

1996 TAPPI COATING AND GRAPHICS ARTS CONFERENCE

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*INTERACTIONS OF BASESTOCK, COATING, PRINTING, AND END USE
REQUIREMENTS LEAD TO A MULTIFACETED CONFERENCE.*

NASHVILLE, TN, THE HOME OF THE GRAND OLE OPRY, hosted the 1996 TAPPI Coating Conference and Trade Fair from May 19–22, which was sponsored by TAPPI's Coating and Graphic Arts Division. The conference convened at the Opryland Hotel and Convention Center, where an expansion to over 3000 rooms was underway. The mammoth hotel offered challenges to the delegates in getting from one point to the other. Despite the near-record attendance of 1038 delegates, it was possible to never see a fellow TAPPI member except in the conference area.

Conference evaluation reports indicate, however, that in spite of the long-distance commute between most rooms and the conference center, delegates did achieve their objectives by coming to the conference. They did get new ideas, were kept current, and had several forums for networking. Contacts were made with suppliers and customers, and attendees received information on market trends.

METERED SIZE PRESS FORUM

In connection with the conference, a new two-day symposium, Metered Size Press Forum, was held May 16–18. Dealing with “commercial realities,” the forum covered application and runnability issues of using a size press to apply coatings at much higher speeds. Over 300 attended the forum and more than half were mill personnel. Consultant and incoming TAPPI President Dale Dill chaired the symposium. *TAPPI JOURNAL* Technical Editor for the Division, Phil Clark, called it “a hot-topic seminar held at the right time.” Clark also added that the forum was given excellent marks by those who attended.

THE OPENING SESSION

Conference Chair James R. Weber of Simpson Paper Co., Technical Program Chair Lawrence A. Gaspar of National Starch and Chemical Co., and outgoing Division Chair

Technical Program Chair Lawrence Gaspar addressed the delegates during the opening session.



L.E. Scriven joyfully accepts his medallion awarded by Tom Krieg of Engelhard (L). James Weber is seated.

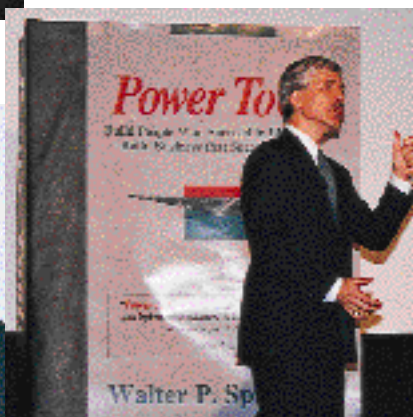


(L-R) Michaele and Sanford Shapiro with Carl Landegger (R) at the awards reception



Past Division chairs: (back row, L-R) Jack Callahan, Bill Goetz, Terry Durushia, Phil Clark, Bob Hagemeyer, and Dale Dill; (kneeling, L-R) Jerry Hein and Jim Hoover

Sanford Shapiro delivered the CA Interim Report on the Size Press Moisture Operations Survey results to each committee involved.



Walter P. Spires shocked the audience with an explosive entrance.

Terry L. Durushia of Mead Coated Board Inc. welcomed a full house of industry professionals during the opening ceremonies of the Division's 37th Conference. Before the overviews, Jim Weber led the attendees in a silent tribute to TAPPI's recently deceased Executive Director William Cullison and to Grand Ole Opry star Minnie Pearl, who had addressed the 1984 Coating Conference held in Nashville.

The following awards were presented during the Opening Session:

The Best Paper Award from the 1995 Coating Conference went to H. Miwata, Y. Hattori, T. Ishikawa, and K. Yamazaki, Latex Research Center, Sumitomo Dow Ltd., Osaka, Japan, for "Clarification of print mottle."

The 1996 Best Student Paper and Louis Georgevits Memorial Prize recipient was Sean X. Pan of the University of Minnesota. He is now working with Polaroid Corp. Co-authors were H. T. Davis and L. E. Scriven, also of the University of Minnesota, for "Substrate effects on binder migration in drying porous coatings."

Industry consultant James E. Beatty received the Certificate of Outstanding Merit.

Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to the following outgoing committee chairs:

Chauncey E. "Ed" Miller (Basestock), James A. Evans (Coated Paperboard), Paul J. Pothier (Coating Additives), Douglas W. Bousfield (Coating Fundamentals), Patricia A. Storton (Coating Pigments), Michael J. Paczkowski (Coating Process), Willson Blake (Fillers and Pigments Testing), Debora R. Jeske (Printing and Imaging), and David M. Lee (Technical Trends).

To energize the attendees, Walter Spires Jr. delivered a motivational address based on his book, *Power Tools—Build People Who Succeed in Life and You Build Business That Succeeds for Life*. Spires held a book signing immediately following the session.

TRADE FAIR AND NEW TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE

Exhibitors manned their booths on Sunday and Monday afternoons. Both the fair and the showcase offered a good opportunity to monitor the competition. The smaller mill representatives benefited by having a wide array of supplier products and services in one spot for comparison. Exhibitor booths numbered 52.

Hans Maurer of Westvaco Corp. and Phil Jones of ECC International moderated the new technology showcase, which was held on Monday afternoon. Ten minutes were allotted for each of the 14 presenters. Over 500 attendees were based at this popular event, which featured several computer presentations.

