



# CHARTERED CHEMIST NEWS

Newsletter of the Association of the Chemical Profession of Ontario

Fall 2007  
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## President's Message

We are coming to the end of another calendar year and with that comes all the activities, stress and strain associated with the holiday season.

For us on the Council of the ACPO, it is a time to reflect on the work that we have accomplished over the past year - to take stock of what we have done, and to look ahead to what we have to do.

One year ago, my President's Message (in the Chartered Chemist News, Vol. 6, No. 3) resembled a "State of the Union" address, or more correctly a "State of the Corporation" address. I discussed some of the things that we had done and some of the things that we planned to do in the following year. I will present a similar assessment of our work over the past year and let you know of some of our plans for the coming year.

We have accomplished a great deal over the past year. Members of the Council of the ACPO have put in a lot of time and effort and have worked very hard to serve you, the members



of the ACPO.

We have worked to: promote chemistry and the profession of chemistry; improve our administration and operations; and to improve communication with and provide timely responses and information to our members.

I believe that we have been successful in many areas and have presented some of them below.

**Web-Site.** We have updated, upgraded and redesigned our web-site. Although there are a few web pages that have to be

completed, we have had very positive responses to our new look. Visit us at:  
**[www.acpo.on.ca](http://www.acpo.on.ca)**



In the second phase of development, we intend to, among other things, set-up a members only portal where members can access and upgrade their personal information and pay their membership dues on-line.

Our web-master, Claude Bordeleau has overseen the design and development of our web-site by an outside company.

**Video.** We have produced a promotional video that will be used as part of our membership drive and marketing plan, and to promote the ACPO to the general public and to chemists alike. Members of our Membership/Marketing committee, Hugh Elliott, Ed Alvarez, Chris Sullivan, worked with an outside company to produce the video.

**Chartered Chemist News.** As stated in Vol. 6 No. 3, we place a great deal of emphasis on producing our newsletter, the Chartered Chemist News, in a timely manner. We have kept our promise. We are now

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Be sure to visit our website at: [www.acpo.on.ca](http://www.acpo.on.ca)



# Letter from the Editor

Hello Members, as you read this I hope that you find the articles interesting and informative. Join with us as we put new energy into our professional association and see the benefits of networking. I have included some international level notices that will reflect what is happening in the Chemical industry outside of Canada. Chemistry is a dynamic industry worldwide and if you have any related stories please send them to: [info@acpo.on.ca](mailto:info@acpo.on.ca)

Doug Beswick, C.Chem.  
Editor



## President's Message con't.

planning to send our news letter to members electronically. The first two steps have been taken. Earlier this year, members were asked to update their personal information and to provide us with their e-mail addresses, and we have successfully tested the transmission of the newsletter. We plan to proceed with this activity in the new year.

One of our goals was to use the newsletter as a forum for members to express their views and to provide us with feedback on how we can serve you better. We have had some response from members, but, I believe, that there could be improvement in this area.

Our Editor Doug Beswick has been responsible for a great deal of the work and success of our newsletter. Many members of Council also contribute not only to this success, but articles to the newsletter.

**National Advisory Committee on the Profession of Chemistry in Canada (NACPCC).** We continue to

work with the Canadian Society for Chemistry (CSC) and other professional chemical organizations and individuals in provinces across Canada to set up the conditions that will lead to improved communication among us, provide mutual support in matters that concern chemists, and promote chemistry and the profession of chemistry to the general public. Several members of NACPCC met at the CSC Conference in Winnipeg in May of this year, and we will be meeting at the CSC conference in Edmonton in May 2008.

**Marketing Plan.** We are working with an outside company to develop a marketing plan to increase our membership and to promote chemistry and the profession of chemistry. As part of this plan, we will be using several types of promotional materials and approaches.

We have also redesigned our letterhead and envelopes and

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created a new application package. Roch Marion worked with an outside company on the new design. The new design has been described as "bold and sophisticated" by one marketing individual who was asked to provide feedback to us and you will be seeing this design soon.

There will be costs associated with our marketing and promotion plans, but I believe that success in this area will depend directly on what resources we are prepared and/or are able to put into these activities.

**Registry of Environmental Chemists.** We are developing more up-to-date and relevant criteria, to meet current regulatory requirements for the inclusion of members in the Registry of Environmental Chemist. Terry Obal and Robert Johnson have been working on this and we hope to have the new Registry completed for the new year.

