Eurocoat returned to France!

For its 26th edition, Eurocoat was held in Paris after the Spanish and Italian editions. The trade fair, which is entirely dedicated to the paint, printing ink, varnish, glue and adhesive industries, was the only event held in Europe this year.

THE TRADE FAIR

Eurocoat has hosted 20% more direct exhibitors than the 2011 event did, which beforehand already showed high probability of success. In all, 207 exhibitors and co-exhibitors have showcased their know-how, coating products and services and included new developments in 2014, innovations for 2015, flagship products and innovative services. All products in connection with additives, pigments, chemicals, binding agents and raw materials brought together all the industry leaders such as BASF, OMYA, GROLMAN, SAFIC ALCAN, EVONIK, UNIVAR, UNIPEX, BRENTTAG, and BTC BASF. Companies specialising in equipment manufacturing were also strongly represented this year, for instance ROUSSELLE, DROMONT-COMEC, ZANELLI, OLIVER Y BATLLE, NIEMANN, CEB IMPIANTI, IDEALTEC, CABO, OLMOS, and VIBROMAC among others. Eurocoat's 57% of international exhibitors made it the European platform for the coating suppliers.

The 5,515 participants who have visited the fair over the three days were proof of the vitality of this 26th edition. The vast majority of visitors worked for companies manufacturing paints, printing inks, varnishes, glues and adhesives. The strong representation of R&D and purchasing departments as well as senior executives from companies with over 500 employees, therefore customers with strong decision-making power and influence throughout Europe. With 72 countries represented, Eurocoat confirmed its position as an international event and provided the industry with a truly European panel of exhibitors. Visitor satisfaction, collected on leaving the trade fair, confirmed the variety of solutions, innovations, and new suppliers on show this year.

The innovation path program was divided into three categories. 16 products and services were showcased at the trade fair:

In the «Services» category, two companies presented a product or service:
- CHROMAFLO TECHNOLOGIES EUROPE with «Innovatint»
- ITECH with “Presta + by ITECH”

In the «Green Innovations» category:
- AGFA-LABS with Method to determine Hansen Solubility parameters of bio-based materials
- COLAS with the Végésigne® line
- CRODA COATINGS & POLYMERs with B-Tough C2r
- OMNOVA SOLUTIONs with PLIOTEC LEB 18
- POLIBOX ITALIANA with Ecorivest
- SYNTHRON with Synthrot®-Stab TF 501
- WILDEN – PSG with WILDEN’s Pro Flo Shift Pump
- LAC - LAPASSE ADDITIVES CHEMICALs with ES-OPM
- J. RETTENMAIER & SÖHNE FRANCE (JRS) with ARBOCEL® UFC (Ultra Fine Cellulose)
- J. RETTENMAIER & SÖHNE FRANCE (JRS) with ARBOCEL® P 4000 X (fibre gel)
- PRODIKEM with BINDZIL CC, a new drying system

In the «Equipment» category:
- LUM GMBH with LUMISizer® 651
- LUM GMBH with LUMIFrac® 200
- NETZSCH FEINMAHLTECHNIK with TETRANEX discs

In the «Raw materials» category:
- J. RETTENMAIER & SÖHNE FRANCE (JRS) with ARBOCEL® P 4000 X (fibre gel)
- PRODIKEM with BINDZIL CC, a new drying system

All the information about these innovations is available on the Eurocoat website www.eurocoat-expo.com.
The 2014 EUROCOAT Congress, organised by the AFTPVA, was held together with the trade fair and was a great success with its 250 participants. This year’s theme was «Sustainable development and new coating technologies», following on from the 2011 topic of plant-based chemistry.

In an economic environment that is still challenging, the Congress reminded the paints, varnishes, printing inks, glues, and adhesives industries that they should not be inactive and should continue to take action to develop and market products that respect both the environment and new European standards.

The first day began with a plenary lecture by Jean Pelin, Managing Director of UIC, on the chemical industry’s contribution to sustainable development. It was followed by a panel discussion moderated by Sylvie Latieule, Editor in Chief of Double Liaison, on the key to competitiveness in the coating industry with the participation of Jean-Marc Barki, Sealock, Houshang Kheradmand, Dow Chemical, Philippe Planeix, Eurocoatings, and Patrick Verlhac, ONIP.

The afternoon of the 23rd as well as the 24 and 25 October were devoted to the Congress’s usual communications. 26 high-level guest speakers participated.

