

**Report
of
TECHNICAL LIAISON ACTIVITIES**

**to
IoPP Technical Council**

May 17, 2007

**Alfred H. McKinlay, CP-P/MH
Chairman- Technical Liaison Group**

IoPP Liaisons to Related Organizations

Adhesives and Sealant Council- Robert Forsyth, Consultant

ASTM Committee D-10 on Packaging, Division I- Roger Young, Federal Supply SUC

ASTM Committee D-10 on Packaging, Division II- Greg Meeuwsen, Trane Company

ASTM Committee D-10 on Packaging, Division III- Linda Walker, Consultant

ASTM Committee F-2 on Flexible Barrier Materials-Harold Miller, Consultant

International Safe Transit Association- Edward Church, ISTA

ISO Technical Committee 122 on Packaging- Alfred McKinlay, Consultant

MHIA MH-1 Committee on Pallets & Slipsheets- Robert Sanders, IBM

MHIA MH-10 Committee on Packaging & Unit Loads- Alfred McKinlay, Consultant

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Technical Liaison Group

Members of the IoPP Technical Liaison Group function as liaisons to various organizations that are involved in some way with the packaging industry. The Liaisons report annually to the Technical Council on activities within the other organizations that may be of interest and relevant to the membership of IoPP. The Liaisons may also report to the other organizations those activities within IoPP that have relevance and interest to those organizations.

ADHESIVE AND SEALANT COUNCIL [ASC]

ASC held its Spring meeting April 15-18th in Savannah, GA at the Hyatt Regency Savannah. Approximately 420 people attended the meeting, expo and educational sessions. Included in the latter were talks on: regulations, raw materials, new trends and innovations, global market reviews, improving the supply chain, best business practices, going "green", sales training and formulations. A very large exhibition by Adhesive and Sealant manufacturers, and raw material suppliers was also part of the conference as was a tour of the nearby plant and labs of Arizona Chemical. The ASC holds both Spring and Fall conventions each year which affords the attendees a great opportunity to catch up on what is new, innovative and of concern as well as the chance to network with peers from other companies. An interesting point is that in early 2006 I and others suggested that the ASC devote some efforts into the subject of "green" and sustainability. Since that time ASC has studied and come out with statements regarding their new Sustainability Code and their Product Stewardship Code. In addition at the Spring meeting a full day track entitled "Going Green: Challenges and Issues" was held and each session was very well attended. Latter shows the great interest that Adhesive and Sealant manufacturers and their suppliers have about this subject.

ASC's Fall Convention will be held on October 7-10th in Kansas City, MO. The educational sessions will concentrate on business and technical talks such as those mentioned above plus talks on sustainability, environmentally preferred products and raw materials, hot melts and urethanes.

In addition to attending the above convention I am also an active member of ASC's International Committee and their WAC 2008 Committee. The latter is planning the World Adhesive Conference to be held in Miami on April 20-23rd, 2008. Attendees from around the world are expected to attend and participate in the educational sessions which will have a definite international theme. Presentations will be broadly grouped under session topics of: Advances in Adhesive and Sealant Technology, Trends and Innovations, Strengthening Value Propositions in Adhesives and Sealants, International Regulatory/Legislation Updates and Global Supply Chain Challenges. Each sector of the world [North America, Latin America, South Africa, Europe, and Asia Pacific] will report on their region, status, trends, forecasts, innovations, and needs.

Bob Forsyth

ASTM Committee D 10 on Packaging Division I – “General”

Division I was formed to develop standards on packaging materials and processes involved in total package or shipping container fabrication and preparation for shipment. Division One, strives to advance and promote packaging knowledge and standardization by providing standards in terminology and definitions, product fragility and instrumentation and general packaging practices. Forty-nine standards have been developed in Division One. We welcome a new Vice Chairman of Division One from Orfalea College, California, Professor Jay Singh.

The following Subcommittees form Division I.