Terry and Robert are also working on other issues in the professional affairs area and I will report on these at a later time.

## NOTICES

**Change of Address.** The ACPO has purchased office services from Bay Street Management Inc. (BSMI) for approximately twelve years. Unfortunately, BSMI has changed the focus of its services and thus we have

moved our head office to Telsec Business Centres Inc. in the Toronto Star building at 1 Yonge Street, Toronto. Our phone numbers and e-mail address have not changed, however, our mailing address and fax numbers have changed. Our new address is: 1 Yonge Street, Suite 1801, Toronto, Ontario, M5E 1W7, and our new fax number is 416-369-0515.

We have also hired a part-time secretary to do most of our head office work. We hope that, in time, this will lead to a permanently staffed office.

**Annual General Meeting (AGM).** The ACPO will be holding its 2008 Annual General Meeting on Friday, May 9, 2008, at the International Living Learning Centre, Ryerson University, Toronto, between 5:30 P.M. and 11:00 P.M. We will be providing more detailed information on our web-site and in our next newsletter. Please mark this date on your calendar. John Breau, Carola Serwotka and Deoanand Prashad have worked and will be working on this event. Our Master of Ceremonies for the night will be John Breau. We look forward to meeting you at our AGM.

**Operating Costs & Membership Fees.** Last November, the Council of the ACPO reviewed the issue of membership dues. Although we had not raised fees for four years at that time, and the costs for goods and services had increased continuously over that period, the Council decided not

to raise the fees for 2007. Thus, we have not had an increase in fees for the past five years. Council will be reviewing this issue, once more, at its upcoming meeting on November 17, 2007.

As you have seen, we have carried out many activities successfully over the past year, however, all of the activities have a cost associated with them. We intend to move forward on several fronts in the coming year, particularly in the areas of increasing membership, promoting the organization, and in the area of professional affairs. These are activities that will require adequate funding for us to be successful, particularly as we will have to hire a marketing group to help us in the planning and implementation of many of these activities.

In order to carry out and pay for the planned activities of the Association we may have to increase our membership fees. It is not something that we want to do, but if we are to move forward this is an option that we may have to consider.

The ACPO is fortunate to have individuals who are willing to give of their time and energy to work on its behalf. I would like to thank all members of Council for their contributions. In closing, I wish all a happy and restful Holiday Season, and a bright and prosperous New Year.

Dr. David Naranjit  
President, ACPO

# Other News

## Advance Registration for Pittcon 2008 Now Available

Advance registration is now open for Pittcon 2008. The Conference and Expo is scheduled for March 1-7, 2008, at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans. Visit for more information on registration, the Technical Program, and Conference Networking Sessions.

## AutoRussia to be Held in St. Petersburg

The third annual AutoRussia 2007, an international forum for automotive businesses in Russia and globally, takes place on December 4-5 at the Astoria

Hotel, St. Petersburg, Russia.

More than 300 senior representatives, leading figures in Russia's automotive manufacturing sector, including leading OEM projects in the St. Petersburg area, as well as senior representatives from auto OEMs and T1s around the world, will meet at the conference to discuss their current projects and future plans.

The conference is followed by an official visit to Tenneco and Intercos IV in St. Petersburg. Top management of the plants, along with their production teams, will show delegates the

production facilities and answer any strategic and practical questions they may have. The delegates will visit all parts of the production facility together with the managers of each shop in the plant.

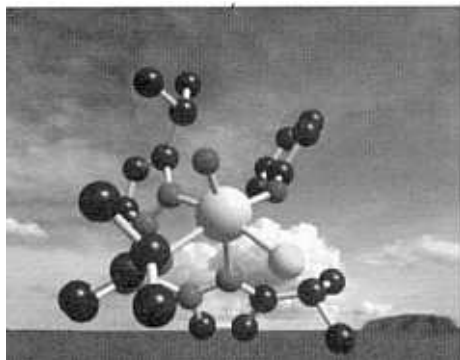
### MOVING? MOVED?

Members, Please ensure that you send us your new mailing address and other contact information if you have moved recently.

