

Produced by the

European Federation of Corrugated Board Manufacturers

Welcome to the first FEFCOnnect

In the packaging world developments are indeed fast moving. In Brussels legislation on packaging has really gotten onto the fast track. This means that our industry is confronted with all kinds of issues. FEFCO, as the European Federation of Corrugated Board Manufacturers, deals with these issues on your behalf.

It is essential that you all know what is going in our industry Europe-wide. Therefore one of FEFCO's missions will be to ensure that you are kept informed of key issues and important news. FEFCOnnect will henceforth be the bridge between you the members and we at FEFCO.

The articles in FEFCOnnect will be condensed and to the point, because we realize that your time is valuable!

In the enclosed articles you will find a reference to a site or address where you can find more or all details. In this way we intend to combine a traditional magazine with a modern e-zine.

We regularly need input from our members, specialists from the plants or groups in order to deal with the challenges we are confronted with.

We value your opinion and would therefore be very grateful if you could give us your news and suggestions either by e-mail or by snail-mail.

Pleasant reading,

Wim Hoebert
Secretary General

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XXVIII FEFCO CONGRESS – ROME, JUNE 2004.

Dr. Dermot Smurfit, Jefferson Smurfit Group - FEFCO President

FEFCO'S incoming president Dr Dermot Smurfit thanked all the participants and stated that he had enjoyed the Congress, especially the panel discussion that gave a good overview of what the industry is up against and what will happen in the future. The President was positive about the future of corrugated that can remain a leading packaging material thanks to its inherent properties, but he insisted on the fact that "success does not come for free and our industry has to be alerted".

He motivated his acceptance of the Presidency of FEFCO, and reminded the

audience that the federation's mission is to protect and increase the use of corrugated in Europe. To this end Dr. Smurfit committed himself to giving its members an organisation of which they could be proud and to improving the internal cohesion within the industry.

He insisted on what he considers as the key objective: "putting our industry on the map with the legislators and showing how environmentally friendly our product is and how far in advance we are regarding recycling targets".

On the other hand, FEFCO must also communicate the marketing and environmental benefits of our product to customers.

Dr. Smurfit ended his address stressing the fact that it is the duty of the industry to

cooperate with the whole paper chain in order to demonstrate to the consumer that paper based packaging products respect our environment.



From left to right: Wim Hoebert, Secretary General; Dr. Dermot Smurfit, President; Dr. Valerio Brusamarello, Former President; Berry Wiersum, Vice President



CITPA, THE LOBBY OFFICE OF PAPER CONVERTERS, MOVES TO BRUSSELS

On January 1st 2005, CITPA, the lobby organisation which represents all the paper converters will move from Frankfurt to Brussels and will be accommodated in the FEFCO offices at 250 Avenue Louise – 1050 Brussels. Dr. Kevin Bradley has been appointed to succeed Mr. Thomas Pfeiffer as Secretary General. More about CITPA as an organisation and its activities on www.citpa-europe.org and in the next FEFCOnnect.

Dear colleagues,

The aim of this section is to regularly update you with regard to the most recent developments occurring in the EU legislative arena.

In this column you will find general briefings and quick references on the latest news. Based on this, you are invited to contact the **Regulatory Affairs department** at any time to receive further information on any EU legislative subject of your interest. We will be pleased to help you with the research and analysis of different concerns affecting the corrugated packaging industry.

During last 3 years, we have intensively focused on the monitoring and lobbying on **the Revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste directive 94/62/EC**. After a long process, on 11 February 2004 the European Parliament and the Council adopted the **Directive 2004/12/EC¹** under the co-decision procedure. **The revised packaging directive sets increased recovery and recycling targets to be achieved by 31 December 2008.**

With reference to the new Member States, when the proposal for the revised packaging directive was submitted to the European Parliament and the Council, accession negotiations with the 10 countries were ongoing. These **States have now acceded to the European Union as of 1 May 2004** and a decision on their deadlines to comply with the revised targets has recently been adopted².

This process has generated some important developments for our Industry. The increased recycling targets and the new requirements im-

posed on prevention will force our Industry to work hard to comply with the legislative provisions.

Moreover, as requested by the European Parliament, the European Commission launched two parallel **studies on the implementation of the directive** in Spring 2004. One of them currently examines the environmental impact of the Packaging Directive's provisions while the other aims to measure how its internal market aspects function. A legislative proposal could accompany or follow the report that Commission must submit to the Parliament by June 2005, and will probably constitute the basis of the next Packaging Directive's revision.

We have been given the opportunity to provide information and to comment on various interim reports. To this end, the Regulatory Affairs department assisted by the expertise and guidance of the members of REX³ has engaged a proactive dialogue with consultants. This necessary collaboration with the Institutions evidences once more the importance of a united approach from the paper and board chain and a solid co-operation from the corrugated board associations and companies.

In order to react to the traditional – and currently more active than ever – trend advocating the primacy of reusable systems of packaging in detriment of one-way/recyclable packaging, the Regulatory Affairs department has published a brochure outlining the major environmental benefits of corrugated packaging: **“Recycling vs. Reuse: corrugated board packaging as illustration”**. This brochure, sent to your National Association and companies,

can be downloaded from our website⁴.

