



## CURRENT ISSUE

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## Content

### Editor's Note

#### Biodegradability versus Recyclability

— Prof. Long Lin

November 15th this year will see me attending the CHINACOAT show on site, for the first time since the most unfortunate outbreak of the Covid pandemic. So, I am very much looking forward to attending the event, learning new things and catching up with old acquaintances, and hope that readers are as excited as I am.

### Sustainability

#### Our Industry is Overlooking a Key Sustainability Ingredient — Paint

— Johnson Ongking, Pacific Paint (Boysen) Philippines, Inc., The Philippines

Sustainability initiatives in the coatings industry have much in common with those in other industries — the elimination of harmful ingredients, improved energy efficiency, waste minimisation, the use of renewable materials, adoption of circular economy principles, and targeting Net Zero carbon emissions. Like other manufacturing industries, the main objective of our industry's sustainability strategy can be summed up as producing the most environmentally friendly products in the most environmentally responsible way.

### Market Watch

#### PFAS: Eliminating the Harmful, and Establishing the Safe, Materials for Critical Applications

— George R. Pilcher, Vice President, The ChemQuest Group, Inc., USA

All over the world, whether in North American, China, or the EU, the hot term in any area where specialty chemicals incorporating fluorine are manufactured or used is "PFAS," which stands for "per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances." According to most sources, there are anywhere between 3,700-10,000 members in this family of fluorine-containing chemical compounds, depending upon which study one consults.

### Pigments

#### An Easy and Safe Way to Make Achromatic Shades More Neutral

— Bernhard Stengel-Rutkowski, Heubach Group

Manufacturers of pigments like to present their products in their solid tone, or in simple mixtures with white or aluminium. In the case of Indanthrone Blue (Pigment Blue 60), however, one must ask oneself why this pigment is used by paint manufacturers in car paints at all, because these simple colour representations show a low strength, low chroma pigment, which is also significantly more expensive than the widely used phthalocyanine blue pigments.

### Polyurethanes

#### The Influence of Reactive Diluents on the Properties of Isocyanate Based 2K Formulations

— Rolf Klucker, Ph.D., Vencorex, France; Remi Martinez, Ph.D., Vencorex, France

The quest for low VOC paint formulations has led to different options investigated throughout the years. In the polyurethane industry, several approaches have been developed to reduce the amount of volatile organic compounds, such as high solids and low viscosity solvent-free products, UV-curing systems or waterborne formulations, to name a few.

### Digitalisation

#### Game Changer: Digitalisation — Exploring the Potential for the Coatings Industry

— Alexander Madl, Polymer Scientist (PhD), Researcher, and Explorer, Transform Chemistry Innovation, Germany

The chemical industry has been a critical catalyst for global economic growth and innovation, evolving through multiple transformations since its inception as a scientific field. As we enter the 21st century, the industry faces an even more significant challenge – the imperative to embrace sustainability.

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#### SINOSTAR-ITE INT'L LTD.

2101-2, 21/F., Jubilee Centre, 42-46 Gloucester Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Email : [info@sinostar-intl.com.hk](mailto:info@sinostar-intl.com.hk)

Tel : (852) 2865 0062

Fax : (852) 2804 2256