You may send the information to our head office address, or you may contact us by visiting our web-site: [www.acpo.on.ca](http://www.acpo.on.ca)

# Mapping Chemical Industry Knowledge

Posted in Chemspy by chemspy on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007



Joana Mendonça and Rui Baptista of the Centre for Innovation, Technology and Policy Research at the Technical University of Lisbon, working with Paulo Conde of Solvay in Brussels, Belgium, have examined how innovation occurs within the chemical

industry, by examining the processes and activities undertaken by the Portuguese branch of a multinational chemical company. They have looked at the company's formal innovation process and from that they have gleaned a map of the knowledge bases used in the search for innovative, new products.

Europe is a major player in the global chemical industry, but recently supply has begun to shift towards the Asian and Middle East markets. Demand from these regions is increasingly rapidly but their own fast-developing industries may not face the same high production costs and strict environmental regulations that

increasingly make Europe a less attractive investment.

Couple this socio-economic and geographical shift in production with a fall off in R&D spending in Europe and the exodus of skilled labour and on the surface it appears that chemical industry innovation within Europe is on the wane. Faced with this prospect, Mendonça and colleagues suggest that it "is of crucial importance to analyse its processes within the chemical industry."

Their analysis of the chemical industry has allowed them to produce a map showing the spread of the industries widely

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# Mapping Chemical Industry Knowledge con't.

distributed knowledge bases and to demonstrate how knowledge flows between them and how it is used. They have found that the ability to generate value-creating knowledge is concentrated in the early stages of the industry's lifecycle regardless of region. In contrast, the Portuguese industry is mostly concentrated on activities that have already reached maturity and, in some cases, are in decline rather than looking to innovation. "Owing to this asymmetry, disembodied knowledge flows are difficult to create, and other types of relationship should be pursued," they suggest.

They also point out that multinational companies tend to rely strongly on internal improvements and do not seek new knowledge from outside sources that might lead to profitable innovation or improvements in efficiency. Indeed, any innovative activities that take place are actually focused on preventing "unwelcome surprises and to minimise risk" as opposed to facilitating the kind of "freewheeling, imaginative, and risk-taking approach that characterises entrepreneurship".

All is not lost, add the researchers, "large multinational companies can have a decisive

role in the innovation process by providing their market expertise to entrepreneurs and the case study presented shows a path other companies may follow."

The original research paper, "A map of the knowledge bases for the chemical industry" can be found in the current issue of the International Journal of Technology, Policy and Management (2007, 7, 245-262), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1504/IJTPM.2007.015109>



## Association News

### MEETINGS, COURSES AND OTHER EVENTS

#### Ciba Specialty Chemicals Offers GHS Seminar

Ciba® Expert Services is offering a practical seminar specifically designed to allow chemical companies to understand the scope and content of the new Globally Harmonized System (GHS). Through case studies and examples, the seminar will highlight how companies can implement GHS in its various aspects, which include classification of substances and mixtures, labeling and safety data sheets.

Working with the supply of chemicals in a global market is a huge regulatory challenge.

With the phased worldwide implementation of GHS, the job has suddenly become more complicated. Some countries, such as Japan and Australia, already require safety data sheets and labels according to the new Globally Harmonized System. The EU is not far behind and implementation will happen soon; the draft regulation implementing GHS in Europe was published in June.

The new rules for classifying substances and preparations are complicated compared to the existing scheme, and a new concept, the building block approach, is making the task even more complicated. Each country implementing GHS has

the option to take different building blocks and adopt them to its own needs. In effect, each country has its own classification and labeling system. This has made hazard communication very challenging for a practitioner marketing chemicals on a global basis.

The seminar, titled The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals, GHS – A Practitioner's Approach to Local Implementation in a Global Market, will be held December 4, 2008, in Amsterdam. To register, visit [www.cibasc.com/exs\\_agenda\\_ghs\\_amsterdam.pdf](http://www.cibasc.com/exs_agenda_ghs_amsterdam.pdf).

# Top Industry News

## American Chemical Society Launches New Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Journal

The American Chemical Society (ACS) Publications Division has released the inaugural issue of ACS Nano, a new, peer-reviewed journal publishing comprehensive articles in one of the fastest-growing research areas in chemistry and the related sciences.