The monitor of **Food Contact Materials legislation and traceability requirements** is undoubtedly one of the most important fields of action for FEFCO now and in the near future. The new **Framework Regulation (EC) No. 1935/2004 on materials and articles intended to come into contact with food**, amending and repealing the framework directive 89/109/EC, was adopted on 27th October 2004 and entered into force on the 3rd December 2004. Among other developments, this text imposes new traceability requirements that will come into effect from 27th October 2006.

The Regulation requires that:

- traceability of materials shall be ensured at all stages,
- business operators shall, by means of labelling or relevant documentation or information, allow identification of the businesses from which and to which materials or articles and substances or products used in their manufacture are supplied, and
- this information shall be made available to competent authorities on demand.

It is essential to collaborate with FEFCO in this area, in order for us to be able to identify and ‘trace back’ the practices actually implemented in our plants. We firmly believe that FEFCO members face the challenge to communicate and prove to the Institutions that corrugated packaging manufacturing and Traceability practices are the appropriate ones.



Alternatively, and with the purpose of being proactive and offering you the best service, we try to anticipate other subjects that will be very important for our activity in the near future. This is the case of the Commission's Communication "[Towards a Thematic Strategy on Waste Prevention and Recycling](#)" and the [Waste revision debate](#), including the [Shipments of waste](#)' dossier.

With reference to the **FEFCO web site**, the Regulatory Affairs section is regularly reviewed and updated. Since March 2004, our page has been improved with a new service: daily **information on all EUROPEAN UNION news**⁵. A sophisticated system has been installed to daily inform you on the 'hot'

political and legislative topics: Environment, Trade, Transport, Health & Pharma, Food and Consumers, Sustainable development, Energy, CAP Reform, Corp. Responsibility, Enlargement, Future EU, Science and Research and Innovation. By just clicking on any of the headlines, you will be linked to the EURACTIV site in order to receive further information.

Furthermore, we will continue publishing **EUROWATCH** intermittently when the importance of a particular subject requires it. The next issue will concentrate on Food contact developments.

The increasing visibility and functions of the Regulatory Affairs department, our promotional campaigns through

the *Parliament Magazine*, *Euractiv* and the *European Voice*⁶ and a number of ambitious projects for 2005 will be covered in next FEFCO-nnect edition.

Your comments on the different issues and your interpretation of their impact on our Industry are essential for the effective functioning of our department.

I look forward to your feedback and kind co-operation...Welcome to this new magazine and enjoy your reading!

Carmen Fernández Aparicio
FEFCO- Regulatory Affairs Manager
+32 2 626 98 36
carmen.fernandez@fefco.org

¹ Directive 2004/12/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 February 2004. OJ L 47 of 18.02.2004 p 26-32.
² The Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Hungary, Slovenia, and Slovakia would have to meet the targets by

31/12/12. 31/12/13 for Malta, 31/12/14 for Poland and 31/12/15 for Latvia
³ The Regulatory Executive Body is a group of experts on Environmental, technical and Product safety issues assisting the Regulatory Affairs Committee. REX's members are: Mr John Swift (SCA),

Mr Jean-Jacques Azens (Smurfit), Mr Anders Hildeman (SCA) and Ms Carmen Fernández Aparicio (FEFCO).
⁴ <http://www.fefco.org/index.php?id=261>
⁵ <http://www.fefco.org/index.php?id=7>
⁶ Regulatory Affairs press coverage at <http://www.fefco.org/index.php?id=83>



Why? Because corrugated is so good for me and our Environment!

I don't get bruised and arrive in perfect condition in your shop

Corrugated is respectful of the Environment because it contributes to forestry preservation by encouraging forest maintenance and replanting

It provides maximum space utilisation and minimises transport costs, traffic and therefore CO₂ emissions and oil consumption: vehicle movements can be cut by up to 44% compared with re-usable crates transport!

Corrugated Board has one of the best recovery and recycling records of any packaging material on earth and

Last but not least...Used Corrugated is 're-used' as raw material for the paper and board industry!

To know more about the benefits of Recyclable=One-Way packaging Please visit our new website!!
www.fefco.org

CORRUGATED BOARD = 100% RECYCLABLE PACKAGING

WHAT OTHER PACKAGING MATERIAL OFFERS THIS?

Achieving one of the best recovery and recycling records of any packaging material on earth, Corrugated Board...

- > Is made from **natural and renewable resources**. Not only does this render its manufacture more independent from fossil resources, but moreover the trees will also absorb CO₂ that would otherwise damage the climate by increasing the rate of global warming.
- > Reduces environmental impact more effectively than reusable packaging for many applications, notably when packaged goods are transported over long distances.

- > Is **100% recyclable**, becoming new paper again for the benefit of the environment. Efficient recycling systems for packaging guarantee the reduction of used packaging sent to landfill: **"closed loop"** system in which used packaging is collected, recycled and used again for manufacturing new packaging.

Recycling is essential for the corrugated packaging industry, as recycled paper and board is the principal raw material source (up to 80%) of a corrugated board box.



Environmentally sound!

Less trucks on the roads, less atmospheric pollution and less fuel consumption!