[D10.11](#) Terminology (Definitions) - The subcommittee introduces terms related to packaging. The Key publication is D996-04 Standard Terminology of Packaging and Distribution Environments. Roger Young Chaired the SC meeting in Norfolk and discussed a recent successful ballot. Our chairman Dick Jones was not able to attend due to a recent illness.

[D10.12](#) SC Shipping Containers, Crates, Pallets, Skids and Related Structures - The scope of this subcommittee is the development of standard practices, specifications, guides, and classifications intended to address the construction of shipping containers, crates, pallets and skids (except drums, pails, cans and fiberboard boxes). Presently a Task Group is working on drafting a standard based on Mil-C-104 crate requirements. Discussions in Norfolk included discussions of the illustrations in 104 that need complete updates via CAD or other graphic software. All the SC standards were reviewed and current with minor changes.

[D10.13](#) SC Interior Packaging - Develop maintain and issue standard test methods, specifications and guides to reflect interior packaging material characteristics that evolve from technological advancements or needs to meet new requirements for protective purposes for quality levels or comparisons.

[D10.14](#) SC Tape and Labels - To develop test methods, guides, practices, specifications and classifications for tapes and labels used on packages, shipping containers and related uses, and in preparation for shipment and storage. Richard Sheehan Chairman of the SC has retired from his position at 3 M and has left this position vacant. This draft specification describes pressure-sensitive labels used on shipping containers, and lists tests required to verify label performance in a variety of storage and transportation environments. Shipping Label Standard is requested by industry and government representatives in response to problems encountered in storage and transportation environments, especially adverse conditions.

[D10.15](#) SC Fragility Assessment - To develop test methods and other standards on fragility assessment in packaging. The Subcommittee promotes knowledge of the capabilities of these standards for evaluating the fragility to shock and vibration of products themselves. As packaging professionals we know the fragility levels of products affect their capability to withstand the handling and transportation environment.

[D10.16](#) SC Instrumentation - To promote and expand knowledge of the application of instrumentation in package testing through preparation and publication of ASTM standard practices and technical papers. The subcommittee advises, informs and cooperates with other subcommittees of D10 on the use and application of instrumentation in the quantitative testing of package systems.

[D10.18](#) SC Miscellaneous Packaging - To develop test methods, guides, practices, specifications and classifications advancing or involving packaging or packaging knowledge for D10 regarding areas not specifically covered by other D10 subcommittees and any other work as directed by the Executive Subcommittee. ASTM [D3951-98\(2004\) Standard Practice for Commercial Packaging](#) a leading standard in this SC. A Workshop continues to develop a publication titled, Standard Specification for Defined Scenarios for Packaging Protection of Products in Commerce.

[D10.19](#) SC Recycling and Disposability – to develop and promote knowledge in, the development of standards, test methods, guides, and classification related to the reuse, recycling, and disposal of packaging. Standards on basic materials used in package fabrication shall be excluded from the work of this division and where work is being carried forward by their committees. The work of this committee will be coordinated with other relevant ASTM committees and seek input from outside organizations having related interests. Currently the group's focus is on international icons in use and developing a standard guide. The group is Chaired by Jan Gates and met in Norfolk.

Roger Young- Division I Chairman

ASTM Committee F02 – Flexible Barrier Packaging

Committee F02 is comprised of five active subcommittees with approximately 164 members, 54 standards, and currently has four new proposed standards and 19 under ballot for revisions. Along with last years name change, the F02 scope has recently been approved to better align with the new committee name. In 2007 Committee F02 will celebrate its 50th anniversary at the October committee week in Tampa, FL.

F02.10 Permeation – Active work items for new standards include a Guide to Oxygen Permeability Test Methods and a general method for oxygen transmission rate that is non instrument specific.

F02.15 Chemical and Safety Properties – A microbial barrier aerosol filtration test method using particle counters is currently balloted. This method will provide a non-microbiological test method and real time data.

F02.20 Physical Properties – F88 seal strength test remains, year after year, the most widely used standard in F02 followed by F1140 burst strength test in this subcommittee.