Led by Editor Paul S. Weiss, Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and Physics at The Pennsylvania State University, ACS Nano is an international forum for the rapid dissemination of multidisciplinary research that embraces the fields of

chemistry, physics, materials science, biology and engineering. With nanoscience and nanotechnology uniquely positioned at the interface of these disciplines, the journal facilitates communication among scientists, advances the field through publication of seminal results, aids in the development of new research opportunities, and reaches out to scientists at all levels.

The debut issue of ACS Nano features articles from the research groups of David Allara, Hong-jie Dai, Prashant Kamat and Frank Caruso, along with a conversation with Nobel Laureate Heinrich Rohrer and a special editorial by Paul Weiss. The journal also includes

reviews, perspectives, letters to the editor and updates on noteworthy developments through NanoFocus.

Published monthly in print and continuously online, ACS Nano is available at no charge, during 2007, to institutional subscribers, at [www.acsnano.org](http://www.acsnano.org). ACS members are encouraged to register at the website for free access during 2007.



## U.S. Chemical Safety Board Conducts Investigations of Chemical Explosions

The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) is conducting investigations of two chemical explosions related to the paint manufacturing industry. The incidents include an explosion at an ink and paint manufacturing facility in Danvers, MA, and an explosion and fire at the Universal Form Clamp (UFC) facility in Bellwood, IL.

During the early morning hours of November 22, 2006, a powerful explosion destroyed the CAI/Arnel ink and paint manufacturing facility in Danvers, MA. Scores of nearby

homes and businesses were damaged, some beyond repair. A number of residents were hospitalized. There were no injuries in the plant, which was unoccupied at the time.

In preliminary findings released by the CSB, investigators said that the explosion was most likely caused by the inadvertent overheating of solvents left stirring overnight in an unsealed mixing tank, releasing flammable vapor that accumulated and ignited.

The vapor built up in the facility

because the solvent ventilation system was routinely turned off when workers departed the facility at the close of business each evening, an unsafe practice that investigators called the "immediate cause" of the accident. The explosion occurred at approximately 2:45 a.m., long after all employees had departed the facility for the night. All fuel sources for the explosion other than flammable solvent vapor - including natural gas - were ruled out.

The incident description and

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related documentation is available at [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov), current investigations.

The CSB has released a related investigation at another facility that could affect others in the coatings, solvents, lubricants and paint industries. Workers were heating and mixing flammable solvents in an open-top tank at Universal Form Clamp in Bellwood, IL. During

the heating process, there was a sudden evolution of flammable vapors that ignited, resulting in the fatal explosion and fire.

The CSB determined that mechanical design plans that should have illustrated ventilation and other safety systems were not reviewed by a registered design professional before being submitted to the Village of Bellwood. In addition,

Bellwood, during its 2002 review of the project, did not ensure compliance with required codes and standards.

The lead investigator for this study is available to answer questions. The full case study is available at [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov), completed investigations.

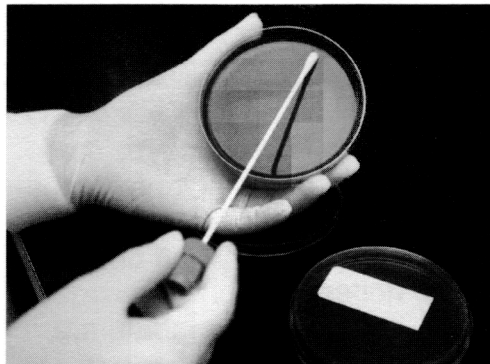
## Nominations Sought for Roy W. Tess Award in Coatings



The American Chemical Society's Division of Polymeric Materials: Science and Engineering (PMSE) is seeking nominations for the 2008 Roy W. Tess Award in Coatings. The award will be presented on August 18, 2008, at the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Philadelphia.

award confirms PMSE's long-standing and continued support and dedication to excellence in the coatings field.

Nominations are welcome from all sections of industry,



academia and government. Forward nominations to David R. Bauer, Tess Award Chairman, at 30102 Lyndon, Livonia, MI 48154. A documentation form requesting information on the nominee relevant to patents, publications and overall qualifications, will be required upon receipt. All nominations are due prior to September 1, 2007. For more information contact David Bauer at [dbauer@exponent.com](mailto:dbauer@exponent.com).

Recognizing outstanding individual achievements and noteworthy contributions to coatings science and technology and engineering, the