- > Offers a **clean and hygienic** new container each time, hence limiting contamination problems sometimes associated with re-use of packaging for short shelf-life foods. It requires no washing, cleaning or drying, thus **saving water and detergent use and reducing effluents.**

FEFCO
European Federation of
Corrugated Board Manufacturers

www.fefco.org

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE, IT'S FULL OF USEFUL AND INTERESTING INFORMATION !



MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR AGENDA

DON'T MISS THE 16TH FEFCO MARKETING CONGRESS!

29th & 30th September 2005
Istanbul - Turkey

Especially designed for European Marketing and Sales decision makers from the Corrugated industry, this 16th edition of the Marketing Congress will bring together some 200 delegates. Don't miss this unique opportunity to think outside the box and meet up with your European colleagues in the captivating city of Istanbul.

After the successful Krakow Congress in October 2003, we have decided to maintain the same format that includes a lively panel discussion and stimulating workshop debates. As usual we will address key market development topics and give valuable insight into a wide range of supply chain issues.



You all know that Corrugated Packaging offers unlimited benefits. During this conference, we will talk about how to make the most of these advantages and make them known to the world at large.

In addition to this intense and stimulating working programme, we are also preparing some unforgettable social events.

For more information, please contact our Secretariat in Brussels:
Tel: +32 2 646 40 70

› SURVEY FEEDBACK

“The Industry’s interest in “tools” that help compare Corrugated with other types of transit packaging”

FEFCO recently carried out a survey in order to ascertain the type of questions that are being asked by customers and how the issue of “competitive materials” is being dealt with.

The main objective was to understand what kind of tools were being used or would be most needed.

This survey provides valuable insight into the interest of corrugated board manufacturers for the “tools” that help them or could help them to compare Corrugated packaging with competing materials especially RPCs. It also provides a great deal of information on the top 10 topics for which customers require information from the industry.

Scope: this survey was carried out in October 2004 in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Poland and Great Britain. **136 top industry managers** accepted to be interviewed by a specialist firm acting on behalf of FEFCO.

Methodology: random phone interviews with decision makers who are able to respond.

Most frequently asked questions by customers

Diagram N°1 gives information on the questions most frequently asked by customers. Top of mind means that it is the first answer the interviewee gives. Spontaneous means all the interviewee answers that have been given after the top of mind (first), this means, second, third and fourth answers etc.... The Average is 2,7 answers per person.

These results show that **certification** is the most frequently asked question, followed by price and all questions related to the inner characteristics of the packaging. The less frequently asked question relates to the environment.

Why certification? This probably means that customers want to “obtain” some

kind of guarantee with regards to the packaging material they buy. It probably also has to do with the idea they have about the legislative requirements as a whole, as well as a more specific items like “forest certification”.

The fact that the environment appears at the bottom of this list probably indicates that it has become an obvious requirement. It could also mean that this issue is indirectly included in the “certification” response as certification issues are often linked to the question of the broader environment issue.

Awareness of tools for comparing material types

Very few people knew that certain tools existed, except in France, Sweden and Poland (in the last 2 countries where a limited numbers of interviews were carried out, answers should be analysed carefully).

By analysing these findings we can clearly see that there is a lot of confusion, respondents mentioned all sorts of tools and “projects” not directly linked to this issue. The survey shows that only a very few people are using this kind of tools, but that these experts are using them frequently. Many respondents mentioned the fact that these tools are perceived as complicated and not user friendly.

Interest for such a tool

Despite all this, the interest for this kind of tool which allows a cost comparison between Corrugated and RPCs (or another competitive packaging) is high. This is the same for a tool that would allow a comparison of the environmental aspects. The score is even higher for a tool that compares both costs and environment.

MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

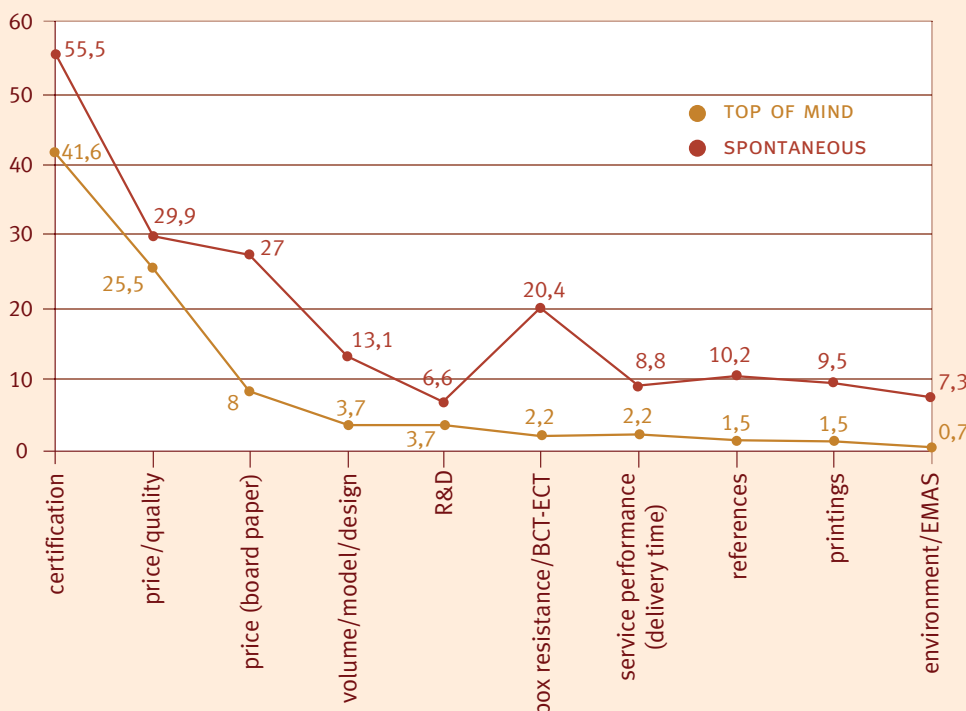


Diagram N°1 – % based on total number of respondents= 136



Other topic of interest (assisted)

We took advantage of this survey to ask additional questions in order to find out whether topics such as food safety, legislation, GMP, environmental issues and Waste Electronic Directive (WEEE) were important to customers. The chart here-below shows that the last item WEEE is of less concern to customers. On the other hand, overall, food safety, legislation, GMP and environmental issues are almost ranked at the same level (between 78 and 82 % of the respondents).

Main conclusions

According to this survey:

- Certification appears to be the important topic for customers and we should better understand their requirements
- There is strong interest for a tool that could help to sell corrugated because it would allow a direct

comparison with competitive materials on cost as well as environmental aspects

- The current situation is confused, as very few people know the existing tools (cost comparison or environmental analysis). In any case, these tools are not positively perceived (too complex)
- Although they were not all spontaneously mentioned food safety, legislation, GMP and environmental issues appear to be important topics.

In the next issue of FEFCONNECT we will give you more information on the breakdown per country, on the description of what could be the ideal tool and on the projects that could come up in the coming months.

› COMMUNICATIONS/ MARKET DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE STRATEGIC PRIORITY FOR 2005

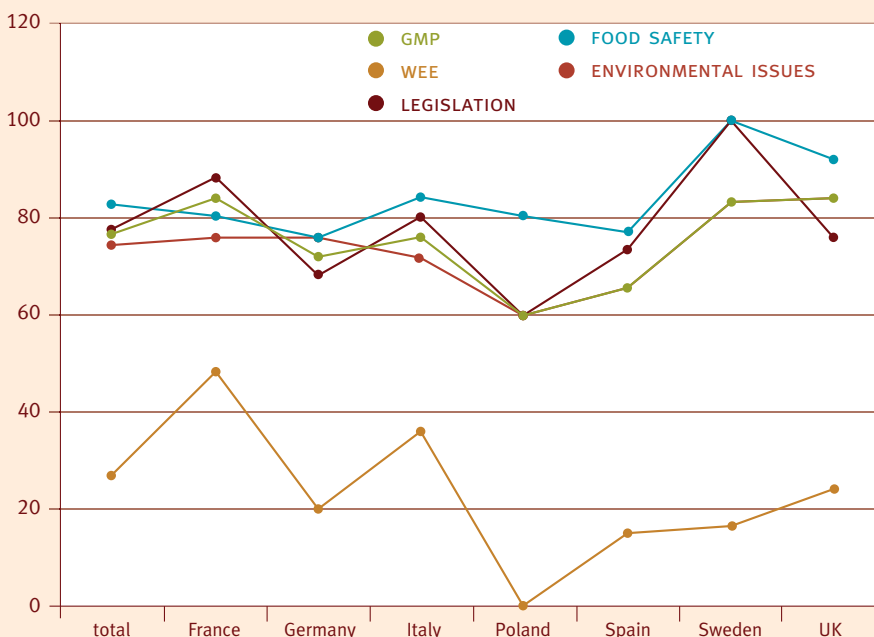
RPC's (Returnable Plastic Crates) continue to be an issue in certain sectors for the corrugated industry. The FEFCO Market Development Committee is willing to investigate this issue in depth in order to update its information and examine new developments. It is now becoming very important to create and maintain a real information network at industry level to share knowledge and data.

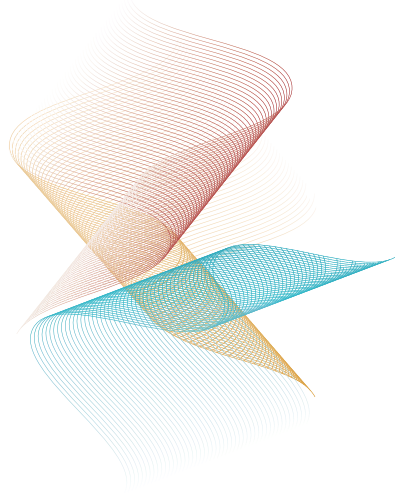
For this reason, the **Market Development** and the **Regulatory Affairs Committees** have decided to join forces on a "dual project" that will examine the marketing and legislative aspects regarding One-way and Reusable packaging.

The first stage of this "dual project" is the setting up of a new **RPC Task Force** composed of major representatives of FEFCO companies (see page 11).

