



News Release

For Immediate Release

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RENEWABLE CONTENT PU MATERIALS, APPLICATIONS EXPAND DRAMATICALLY ACCORDING TO REPORTS FROM POLYURETHANES 2009 TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

National Harbor, MD (October 7, 2009) – “The utilization of polyols with renewable content from a growing array of sources continues to increase for a variety of polyurethane applications,” said Jack Dai of Cargill Bio-based Polyurethanes during the first of two Renewable Content technical sessions here today. “Supply stability of renewable feedstock and performance are among the key drivers now as the industry continues to innovate.” Cargill presented a paper on its soy-based polyols for the production of renewable content viscoelastic “memory” foams – widely used in bedding, furniture and special applications in the automotive area – with enhanced performance at low temperatures.

“Renewable content isn’t really ‘new’ in the polyurethanes industry these days, as the innovations and applications just keep growing,” said Neeva-Gayle Candelori, director of Center for the Polyurethanes Industry (CPI), sponsor of the conference.

The morning session opened with a joint paper by Jay Elastomers and Jayant Agro-Organics introducing new polyester-based elastomer formulations, followed by a paper from DuPont Tate & Lyle and ITWC introducing a renewable diol based on a corn sugar fermentation process. Battelle Memorial Institute closed this session describing a versatile approach for preparing biopolyols from many sources – vegetable oils, animal fats, fatty acids – using 20 to 40 percent glycerin, a by-product of the biodiesel industry. The resulting polyurethane products can be used to create high-quality coatings, adhesives, rigid and flexible polyurethane foams.

With a stronger focus on the chemistry of renewable content polyols, Troy Polymers opened the afternoon session with a study reporting on the feasibility of recycling scrap flexible polyurethane foams made with soy polyols. DuPont described a new family of polyether polyols manufactured in a sustainable process using ingredients derived from agricultural feedstocks. DNP Green Technology introduced a new series of bio-derived succinic acid technologies that can be used in many polyurethanes products and applications. Vertellus Specialty Materials introduced high molecular weight castor oil-derived triols for a wide range of polyurethanes applications, and Italy-based Cimteclab Srl unveiled new cardanol-based polyols derived from cashew nut shell liquid.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Photos from Polyurethanes 2009 Technical Conference are available for use. Please contact Allison Elliott at 212-697-2600.



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The Center for the Polyurethanes Industry (CPI) of the American Chemistry Council promotes the sustainable growth of the polyurethane industry, by identifying and managing issues that could impact the industry, in cooperation with user groups. Its members include the nation's leading producers and distributors of chemicals and equipment used to make polyurethane and manufacture polyurethane products. CPI provides a single, strong and credible voice to advocate on behalf of the interests of the U.S. polyurethanes industry. The business of polyurethanes is a \$56.1 billion enterprise, supports about 220,000 jobs and a key element of the nation's economy.

