. Before Verso, Jackson spent 29 years with Weyerhaeuser, where he most recently served as senior vice president of Cellulose Fibers, Bleached Board and Chairman of NORPAC, a joint venture with Nippon Paper.

"Mike Jackson has continually exemplified the strong leadership skills and vision required for success in a globally competitive business like the pulp and paper industry," noted Ray Heuchling, PIMA Executive Council Chair.

Monica Shaw

Editorial Director, *TAPPI Journal*



Peter Resch,
Sappi Austria



Mike Jackson,
Verso Paper