Nathalie Schnéégans
FEFCO – Market Development Manager
nschneegans@fefco.org

OVERVIEW: QUESTIONS ASKED BY CLIENTS





FEFCO

European Federation of
Corrugated Board Manufacturers

13th Technical Seminar

20th - 22nd APRIL 2005 - NICE

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN NICE
The programme is posted on our website www.fefco.org

› SYMPATHISER MEMBERS INVITED TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE.

The rapid developments in our markets do not go unnoticed by our suppliers. Most of these are FEFCO Sympathizer Members and thus follow developments closely.

We have organised several Sympathiser Member meetings during which the next Technical Seminar was discussed. In the future we intend discussing new legislative and market developments.

The ever-stricter legislation with regards to noise emission poses a challenge to the suppliers. After all, a new part or equipment will only be bought having closely examined future legislation.

The same can be said of the trend to reduce the number of hands at the machine. Installation of noise reducing enclosures is costly and could better be prevented. Already in the design phase machine suppliers should take noise emission into account. Energy consumption of converting equipment is also an issue that is attracting interest.

More about this in the next FEFCOConnect.

Shopping formats cannot do without colourful corrugated.

There is only one conclusion possible: no corrugated, no shop!



Even though in certain departments reusable plastic crates have sometimes found their way, the appearance of corrugated is much more pleasing. Shoppers do like the colourful displays of corrugated.

Discount shopping formats like the German Aldi or Lidl groups or the Belgian group Colruyt all offer living proof that corrugated is economical, a fantastic communicator and a good protector.

True, corrugated has its own characteristics that need to be dealt with.

The total score of corrugated is however very positive. Close contacts with retailers and packer fillers will allow our industry to find solutions for what are sometimes small annoyances and so convince our customers even better! Easy shelf fill and opening solutions that save much time on the shop floor are being promoted by some industries. At the Krakow Marketing Seminar some examples were presented.

Packaging as such does not stand at the top of the **2004 Top Items** list prepared by CIES (The food business forum having 175 retail chains as member).

At the top you will find retailer supplier relations, customer loyalty and RFID (Radio Frequency Identification).

The study by CIES makes for important reading when you supply packaging destined for the shop floor.

You will find the study on the FEFCO website www.fefco.org in the Corrugated Market section under Retail & Distribution.



› RFID (RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION) WILL CHANGE THE FACE OF THE SUPPLY CHAIN

Thinking that RFID is just a new kind of bar-coding is a mistake. RFID opens up a whole new world of opportunities in the supply chain. True, many of the advantages of RFID could in theory also be realised with standard bar-codes, however the non-visual line reading capability that RFID allows is the big advantage.



In RFID technology a tag (containing an antenna and a chip) can talk (electromagnetic/radio waves) at a distance to a reading device. A line of vision as with bar-codes, is not needed. RFID is already in daily use in several applications such as libraries, luggage handling and at airports like Munich, Hong Kong and Manchester. Retail groups like **WalMart, Tesco and Metro** have projects running to implement RFID in the supply chain of the “grande distribution”. These projects currently relate to pallets and bigger re-usable containers but roll-out’s are planned. Advantages such as shelf availability (less Out Of Stock = OOS), less shrinkage (theft) and better inventory control are believed to create savings that will run into the billions!

Ultimately RFID will create a revolution on the shop floor behind and before the screens!

In the **Metro Future Store** in Rheinberg, Germany one can see with one’s own eyes what all the new technological gadgets can do.

It goes so far (again in theory) that cashiers will be superfluous. One does the check-out oneself (including the payment, that does not change). No wonder our industry is also very much involved and interested in this phenomenon.

Last year, FEFCO’s Board created the **RFID-Impact group**. This task force made up of specialists from major

groups and from various countries is chaired by Jan-Willem van der Veen (Kappa). Contacts have been established with all major stakeholders like EAN, retailers, technology suppliers and research centres. The objective is to make sure that our industry contributes to the discussion and helps find the best way to successfully apply RFID on our boxes. With about 75 billion corrugated boxes a year, our

industry should be seen as a major facilitator in the implementation of RFID. But before we reach the stage where that all boxes are fitted with an RFID tag, some problems still have to be solved.

An important issue is the system adaptability. With re-usable containers this adaptability is very limited. Once an RFID-tag is fixed in a re-usable container the technology used can no longer be changed. Replacement of the tag is practically impossible. Corrugated boxes each can have a tag for a specific purpose. This flexibility of corrugated gives it a huge advantage over re-usables.

With the current technology one still encounters problems where pallets of water or metal containing products are concerned. Not all individual boxes can be identified. FEFCO’s interest in the technology is stimulated by these and other issues. In close cooperation with retailers and technology suppliers the **RFID-Impact group** aims to establish industry wide standards.



(photos: Metro Group – Future Store Initiative)

› GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICE

After 2 years of solid work, the GMP group of experts made up of representatives from the Corrugated and Solid board industries produced the "International Good Manufacturing Practice Standard for Corrugated and Solid board". The document which is meant to help our plants meet market demands for higher standards in hygiene, quality and traceability through better process control, is available in English, French, German, Italian and Dutch versions. The Spanish version is ready and will soon be printed.

