

Vacuum Web Coating

Vacuum web coated materials are a part of everyday life, used in products such as snack packaging, paper currency, solar control film and touch screens. Emerging uses for this technology include solar cells, batteries, lighting and flexible displays. The Web sessions are globally recognized for presentations focused on the above areas as well as on a wide variety of topics connected to vacuum coating on flexible substrates (paper, plastic film, foil, fabric, etc).

We are seeking contributions for the 2011 TechCon in the following areas: vacuum web coated related products and applications, coating equipment, substrates, web handling, thermal load control, processes, tie-layers, source materials, process monitoring, defect/debris understanding and control, manufacturing challenges, quality control, material handling, and post processing. Presentations may be from a development, marketing, manufacturing, vendor or user perspective. We welcome papers that investigate the underlying physical and chemical understanding of coatings and substrate materials and why they behave the way they do. We also look for presenters who can give a historical perspective and current overview of a particular area, or a visionary look into the future as it relates to web coating, as there has traditionally been strong interest in these types of papers.

Some additional specific markets where there have been an expressed interest for presentations are listed below, but there are many more fields of web coating that we would like to hear more about.

- *Advances in packaging films*
- *Developments in barrier and ultra-barrier coatings and in measurement methods*
- *Other energy related products involving coatings on flexible substrates (fuel cells, insulation, heaters, etc.)*
- *Environmental concerns – waste reduction*
- *Transparent conductive coatings*
- *Security coatings and devices*
- *Coatings used in medical and biomedical applications*
- *Flexible electronics*
- *EMI shielding films*
- *Roll to roll patterning of thin films*
- *Source material availability and pricing trends*
- *Disruptive threats to vacuum web coated technologies and products*
- *Web coating markets in Asia*

If you have suggestions for topics, new ideas for the web coating sessions at the Technical Conference, would like more information on presenting, or are interested in volunteering to join the Web TAC and help organize the TechCon, please contact one of the session organizers.

Vacuum Web TAC Co-Chairs: Geoff Ringer, 3M Corporate Process Research Laboratory (520/746-7066; gringer@mmm.com); James McShane, Joy Mining Machinery (219/629-3437; mcshanjh@hotmail.com); Mark Roehrig: 3M Company (651/737-3590; maroehrig@mmm.com)