

Management

On February 8, 2010, **Prof. Burkart Philipp** celebrated his 85th birthday. Born 1925 in Pirna/Germany, he received his diploma in chemistry at the Technical University of Dresden in 1950 and obtained his PhD in 1952. Since 1953 he has been affiliated with the Institute for Fiber Research (later the Institute of Polymer Chemistry) in Teltow-Seehof near Berlin, working there as head of the institute from 1969 to 1981 and again in 1990/91.



Prof. Hilmar Fuchs, longtime director of the Sächsisches Textil-Forschungsinstitut (STFI), Chemnitz/Germany, turned 70 years old on April 30, 2010. After studying at the Institute for Textile Technology at the Technical University of Dresden/Germany, and receiving his PhD in 1973, he began his career at the Scientific Technology Center for Technical Textiles in Dresden.

Prof. Fuchs was the co-founder and for many years managing director of the STFI, and is currently chairman of the board. He is also director of the Institut für Technische Textilien GmbH Chemnitz, chairman of the Verband Innovativer Unternehmen e.V. (VIU), member of the scientific council of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft industrieller Forschungsvereinigungen (AiF), member of the board of the association Deutscher Textilveredelungsfachleute e.V., and honorary professor at the Technical University of Dresden. Additionally, Prof. Fuchs is a member of the advisory committee for our trade journal Technische Textilien / Technical Textiles. In 2008 he was presented with the Federal Cross of Merit 1st Class.

Wolfgang Höflich was appointed to Sandler AG's Management Board as of January 1, 2010. He joined the company as assistant of the production management in 1976. In 1995, he became Vice President of Production; since 2001 he has been Chief Representative. Höflich is managing the company together with **Dr. Christian Heinrich Sandler** and **Dieter Magiera**. Today, Sandler AG employs 490 people.

Andreas Weber, sales manager of Swiss-Tex Winterthur AG, Winterthur/Switzerland, has become world president of the Textile Institute, Manchester/UK, at its 100th birthday annual general meeting.

Sandler Again record sales

In 2009 in spite of the globally tight economic situation, the manufacturer of non-wovens, Sandler AG, Schwarzenbach/Germany, was able to increase production output by 13 %. Sales increased to € 168 million, whereby the record sales of € 166 million in 2008 were surpassed once again. The centralization of all business units at the company's location and the global distribution with an export rate of 60 % contributed to this positive development. Regarding its turnover Sandler AG is today ranked 13th out of all nonwoven producers globally. The company is the only larger nonwovens' producer in Europe which is still family-owned.

Rieter Automotive New needlepunching line from NSC Nonwovens

Rieter Automotive North America, Inc. Farmington Hills, MI/USA, has contracted Asselin-Thibeau S.A.S., Tourcoing/France, part of NSC Nonwovens, to provide their equipment for a needlepunching line providing velour carpet to the automotive industry. The line will include Thibeau Excelle batt formation with Iso-ProDyn completed with Asselin needlepunching and the newest SDV Velour needleloom for finishing. This new line will offer high output while maintaining minimum weight variation and improved fiber orientation for consistent strength properties. Manufacturing equipment will be installed in their Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania location.

IFF Innovation Award

The industry foundation for specialty fabrics, the Industrial Fabrics Foundation (IFF), Roseville, MN/USA, an affiliate of the Industrial Fabrics Association International (IFAI), Roseville, MN/USA, has announced the development of an Innovation Award to inspire specialty fabrics industry companies from around the world.

The award will be split into 3 categories:

- Fabric, hardware or machinery
- End product
- Process

Entries will be judged by textile professors and industry colleagues. The deadline to submit an entry is July 16, 2010. The winners will be announced at IFAI Expo Americas 2010, October 27–29 in Orlando, FL.

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BASF/Elmarco Ultrason-based nanofiber nonwovens

At the JEC Composites 2010 in April in Paris/France, the nanofiber machinery producer Elmarco s.r.o., Liberec/Czech Republic presented nanofiber nonwovens based on the high-performance polymer polyether sulfone (Ultrason) of BASF SE, Ludwigshafen/Germany. These nonwovens are placed between carbon fiber mats impregnated with a high-performance epoxy resin (prepregs). The nonwoven materials consist of thin Ultrason PESU fibers which act as impact modifiers, lending exceptional strength to the epoxy resins.

Oerlikon Neumag New meltblown orders

The manufacturer of textile machinery, Oerlikon Neumag, Neumünster/Germany, has received three orders for meltblown plants from companies in the nonwovens industry for production sites in Europe and China. The plants will be equipped with the latest Neumag meltblown technology and are dedicated for the production of meltblown materials of the highest quality to be utilized mainly in the filtration markets. The Oerlikon Neumag meltblown plants are based on the 2006 acquired J&M technology which has since then being further developed and improved. The lines will be started up in the second half of 2010.

Erko Trützschler Nonwovens line to Belarus

The manufacturer of nonwovens machines Erko Trützschler GmbH, Dülmen/Germany, has received a big order from AOA Mogilev-khimvolokno, Belarus.

AOA Mogilev-khimvolokno signed a contract with Erko Trützschler GmbH on December 12, 2009, about delivery of a turnkey production line for needle felt products. Final web width will be 6,000 mm.

Novozymes Fashionable biotechnology in Milan

The biotechnology company Novozymes A/S, Bagsvaerd/Denmark, has developed a solution to improve the quality of fabrics while reducing water usage and CO₂ emissions. The technology, which can replace chemical additives with all-natural enzymes, was exhibited in Milan/Italy, at the Danish design initiative SHOWHOW between April 14–19, 2010.