A second objective of FEFCO and ESBO in producing this standard has been to prevent numerous audits being requested from customers once we achieve global acceptance for our certification system. Copies of the Standard in book form can be ordered from FEFCO.



The document was officially launched in Brussels in autumn 2003 by David Byrne, European Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection. To date more than 800 copies of the Standard have been sold. The first 2

trainings for Auditors who applied to join the scheme took place in March and April 2004 and a third training is scheduled for March 2005.

Certified plants to date are:

- **SMURFIT SOCAR**
Mortagne sur Sevre - France
- **SMURFIT SOCAR**
Mellac - France
- **KAPPA DE ZEEUW GOLFKARTON**
in Eerbeek - The Netherlands
- **KAPPA TWINCORR**
in Hoozeven - The Netherlands
- **KAPPA TWINCORR**
in Nieuwe Pekela - The Netherlands
- **KAPPA OUDENBOSCH GOLFKARTON**
in Etten-Leur - The Netherlands

In parallel we have started work towards having the Standard accepted worldwide by both packers-fillers and retailers.

› GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICES STANDARD NOW AVAILABLE IN CHINESE

The development of a Good Manufacturing Practices Standard for the Corrugated and Solid Board industry has proven to be extremely timely. Retailers and food processors are very much interested in the safety of food

products and the way these are produced and packed. Even though corrugated packaging during the last 100 years has never been involved in any problem related to food safety it is considered to be of great importance to

work and produce under strict conditions. The GMP standard is based on or is compatible with overall standards such as the Danish and Dutch HACCP-guidelines, the BRC/IOP and the AIB standards.

› GMP TRAINING FOR AUDITORS

On April 14 and 15 the second auditors course on the International, GMP standard for corrugated and solid board was held at the FEFCO offices in Brussels.

Wim Hoebert, Secretary General of FEFCO, gave an introduction on our industry and showed a DVD detailing the production process of corrugated. The DVD produced by the Austrian association, shows the various phases of the making of a box starting with the design phase.

The participants (see photo) from Germany, France, Italy the UK and Holland were all very enthusiastic about both the standard and the organization. The standard was considered

to be very comprehensive, clear and transparent and everyone looked forward to its application in daily practice.



Trainer Helmie Keijsers of Improving Quality, Jean-Jacques Azens - Chairman of FEFCO Standards Committee and Auditor trainees

Ms. Helmie Keijsers from **Improving Quality** in Holland provided the training and in turn was very pleased to note that the participants had shown a keen interest and proved to be very critical.

Some minute differences in the translation were unearthed.

The success of these courses in which auditors from reputed European Certifying agents are being trained for auditing the solid board and corrugated industry converting plants shows that GMP is an important phenomenon and underscores the fact that standards are definitely needed. The next auditors training will be held at FEFCO in Brussels on 17 and 18 March 2005.

› SPECIAL RPC TASK FORCE INSTALLED

In today's logistical chains every cent or penny counts. Logistic costs amount to about 7% of sales in large US companies and that is big money. No wonder that within the chain one looks for opportunities to save costs.

Cost saving in too many cases is considered to be effective when the cost of packaging as such is reduced. All too often one forgets what the packaging was meant to do next to plain packaging.

Such is the experience of many companies that moved from corrugated to plastics.

They learnt the hard way that boxes do much more than just contain goods. Plastic crates do not properly protect

against dust and dirt, make pilfering an easy job and leave the product exposed. Closed crates need special and unpractical closure systems, are heavy, not adapted to a specific job and lack the promotional value of a nicely imprinted box.



In order to make the case for corrugated cases even stronger, the board of FEFCO has decided to install a task force that will be looking at the place of packaging in the supply chain and will examine the pro's and con's of corrugated and RPC's.

Fortunately there is a plethora of general technical and environmental arguments proving that corrugated, in most situations, is often more cost effective than RPC's.

The task force will examine box behaviour in various supply chains and look for the potential for improvements.

Future issues of FEFConnect will bring you the latest developments and news from this task force.

INDUSTRY NEWS

› LES ÉTOILES DE L'ONDULÉ



Created by ONDEF the French national association, the 2nd edition of the **Corrugated Star Awards** was held in Paris in November.

The jury presided by Mr. Gérard Caron

designer and founder of Carré Noir, Scopes, Admiral Design.com and the Pan European Design Association, examined some 46 entries from the industry and, for the first time, some 16 student-projects.

The Gold, Silver and Bronze awards recompensed the best corrugated packaging designs in the following categories: Supply Chain & Packaging, Technology and Innovation, Implementation & Optimisation, Design & Differentiation, Packaging and Environment. Winners included: Celta Rossmann, Smurfit Socar, Saica/Sapso, Kaysersberg Packaging,

Mondi Packaging, Sical Rossmann, International Paper and Emin Leydier. A new award the Young Star was presented to student Lucie Villot of l'ESPAC. Full details can be found on the ONDEF website www.ondef.org



› NAD AND RAC RECEPTION AT DR. SMURFIT'S LONDON RESIDENCE

On September 6th and 7th both the National Association Directors and the Regulatory Affairs Committee meetings were held in London at the invitation of Dr. Martin Oldman of CPA. FEFCO's President Dr. Dermot Smurfit

kindly invited the members for an informal reception and dinner at his London residence. It proved to be an excellent opportunity to exchange views and ideas about the corrugated industry and to review

the current situation in the various countries. The activities of FEFCO were discussed and several new suggestions were put on the table.



