

Recycling Symposium addresses issues of retrofitting the industry to face the demands for recycled paper

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Over 600 people from around the world gathered in New Orleans, LA, Feb. 20–23, 1995, to hear about and discuss the latest technical issues on recycling/secondary fiber. The third TAPPI Recycling Symposium was co-sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory and the Fiber Recycling Committee of the Pulp Manufacture Division of TAPPI. The program consisted of over 40 individual presentations plus several roundtable discussions. Networking opportunities abounded through the 40 exhibitors and more than a dozen committee meetings, many with their own technical discussion. A primer session on recycling and deinking was held prior to the opening of the symposium as a brief review of the generic recycling and deinking lines.

A first for this year was the conducting of TAPPI's Annual Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony with the Recycling Symposium.

Keynote address

Symposium Chairman Richard J. Spangenberg welcomed participants to the program and introduced the opening session.

The keynote focused on legislative and regulatory forces that may influence recycling markets in the next few years. Alicia Pitzer, *Recycled Paper News*; Dana Arnold, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Gary L. Stanley, U.S. Department of Commerce; and JoAnn T. Alig, USDA Forest Products Laboratory, shared their thoughts on those issues with the audience.

Not many years back, states were passing minimum content laws and providing tax incentives to help stimulate recycling. Market forces themselves now provide much of the impetus to collect and recycle paper. Even so, some of the earlier legislative actions are still being phased in, certain recyclable products are being banned from landfills, and various content recommendations are still being adopted by government, Alig noted.

Government purchasing recommendations have helped stimulate the market and in some cases been used as requirements for recycled content. New recommendations—the Recycled Materials Advisory Notice (RMAN)—were expected from the EPA's Office of Solid Waste this

spring. Those recommendations better reflect regional differences in the availability of recyclable material and the diversity of mills, according to Arnold. The recommendations also favor fiber weight rather than total weight as the standard for determining content. In addition, the guidelines acknowledge that differing paper grades and end uses vary in both recyclability and in the amount of recycled material they can contain and still perform as expected.

Various trade agreements and actions by foreign countries are also affecting paper and recycling markets, Stanley told the morning gathering. The World Trade Organization, through its Trade and Environmental Policy Committee (TEPAC), will try to integrate trade and environmental concerns, without setting criteria. At least 15 ecolabeling programs have also been proposed throughout the world, he noted. Most lack clear scientific protocols for distinguishing acceptable and unacceptable products. Several European ecolabeling programs are trying to incorporate life-cycle analysis into their evaluations.

Chairman Richard J. Spangenberg, Weyerhaeuser Paper Co., opens Recycling Symposium



Keynote panel, from left: JoAnn T. Alig, USDA Forest Products Laboratory; Gary L. Stanley, U.S. Department of Commerce; Dana Arnold, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and moderator, Alicia Pitzer, *Recycled Paper News*



Gunnar Nicholson Gold Medal Award Winner Robert W. Hagemeyer (right) attends the Recycling Exhibition.



sessions, one on bleaching and color stripping and the other on clarification and sludge treatment. The afternoon sessions were on used paper deinking, progress in recycling OCC, and issues concerning the use of recycled fiber in coated grades. The Thursday sessions were advances in paper recycling and a closing panel discussion on recycling: supply, economics, environment, and technology.

The papers are published in the *Proceedings*, which are available from TAPPI PRESS (order code 01058995; member price: US\$ 75; list price: US\$ 112). Please call the TAPPI Service Line for ordering information: telephone: 1-800-332-8686 (U.S.), 1-800-446-9431 (Canada), or 404-446-1400 (outside U.S. and Canada); or fax: 404-446-6947.

1995 TAPPI Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony

The Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony took place prior to the opening session of the Recycling Symposium. During the Business Meeting, Ronald B. Estridge, presiding, introduced the 1995 Board of Directors and initiated Jack E. Chinn as the new TAPPI president.

During the Awards Ceremony Fifty Year Members and member companies were recognized. The 1995 TAPPI Fellows were presented and recognized (see *Tappi Journal* 78[3]:209[1995] for biographical sketches). The 1995 Herman L. Joachim Distinguished Service Award was presented by Michael J. Kocurek to William S. Fuller (see *Tappi Journal* 78[4]:58[1995] for an interview with Fuller). The 1995 Gunnar Nicholson Gold Medal Award was presented by Pierre Le Poutre to Robert W. Hagemeyer (see *Tappi Journal* 78[3]:36[1995] for an interview with Hagemeyer). [Also, Hagemeyer's speech can be found in *Tappi Journal* 78(5):210(1995)].

Keynote speakers were Josephine S. Cooper, vice president, Environment and Regulatory Affairs, American Forest & Paper Association, Washington, DC, who spoke on "The Impact of Cluster Rules," and Jack Barker, principal, McKinsey & Co., Atlanta, GA, whose topic was "Environmental Marketing."

Herman L. Joachim Distinguished Service Award Winner William S. Fuller and his wife, Pat



Program highlights

The program began after the opening session and keynote panel with a morning session on collection and recovery followed by afternoon sessions on deinking of office recovered paper and OCC processing. Wednesday began with two

What's next?

The fourth annual Recycling Symposium will be held in conjunction with the TAPPI 96 exhibit, March 5–7, 1996, in New Orleans, LA. The chairman and technical program committee are calling for papers to be presented at this symposium. Abstracts should be submitted by June 15, 1995 (see *Tappi Journal* 78[5]:219[1995] for more information). Please contact Laura Feix-Baker, technical division administrator, at TAPPI, P.O. Box 105113, Atlanta, GA 30348, fax: U.S. (404) 446–6947, if you are interested in submitting a paper. For more information about the 1996 Recycling Symposium, contact the TAPPI Service Line: telephone: 1–800–332–8686 (U.S.), 1–800–446–9431 (Canada), or U.S. 404–446–1400 (international). 