F02.40 Package Integrity – F2095 pressure decay test for non-porous packages has been under revisions to provide for a masking agent applied to the surface of porous materials, thus rendering is non-porous and applicable to this method. F1929, dye penetration, is adding a new edge dipping method to the standard. New work has begun on head space analysis.

F02.50 Package Design and Development – F1980 for accelerated aging is the most widely used standard in this subcommittee and second within F02 main committee. F1980 has undergone revision to clarify the use of humidity in the aging process. With the reorganization of F02, three terminology standards (F17, F1327 and F1479) were combined into F17 and the other two dropped. F2097 Design Guide is under constant revision to accommodate new methods for package design and evaluation. The newest standard is F2559, Guide for Writing a Specification for Sterilizable Peel Pouches.

Hal Miller
F02 Committee Chair

ISO/TC122 Packaging Committee Meetings

ISO Technical Committee 122 on Packaging met for the first time in 3 years on October 25-27, 2006 in Atlanta, GA, co-hosted by ASTM Committee D10 and the Material Handling Industry of America. A total of 25 delegates attended including Czech Republic (2), Japan (5), Sweden (1), United Kingdom (2), and the USA (14). Francois Abram from ISO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland also attended.

Bob Fiedler of ASTM D10 chaired a working group meeting to discuss proposed revisions to the ISO random vibration standard 13355. At the meeting proposals to revise 13355 were presented by Japan and CEN delegates, but it was decided to table a decision on the proposals for further research and to re-confirm the existing standard. Fiedler, who was assisted at the meeting by Greg Meeuwsen, announced at the conclusion that he was stepping down and that Greg would replace him as convenor of the working group.

Elmer Kuhlman from ANSI MH10 chaired a working group meeting to discuss negatives and comments on ISO Packaging-Vocabulary standard DIS 21067. Elmer has been the convenor of the group in developing 21067 for the past 8 years. All comments and negatives on the last ballot were resolved at the meeting and the document will proceed to FDIS stage.

A meeting of Subcommittee 3 on Testing was chaired by Keith White of the UK, assisted by the Secretary of SC-3, Mick Maghar. Reports of 5 active working groups in SC 3 were received and approved (Child Resistant Containers; Random Vibration Test, Transport Packages for Dangerous Goods, Electrostatic Properties of FIBCs, and Test Schedules). The working group on Stability Testing is not active.

Several months prior to the meetings, ISO announced that Turkey would be replaced as Secretariat of TC 122 by co-Secretariats Japan and Iran. Mr. Mitsuhiro Sakai was announced as the Japanese Secretary and Ms. Manijeh Abdi as the Iran Secretary. Just before the meetings began, word was received from Ms. Abdi that she would not be able to attend because proper travel arrangements had not been made.

The ISO events in Atlanta concluded with a plenary session of Technical Committee 122. The meeting was opened by Mr. Sakai, who introduced Mr. Hirokuni Ono as chairman of the meeting. Mr. Ono was then nominated permanent chairman of TC122. Reports were received and approved from four working groups under Committee jurisdiction (Bar Code Symbols on Unit Loads and Transport Packages, Terminology and Vocabulary, Linear Bar Code and Two Dimensional Symbols for Product Packaging, and Plastic Drums). It was announced that Japan will soon be proposing revisions to existing standards: ISO 3394 Transport Package Dimensions and ISO 3676 Unit Load Sizes.

It was proposed and accepted that the next meetings of TC 122 be held in Tokyo on October 8-10, 2008 during Tokyo Pack 2008. At the plenary meeting Mr. Akira Shirakura was the acting secretary and later was announced as the permanent Japanese Secretary of TC122.

Al McKinlay
Liaison to ISO/TC122

MHIA MH1 Committee on Pallets, Slip Sheets, and Other Bases for Unit Loads

American National Standard MH1-2005 (revision of ASME MH1-1997), "Pallets, Slip Sheets, and Other Bases for Unit Loads" was approved on 9 March 2005.