Fefco President in conversation with Anneli Laakso - Finland, Martin Oldman - UK, Angelika Christ - Germany and Krzysztof Sadowski - Poland

› FEFCO AT SUPERCORREXPO - NOVEMBER 2004 IN ATLANTA

It was SuperCorrExpo time again. Every 4 years TAPPI organizes this fantastic event in Atlanta. Over 200 exhibitors from all over the world showed what they offer the corrugated industry. The 5.000 or so visitors did not see

many machines, most companies had limited themselves to parts or photo displays. Amongst the exceptions were Bobst/Martin and Fosber. There were few American machine suppliers, but Asian suppliers on the other hand were present in large numbers.

The FEFCO booth had a lot of visitors who were interested in the EU packaging legislation and FEFCO's position, the GMP standard for the corrugated and solid board industry and in the FEFCO codes. Present in Atlanta were Wim Hoebert, who used the opportunity to participate in the seminars and attended many meetings of the FBA committees, and Soheila Zelli.



SuperCorrExpo exhibition in Atlanta



FEFCO stand at SuperCorrExpo

› FORMER STANDARDS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RETIRES FROM EMPA (SWITZERLAND)

After more than 20 years Urs Ernst, the Chairman of the FEFCO Standards Committee has retired from his company and his committee work. During his chairmanship Urs was the initiator of many new testing standards and has greatly contributed to a better

technological understanding of boxes. The corrugated industry is indebted to Urs for the many long hours that he has contributed to the Federation. Urs will remain active as advisor to FEFCO in the future. We wish him an excellent retirement.



Mr. Urs Ernst

› FORMER PRODUCTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RETIRES FROM SMURFIT.



Jean-Claude Billiet, the longstanding Chairman of the Production Committee, recently retired as Vice-President Production of Smurfit Europe. At his farewell party in Lille (France) on 13 December. Wim Hoebert, Secretary General of FEFCO, presented him with a watercolour painting set for his new hobby.

As Chairman of the FEFCO Production Committee, Jean-Claude has been the driving force behind the Corrugator Efficiency, the rejuvenation of the Nice Technical Seminar and numerous other projects. We wish Jean-Claude and his wife all the best at the dawn of this new and colourful episode of their lives.

Don't hesitate to send us your news on information@fefco.org

FEFCO COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS

- Production
 - Corrugator Efficiency
- Standards
- Communications/Market Development
- Regulatory Affairs
 - REX
- GMP Editorial Group
- GMP Advisory Board
- RPC Task Force
- RFID Impact Group

 AUSTRIA



Dieter Gruber
President



Rudolf Bergolth
Secretary General
de PPV Austria



Alfred Bartosch
Secretary General
de Forum
Wellpappe Austria

The Forum Wellpappe Austria is an initiative of the Austrian corrugated board industry with its members Bauernfeind, Duropack, Mosburger, Rondo Ganahl, SCA Packaging Welpa, Smurfit Interwell, Steirerpack and TEWA. It was founded on January 1st, 2000 and is the successor of Papier-Treuhandgesellschaft that had represented the Austrian corrugated board industry since 1958.

The Forum Wellpappe Austria is an autonomous industry association within PPV AUSTRIA, the Austrian Paper and Corrugated Board Processing Industry. All corrugated board manufacturers are also members of PPV AUSTRIA, that takes care of all political aspects of the representation of interests together with the industrial trade association PPV.

For this reason there exist two offices for the Austrian corrugated board industry :

Forum Wellpappe Austria takes care of all matters relating to public relation, industry statistics, market analyses, ARA licence agreements, Resy, and international association work.

Secretary General: **Alfred Bartosch**

PPV AUSTRIA, Brucknerstrasse 8, 1040 Vienna.

Handles the political representation of interests of the corrugated board and paper processing industry, employers' / social politics, packaging politics, economic / industrial politics, environmental politics, education / training development programmes, and international association work.

Secretary General: **Rudolf Bergolth**

The chairman of the industry association is elected for one year according to a rotation system. Dr. Dieter Gruber currently occupies that position, and as President, he represents the Austrian corrugated board industry at FEFCO.

One of the main tasks of Forum Wellpappe Austria is to increase knowledge and status of information on corrugated board in general by means of targeted public relations work and to take care of the product image building. Fred Havran is the speaker of the Forum, and Former Acting Chairman of FEFCO's Communication Committee. He was instrumental in the success of the Marketing Congress in Krakow Poland in October 2003.

OFFICE PPV AUSTRIA

Bruckner Strasse 8 - Postfach 131 - AT - 1041 Wien
Tel : + 43 / 1 505 53 82-0 - Fax : + 43 / 1 505 9018
e-mail : ppv@ppv.at - Site: www.ppv.at

OFFICE FORUM WELLPAPPE AUSTRIA

Gumpendorfer Strasse 6 - AT - 1061 Wien
Tel : + 43 / 1 58 886 233 - Fax : + 43 / 1 588 86 222
e-mail : forum@wellpappe.at - www.wellpappe.at

 BELGIUM

The Belgian Association of Corrugated Board Manufacturers was founded in 1938.