"Current trends in the coated and lightly coated paper and coated paperboard market," a highly rated roundtable, included Lars Andersson, J.M. Huber Corp. (moderator); Ken Patrick, Pulp & Paper Magazine; James Vodnick, Potlatch Corp.; Chuck Klass, Kohler Coating Machinery Corp.; Paul Lee, Gulf States Paper Corp.; Gordon Bugg, Mead Coated Board Inc.; and Wayne Huttie, Jefferson Smurfit Corp.



Hans Neubold (L) represented OMYA Inc., one of 52 booths at the trade fair.

Incoming Conference Chair Jan Walters donned a colonial hat for her tour of duty in Philadelphia.



The top runners in the inaugural 5K Fun Run: (L-R) Steve Ottone, Mike Ruggio, organizer Bill Powell, Jane Thompson, and Marilyn Moncrieff.

TECHNICAL PROGRAM

"Interactions of basestock, coating, printing, and end-use requirements" was the conference theme. James Weber, technical director at Simpson Paper Co., served as the conference chairman and Lawrence Gaspar, marketing manager—paper coating resin at National Starch and Chemical Co., chaired the technical program.

Subject areas covered rawstock, paper and coating test procedures, color preparation, and coating rheology. In addition to the formal published papers, there were a series of panel discussions on current trends in the coated and lightly coated paper and board markets, including new imaging processes and technical advances in coated paperboard manufacturing. According to Bob Hagemeyer, TAPPI's 1995 Gunnar Nicholson Gold Medal Award winner and one of the founding fathers of the Coating Division, the high level of interest in the metering size press roundtable topic was evidenced by the large turnout for the Metering Size Press Forum, which immediately preceded the conference. Hagemeyer thought the forum and conference were a winning combination.

Sanford Shapiro presented the CA Interim Report on the Size Press Moisture Operations Survey results to each committee involved. The CA surveyed mill practices con-

cerning moisture measurement and control at the size press, including the new metered size press. The survey included subjects for future study.

According to *TAPPI JOURNAL* Technical Editor Phil Clark, "The conference had a mixture of highs and lows. The pluses were that the overall layout of the conference itself was excellent. Time was provided for the suppliers to showcase new products and technology. Committee meetings were at reasonable times of the day. The committee meetings had some good practical talks. Roundtables were another strength of the conference. The speakers were well prepared. They had good slides, and most of the talks had obviously been well thought out ahead of time. Overall, the conference provides some incredibly good presentations and some very mediocre presentations."

Clark said it all in his final remarks, "The Coating Conference survives with its pluses and minuses. The value of the Conference is a place to network with your peers and with the suppliers. It brings together the right mix of people at one time. Personally, I had nine separate meetings with suppliers to deal with a variety of issues. It's the attendees that are the strength of the Conference..."

AWARDS

The Awards Luncheon on Wednesday was the setting for honoring the volunteers who have contributed so much to this Division.

Terry L. Durushia received a Certificate of Appreciation for her role as Division chair.

A TAPPI member since 1986, L. E. Scriven, Regents' Professor at the University of Minnesota, received the Division's Technical Award and the Charles W. Engelhard Medallion for pioneering research in the areas of fluid mechanics, interfacial phenomena, coating processes, porous media, and surfactants. He has also been instrumental in promoting interactions within the industry using a variety of techniques to solve industrial processing problems. In his acceptance speech, Scriven promoted joint cooperation between universities and industry to resolve some practical problems that face us every day.

Sanford I. Shapiro, application consultant for Honeywell, Inc., received the Division's Leadership and Service Award and the Protein Technologies Medallion. Joining TAPPI in 1969, Shapiro has served on several committees and was a contributing author for TAPPI's reference book, *The Coating Processes*. He has been an instructor for several Coating Division short courses and has served the Division in diverse capacities over the years.

(Please see *TAPPI JOURNAL*'s June 1996 issue for the full biographies of these two award winners.)

As the luncheon speaker, Carl C. Landegger, chairman of Black Clawson Co. and a director on TAPPI's Board, emphasized the importance of bringing two or three ideas back to the workplace so the conference will have a lasting value to not only the participant but to other

employees that could not attend.

A NEW TRADITION

Early Tuesday morning, approximately 60 participants gathered together for exercises and then boarded a tram to the Opryland U.S.A. Theme Park where the Coating Conference's First Annual 5K Fun Race took place.

Mike Ruggio of Rohm & Haas crossed the finish line first at 18.07 minutes followed by Steve Ottone of Reichhold eight seconds later. In the women's category, Jane Thompson of Protein Technologies

took first place at 22.49 minutes. Marilyn Moncrieff followed at 24.40 minutes.

The entry fee of US\$ 20 benefited the Coating and Graphic Arts Division Scholarship Fund and included a commemorative T-shirt. Bill Powell of Specialty Minerals Inc. did a superb job organizing the run.

NEXT TIME: PHILADELPHIA

The 1997 Coating Conference and Trade Fair is scheduled to be held May 11-14 at the new downtown Marriott in Philadelphia, PA. The conference program will cover current trends in the United States and international markets, printing technologies, novel coatings for new imaging processes, and new coating structures and properties. If you are interested in presenting a paper, please contact the technical program chairman, Gordon Bugg of Mead Coated Board, telephone: +1 334 855-5122 or fax: +1 334 855-5718. **TJ**

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