

*ITALIAN PACKAGING TECHNOLOGY AWARD - IPTA*

**“Paper Competition on  
the Technological  
Innovation in the  
Packaging Machinery  
Industry That Will Bring  
You to Italy”**

**September 2009 - June 2010**

This initiative is organized by the

**Italian Trade Commission – ITC**

and the

**Italian Packaging Machinery Manufacturers Association – UCIMA**

in collaboration with the

**Institute of Packaging Professionals - IoPP**

**Introduction:** The Italian Trade Commission (ITC), in partnership with UCIMA (the *Italian Packaging Machinery Manufacturers Association*), are once again proud to offer students in the studies of Packaging an opportunity to experience face to face the vanguard technologies and marketing strategies, which have made Italian manufacturers recognized world leaders.

Throughout the years both the ITC and UCIMA have paid particular attention to the development of educational activities in Italy, where these activities have promoted an understanding and awareness among university students of the history as well as current activities within the packaging machinery industry.

The goal of this awarded opportunity is to strengthen the awareness of Italian technology and innovation within various packaging research and education programs offered by the following 15\* premier North American Universities:

1. California Polytechnic State University – San Luis Obispo, California
2. Clemson University – Clemson, South Carolina
3. Indiana State University – Terre Haute, Indiana
4. Michigan State University – East Lansing, Michigan
5. Mohawk College – Brantford, Ontario, Canada
6. Rochester Institute of Technology – Rochester, New York
7. Rutgers State University of New Jersey – Piscataway, New Jersey
8. San Jose State University – San Jose, California
9. University of Illinois at Urbana – Urbana, Illinois
10. University of Wisconsin Stout – Menomonie, Wisconsin
11. University of Cincinnati – Cincinnati, Ohio
12. University of Florida – Gainesville, Florida
13. University of Missouri - Rolla, Missouri
14. Virginia Tech – Blacksburg, Virginia
15. University of Puerto Rico – Mayaguez, Puerto Rico

*\*Additional universities may be included as selected by agreement between the ITC, UCIMA and IoPP.*

**Eligibility:** This competition is open to registered students in a junior, senior or graduate level degree program of academic studies. Each university's respective faculty will determine students' eligibility to submit papers based on such criteria as: GPA, transcripts, COOP program activities, etc. Schools will submit information on packaging-related experience students may have; the experiences would include internships or full or part-time employment in packaging positions. The selected students will be allowed to submit papers according to the topics listed below under "Categories".

**Categories:** Papers, which must be relevant to the market sector of their own choice and may be based on actual case histories, are to be developed according to the following suggested topic guidelines:

- A) Technical innovation in the packaging machinery manufacturing industry;
- B) Innovation in packaging materials.

Faculties may decide to integrate this contest into current academic courses, allowing selected students accreditation for their work.

**Paper Requirements:** Submitted papers must be between 10-12 pages in length, typed and double-spaced. Attachments such as foot notes, images, photocopied materials, source citations, statistics, etc. may be included. Papers should be submitted both in hard copy and electronic format.

**Panel of Judges:** Each University Program Director/Co-Coordinator will select one

student paper to be submitted to IoPP for final selection. The IoPP panel of judges will be chosen in accordance with the guidelines established by the ITC and UCIMA.

**Deadlines:** The deadline for submission of papers to IoPP will be February 15, 2010. IoPP will use its professional staff to evaluate papers and submit the names of winners to ITC and UCIMA.

**Award Announcement:** The announcement of each university's respective winner may be conducted during a faculty organized student meeting and/or ceremony on university grounds. Any University published articles, web pages, newsletters and press releases which mention this award are requested by the ITC.

**Awards:** A complimentary trip to Italy will be awarded to a maximum of eight (8) students whose submitted papers are selected, according to a panel of judges, as best exemplifying the criteria in accordance with the guidelines set by the ITC and UCIMA. The trip will be chaperoned by a maximum of three (3) predetermined faculty professors.

The trip will include visits to selected Italian Packaging Machinery Manufacturers offices and facilities, orientation at ITC offices in Rome and/or UCIMA offices in Milan, and other related activities (TBA).

Airline flights (coach class), hotel accommodations, meals, and ground transportation between scheduled sites in Italy will be provided by the Italian Trade Commission and the Italian Association UCIMA for the duration of the determined dates in Italy (excluding personal expenses – phone, etc.).

The study trip to Italy is tentatively scheduled to take place in June 2010, for a minimum of one (1) week but not to exceed two (2) weeks.

Signed waivers absolving both the Italian Trade Commission, the Italian Association UCIMA, and the Institute of Packaging Professionals of any personal responsibility of the students' and professors' safety during travel to, from and in Italy will be requested by the winning students and accompanying professors prior to travel to Italy.

Upon their return, students and professors will be asked to submit a summary of the program and how it has impacted their packaging education.

**Pack Expo 2009:** In October 2009, during Pack Expo in Las Vegas, the ITC, UCIMA, and IoPP will organize an event (i.e. awards ceremony, press conference and/or a presentation) for the IPTA program. A PowerPoint presentation of the IPTA 2009 trip to Italy, prepared by the 2009 student winners, will be shown; it is asked, if possible, that 2009 winners be in attendance at this announcement. At this event, the 2009-10 request for papers will also be announced.

**Closing Comments:** The papers will become property of the ITC and UCIMA, who will therefore have the right to share and distribute the papers among whomever they judge may be interested in the news in part or in their entirety among Italian machinery manufacturers, magazines, etc.

The ITC and UCIMA hope this initiative will continue to provide valuable benefits and experiences to the chosen students from each respective university, along with giving the participating Italian packaging machinery manufacturers a unique opportunity to showcase their packaging technology in action to these future and successful decision-makers and end-users.