Its main objective is to defend and promote the interests of Belgian corrugated board manufacturers and to inform its members of all the developments relevant to the industry (exchange of information on the economy, the environment, EU legislation and standards, ...).

The Belgian Association has 7 members who together represent more than 90 % of the Belgian production of corrugated board.

The board of directors is composed as follows :

> **Chairman: Emmanuel COOL**

(Managing Director of SMURFIT - CARTOMILLS – Ghlin)
Chairman Manu Cool, 54 years old, enjoys a longstanding career in the corrugated industry. He started as sales manager

of Cartomills 25 years ago. In 2000, he became managing director of Cartomills, full subsidiary of the Jefferson Smurfit Group since 2003. He is responsible for 3 corrugated plants in Belgium: Cartomills Ghlin, Groot-Bijgaarden and Mettet.

> **First vice-president: Jean-Paul MACHARIS**

(Managing Director of VPK PACKAGING – Oudegem)

> **The Secretary: Mrs. Lieve VANLIERDE**, handles the daily matters and management.

ASSOCIATION OF BELGIAN CORRUGATED BOARD MANUFACTURERS

Chaussée de Waterloo 715 b. 25 - B-1180 BRUSSELS
Tel : + 32 (0)2 / 344.19.62 - Fax : + 32 (0)2 / 344.86.61
E-mail : info@fetra.be

The FEFCO team wishes you a very Happy New Year

FEFCO STAFF



Wim Hoebert
Secretary General
wim.hoebert@fefco.org
Phone: +32 2 646 40 70



Nathalie Schnéegans
Market Development Manager
nschneegans@fefco.org
Phone: +32 2 646 40 70



Carmen Fernández Aparicio
Regulatory Affairs Manager
carmen.fernandez@fefco.org
Phone +32 2 626 98 36



Soheila Zelli
Office Manager/Events Coordinator
soheila.zelli@fefco.org
Phone: +32 2 626 98 39



Ariane de Viron
Assistant to Wim Hoebert
ariane.deviron@fefco.org
Phone: +32 2 646 40 70



Leila Houari
Admin/Accounts
leila.houari@fefco.org
Phone: +32 2 626 98 37

NB: Kasia Scoggins kasia.scoggins@fefco.org will be replacing Ariane during her maternity leave.

FEFCO TRAININGS IN 2005 AT FEFCO IN BRUSSELS

FULL DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE WWW.FEFCO.ORG

20 & 21 January

Retaining Customers & Profitability in a Zero Growth Market

23 & 24 February

Key Account Manager

9 & 10 March

The Secrets of Building & Leading Winning Teams

17 & 18 March

Good Manufacturing Practice Training for Auditors

1st Quarter 2005

Seminar on European Packaging Legislation for New Member States

RECAP OF TRAININGS ORGANISED IN 2004

GMP Trainings for Auditors:	March & April
Key Accounts Managers:	June
e-Auction in English, German & French:	October, November & December

VILO RELATIEDAGEN (RELATIONSHIPDAYS) 2005

25-27 JANUARY 2005 - Hardenberg, The Netherlands
Phone: 00 31 523 28 98 98
info@evenementenhal-hardenberg.nl

PHARMAPACK 2005

26-27 JANUARY 2005 - Paris, France
Phone: 00 33 148 91 89 89
www.pharmapack.com.fr

FRUIT LOGISTICA BERLIN 2005

10-12 FEBRUARY 2005 - Berlin, Germany
Phone: 00 49 30 30 38 22 18
rogall@messe-berline.de
www.fruitlogistica.de

AIDC 2005

8-9 MARCH 2005 - Arnhem, The Netherlands
Phone: 00 31 40 296 99 22
www.aidc-beurs.nl

SOLIDS, PROCESSING & HANDLING

22-24 MARCH 2005 - Antwerp, Belgium
Phone: 00 32 32 60 81 40.
solids@thorex.net
www.thorex.net

EMPACK

5-6 APRIL 2005 - Den Bosch, The Netherlands
Phone: 00 31 162 40 89 99
netherlands@easyfairs.com
www.easyfairs.com

NATIONAL FOOD WEEK

6-8 APRIL 2005 - Utrecht, Netherlands
Phone: +31 30 29 52 767
info@nationalefoodweek.nl
www.nationalefoodweek.nl

FEFCO TECHNICAL SEMINAR

20-22 APRIL 2005 - Nice, France
www.fefco.org

XV INTERNATIONAL PAPERMAKING CONFERENCE

28-30 SEPTEMBER 2005 - Wroclaw, Poland
Association of Polish Papermakers (SPP)
Phone: (+4842) 630 01 17
info@spp.pl

FEFCO MARKETING CONGRESS

29-30 SEPTEMBER 2005 - Istanbul, Turkey
www.fefco.org

IPT ISTANBUL 2005

15-18 NOVEMBER 2005 - Istanbul, Turkey
CNR Expo Center, Yesilkoy
www.hkf-fairs.com

FEFCO
European Federation of
Corrugated Board Manufacturers