On May 3, 2007 the MHIA (Material Handling Industry of America) hosted the second meeting of the MH1 committee since taking over that mission from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) in 2006. Committee Chairman Dr. Marshall ("Mark") White, recently retired from Virginia Tech University, presided with the assistance of Mike Ogle, MHIA Technical Director and Ray Niemeyer, MH1 Secretariat. The key agenda item was the review of initial drafts of two new parts to the MH1 standard that are being developed which are, Part 11 -- "Plastic Pallets" and Part 12 -- "Single and Multiple-Use Corrugated Pallets". The committee members in attendance, of which there was a quorum, provided immediate input on the documents and will follow up with other specifics in the days ahead. Part 13 -- "Metal Pallets" is a new section that does not yet have a draft ready for review. If any IoPP members have an interest in helping to draft the sections on corrugated or metal pallets, please contact Ray Niemeyer (email: rniemeyer@mhia.org) or by phone 704-676-1190 ext. 8710 .

New business included a key decision approved by majority vote to enforce membership rules associated with consistent no-shows in an effort to improve the chance of achieving the necessary quorum (>50% of members in attendance). The policy of requiring attendance of members at least once in a consecutive 3 year span was approved and made retroactive to 2006. Thus, if members were not in attendance in 2006 or 2007 then they must attend in 2008 to maintain membership status. The MHIA Secretariat will inform all members if they are in jeopardy of losing their MH1 membership status. In addition to this, three new members were approved which were Bob Sanders (IBM), Richard Owen (Smurfit-Stone), and JP Michaud (Rehrig Pacific) . These nominations prompted a lengthy discussion about membership status as individuals or as company representatives. This will be cleared up in the bylaws and proxy rules by MHIA to ensure clarity on that.

Another new business item that was discussed was the issue of marketing and distribution of the newly revised MH1 Standard itself. Presently, the document can be purchased from the MHIA in hardcopy form for \$95 or a downloadable PDF softcopy for \$65. Many in the committee expressed interest in seeing if there is a way, through Corporate or other sponsorships, for the standard to be made available free of charge to users. The idea is to be able to disseminate the standard widely to industry, therefore encouraging its use, while still allowing the MHIA to cover its costs.

Lastly, Thomas Kozlowski, of the US Army Material Command gave an interesting presentation regarding a new logistics program called the Joint Modular Intermodal Distribution System (JMIDS) that is in development. It aims to provide a consistent set of platforms and containers to be used by sea, surface and air shipments of military supplies. It also aims to reduce, to the greatest degree possible, the costs of interfacing with other commercial logistics systems so that necessary materiel can be delivered to our troops expediently. Of particular interest to all IoPP members should be the dimensions of the proposed JMID containers which are....

Outside Dims: 51.75 x 43.75 x 43.0" (1315 x 1112 x 1093mm)

Inside Dims: 48.75 x 40.75" x 33.18" (1238 x 1035 x 843mm)

Tare Weight: 330 lbs. (150 kg)

Features; Removable Side Panels, Full 4-way entry fork lift access (similar to 9-block style)

Mr Kozlowski welcomes commercial industry input on these designs to ensure that the very ambitious goals of the JMIDS program are achieved.

The next meeting of the MH1 committee is tentatively scheduled for May 7, 2008 at a location to be determined, most likely in the Washington DC area. For additional information on MH1 or the MHIA refer to mhia.org.

Bob Sanders, IBM Corporation

MHIA MH-10 Committee on Unit Loads and Transport Packages

The MH-10 Committee held its annual meeting at ANSI headquarters in NY City on May 15, 2007. The Committee is administered by the Material Handling Industry of America (MHIA). Primary mission of MH-10 continues to be management of the USA Technical Advisory Groups (TAG) to the ISO/TC 122 Packaging Committee, with ASTM Committee D-10 as TAG to SC3 on Package Testing and MHIA MH10 as TAG for all other packaging activities in TC 122. All official communications on packaging related standards at ISO/TC122 are processed through ANSI, the official USA member of all ISO activities.

The only subcommittee in MH10 with activity on its own standards is MH10.8 on automatic identification. Its standards on bar coding and RFID are current. It is also quite active on ISO standards in both areas of automatic identification.

Al McKinlay, Liaison to MHIA MH-10