A CDrom of the conference is available from the AFTPVA.

A Plant Based Summit Morning Conference on «Bio-based coatings and Building works» was also held on Thursday, 25 October during the Congress.

With the development of the bio-economy and an increasing offering of bio-based chemicals, the paints, printing inks, and adhesives industries are considering the possibility of integrating these new materials and formulations. But is the supply of bio-based raw materials sufficient and appropriate to the needs of compounders? The purpose of the Plant Based Summit Morning Conference, which was attended by some fifty people, was precisely to discuss this topic.

Daniel Gronier, Managing Director of DG Chem, began the conference with the observation that bio-based chemistry is not making headway any more. In the past, the chemical industry used to sell products using the «push marketing» principle and agribusinesses have «taken up this bad habit». However, he believes that, for the first time, downstream R&D is ahead of upstream suppliers.

«The time has come to start working in pull marketing», he said. Olivier Stock from Néoformula then took the floor, noting that new bio-based raw materials are still struggling to pass paint formulation specifications. The extra cost would be 20 to 50% but consumers are not willing to pay a premium of more than 5%.

The Plant Based Summit morning conference ended with a panel discussion moderated by Sylvie Latieule with Kevin Bozec - Croda France, Olivier Choulet - Ecoat, Thierry Barré - Dérivery and Henri Planeix - Mäder, who were more optimistic about the future of bio-based chemicals. Ecoat, for example, is a brand new company that has chosen to specialise in bio-based aqueous alkyd emulsions. It is actively developing competitive resins both in terms of performance and price.

For more information about Plant Based Summit, the congress-trade fair fully dedicated to bio-based products: www.plantbasedsummit.com.

In general, the quality of panel discussions with particularly interesting debates should be noted along with the very high scientific level of the speakers and the presence of a number of academics (from Lille, Montpellier, Rennes, and Strasbourg).

The AFTPVA warmly thanks all those who, by the quality and pertinence of their lectures, contributed to the success of this Congress.
EUROCLIPS

The Euroclip workshops were a tribune where exhibitors were able to present their product range, technical solutions or practical uses. 30 speakers succeeded each other over the course of the three days.

All of the presentations were good quality and interesting due to the theme of raw materials, formulations, process, etc. However, a few went over the time limit of eight minutes and were therefore disqualified.

The jury, composed of Sylvie Durdilly and Noëlle Forichon - ITECH, Benoit Jeanneau - SECF, and Patrick Jacob – COPCI, especially appreciated two speakers:

- Alison Romand from ECOAT was awarded 1st prize for her dynamism, clarity of expression, the scientific and innovative nature of her presentation which respected the time limit. The topic of her Euroclip was: “New generation of cobalt-free alkyd emulsion paints with non-oxidative drying mechanism”.
- Kévin Bozec from CRODA was awarded 2nd prize for his clear and structured presentation that was technically innovative and respected the time limit. His topic was: “Novel epoxy toughening agent for VOC free epoxy based coatings”.

Special thanks to all the participants and congratulations to the winners.

In conclusion, Eurocoat 2014 truly contributed to the development of the industry and fostered quality business meetings. These results are very positive and promising for future Eurocoat trade fairs!

To follow trade fair news: www.eurocoat-expo.com

TRADE FAIR IN FIGURES...

Visitors

Decision-making positions *

Chairman and Managing Director/
Managing Director/ Director

Engineer

Manager

Buyer

Project Manager / Product Manager / Market Manager

Technician

Consultant/
Compounder/ Colourist

University

27
23
17
13
8
5
2

*Percentage figures
R&D and Procurement Departments and Company Management highly represented*

Activities focused on production*

A variety of applications*

Strong representation of major groups *

Top 13 countries out of the 72 represented*

*Percentage figures
Exhibitors

Breakdown by activity sectors *

- Raw materials: 19
- Additives: 15
- Chemicals: 12
- Pigments: 11
- Joining agents: 8
- R&D equipment and services: 5

- Services: 4
- Packaging: 4
- Production engineering: 4
- Colourimetry: 4
- Training, information: 4
- Solvents: 4
- Automation, control, and measuring equipment: 4
- Handling: 4
- Filters: 4
- Pumps: 4
- Environmental products and equipment: 4
- Surface treatment and coating processes: 4
- Related products: 4

Exhibitors and co-exhibitors geographical breakdown*

For more information about the congress, please contact:
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