

POLYAMIDE: STAYING IN BALANCE?



5th AMERICAN NYLON SYMPOSIUM

THE MARRIOTT ATLANTA AIRPORT

MARCH 30th, 2012

PCI
nylon

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POLYAMIDE: STAYING IN BALANCE?

Given the projected downtrend in the growth of the global economy and the vast capacity expansion planned for the coming years, especially in China, the polyamide industry will have to perform a difficult balancing act if it is to remain healthy and profitable.

The 2012 PCI Nylon Symposium will assist decision-makers in the American polyamide industry in their planning processes, by delivering information and analysis on current trends in the global polyamide market, with a particular focus on their effects in the American region.

For example:

■ China is a key driver for the polyamide business. Is the current slowdown in China, coupled with the economic problems in the USA and in Europe, a temporary aberration, or is it a structural return to more normal levels of nylon demand?

■ Engineering plastics account for 40% of the 7 million tonnes of current global consumption of PA6 and PA66. Demand comes mainly from the automotive manufacturing industry, which in North America is currently delivering robust growth. However, will declining global economic growth and automotive innovation impair this market?

■ Within the overall context of depressed housebuild rates, nylon's role in the US carpet industry remains under attack from the polyester family (including PTT). How will this competitive interface develop? In the industrials sector, will the core nylon airbag market stand up to competition from polyester?

■ Textile fibre is another important application, with around 20% of global demand. Will this sector continue to grow, or will the threat of PET substitution increase? With some retailers having repatriated business from Asia to the Americas region, and growth in demand for nylon apparel products in leading South American markets, what is the scale of the opportunity for American textile nylon suppliers?

■ Can the growth in the industrial and textile sectors globally offset the decline in fibre demand in the carpet and staple segments?

■ How will the new intermediates capacities being planned in China affect the US market, which exported an estimated 63ktes of caprolactam to China in 2011? Planned investments globally will raise capro-

lactam capacity (even in the most conservative view) by at least +28% over the next 5 years (+1.2 million tonnes). and another 2.7 million tonnes have been announced. What impact will this have on the pricing power and profitability of the suppliers of PA6 intermediates and polymer, and how will North American producers adjust to a Chinese market hell-bent on self-sufficiency?

■ What progress has been made in the synthesis of polyamide intermediates using biological processes? Will this enable nylon to improve its relatively poor standing in the sustainability league? What role will carpet recycling play in providing a 'greener' nylon and how will this impact on the demand for virgin raw materials?

■ After several years where PA66 has suffered volume loss while PA6 has continued to grow, there were signs in 2011 that PA66 was beginning to fight back. With excess capacity at all stages of the PA66 chain, what confrontation can we expect between the two fibres types in 2012?

The PCI Nylon Symposium has a deserved reputation for focusing its select and high calibre audience on core issues in the nylon business, delivering valuable insight into the strengths and weaknesses of individual market positions. The Symposium has important messages for business managers, marketers, purchasers, business analysts and all those charged with managing significant nylon chain businesses. Above all the PCI Nylon Symposium will assist you to optimise market positioning and performance in a nylon world which already shows signs of looking much more challenging over the next few years.

This Symposium will interpret the central themes which will shape the course of the nylon business over the coming years, situating the North American market within a global nylon overview.

VENUE

The symposium takes place at :

The Marriott Atlanta Airport

4711 Best Road, Atlanta, GA, 30337

www.marriott.com/atlap

Free shuttle bus from Atlanta Airport.

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PROGRAMME

Thursday 29th March

18:00 **Registration and Symposium Welcome & Cocktails (until 20:00)**

Friday 30th March

8:15 - 9:00 **Registration and light breakfast buffet**

09:00 **PETROCHEMICAL & FEEDSTOCK MARKET TRENDS**

John Blieszner, Jacobs Consultancy

09:40 **ANALYSIS OF POLYAMIDE INTERMEDIATES AND POLYMER MARKETS**

Dr. Robin MacDonald, PCI Nylon GmbH

10:20 **Coffee**

10:50 **MARKETS DETERIORATE - IS IT JUST NYLON FIBERS?**

Alasdair Carmichael, PCI Fibres

11:30 **RENEWABLE ADIPIC ACID**

Tom Castile, DSM Biobased Products and Services

12:10 **Lunch**

13:30 **POLYAMIDES: PERFORMANCE AND INNOVATION
A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH TO ENGINEERING PLASTICS**

Danilo Micheletti, RadiciGroup Plastics

14:10 **CARPET & RUG INSTITUTE: AN INDUSTRY OVERVIEW**

Werner Braun, Carpet & Rug Institute

14:50 **Coffee**

15:20 **CARPET RECYCLING**

Ron Simonetti, Modular Carpet Recycling

16:00 **NORTH AMERICAN AUTOMOTIVE OUTLOOK AND THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE**

Joe Langley, LMC Automotive

16:40 **CLOSING DISCUSSION**

5th AMERICAN NYLON SYMPOSIUM

REGISTRATION FORM

Please photocopy for multiple delegates.

Return to:

PCI Group

P.O. Box 3444 Spartanburg, SC 29304, USA

Phone: +1 (864) 583 6868

Fax: +1 (864) 583 1674

Email: bmd@pcinylon.com

Please register the following delegate

Please type or print clearly in block capitals.

Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr etc): _____

First Name: _____

Surname: _____

Company: _____

Position in Company: _____

Address: _____

Country: _____

Telephone : _____

Email: _____

I wish to book for the PCI Nylon Symposium and I understand this registration is made subject to the cancellation terms as stated.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Registered by: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

REGISTRATION FEE:

\$ 990 per attendee

Group discounts for 3 or more attendees:

\$ 890 per attendee

Attendees are financially responsible for their transportation costs, for payment of their individual hotel room, food and beverages besides those listed, and any other personal services requested during their stay.

PAYMENT OPTIONS (please tick)

Invoice

Please invoice my company

Purchase order no: _____

Check

Please send to PCI Group, P.O. Box 3444, Spartanburg, SC 29304, USA together with registration form.

Credit Card

Card Holder's Name: _____

Card number: _____

Expiry date: _____

Visa

Mastercard

Amex

Card security number: _____

Card Holder's Signature: _____

4 EASY WAYS TO REGISTER

1 Email: bmd@pcinylon.com

2 Online: At www.pcinylon.com under Products & Service / Nylon Symposia

3 Fax: +1 (864) 583 1674

4 Mail: PCI Group, P.O. Box 3444
Spartanburg, SC 29304, USA

DELEGATE INFORMATION:

Date: March 30th 2012

Symposium Registration Fee: The fee includes admission to the symposium, symposium documentation when supplied by speakers, cocktails on March 29th, breakfast, lunch and refreshments on March 30th. Full payment of fees is due before the date of the symposium.

Cancellation Policy: All cancellations must be made in writing to the above address. In the event of cancellation before March 1st 2012, a 20% administration fee will be deducted. For cancellations after March 1st 2012, no refund will be given, although substitutions can be made at any time prior to the symposium, free of charge.

Hotel Accommodation: To book a room at preferential symposium rate of \$ 125 including VAT please call the **Marriott Atlanta Airport** (not the Atlanta Airport Gateway Hotel!), under **+1 (800) 228-9290** or **+1 (404) 766-7900**, quoting "PCI Nylon".

Please note that **this special rate will only be available until March 15th, 2012.**

