POLYURETHANE SECTOR APPOINTMENTS

NOVO FOR DOW POLYURETHANES

Midland, Michigan – Dow Chemical Co. has appointed Guillermo Novo vice president of Dow Polyurethanes, a global business group that includes Dow’s Polyurethanes, Propylene Glycol, Isocyanates and Polyols businesses.

In this new role, Novo also becomes global business director for Dow Polyols.

Dow named Novo when the company bought Rohm and Haas in April 2009. He succeeds Fat Dawson, who has been named president of the Asia Pacific and India regions for Dow.

STEPAN APPOINTS IN POLYOLS

Rickmansworth, UK – Stepan Europe has promoted Rob Sewell to senior technical manager, European Polyols. Sewell will manage all technical service activities to the company’s Stepanol aromatic polyester polyols (APP) customers in Europe, Stepan said.

Andy Bailey has also joined Stepan Europe as Technical Development Manager, European Polyols. Bailey has worked in the polyurethane industry for over 11 years, and will focus on helping customers who want to switch to self-formulated PIR (polyisocyanurate) foam from systems within the rigid-faced panel industry.

CHEMTURA APPOINTS CROSS

Middlebury, Connecticut – Chemtura Corp. has appointed Chet Cross as executive vice president and group president of its Engineered Products division.

Cross was most recently at Ashland Corp., as vice president of operations for Ashland Hercules Water Technologies, primarily responsible for strategic oversight of the global manufacturing footprint and for the global operations and planning organizations.

GRIEVE RETIRES FROM YANTAI

Yantai, China – Yantai Wanjia Polyurethanes has announced the retirement of Robin Grieve, following eight years as a consultant on MDI (methylene diphenyl disocyanate).

Grieve intends to continue his career in the US by concentrating on his growing downstream polyurethane-family interests.

RUBBERLITE ADDS DIMITROFF

Huntington, Virginia – Rubberlite Inc., a US-based converter of cellular rubber and foam plastics products, has appointed Michael Dimitroff as director of research and development, a 29 Jan company statement said.

Dimitroff previously worked for Momentive Chemical and BASF.

BAALBAKI ADDS ADVISORY BOARD

Systems House Baalbak Chemical Industries has a new advisory board of international experts.

Head of this new group is Hans-Joachim Kegelbach, whose career includes running Bayer Corp. USA’s PU business. He is supported by:

• Robin Grieve, whose 48 years in the PU industry spanned Upjohn Polyurethanes, Dow Chemical Co. and Ciba Chemical.

KLEBA TO HEAD RÜHL PUROMER

Friedrichsdorf, Germany – Dr Ingo Kleba has been appointed managing director of polyurethane system supplier Rühl Paramer GmbH, based in Friedrichsdorf in Germany.

Kleba has many years experience in polyurethanes and in CFR (carbon-fiber-reinforced plastics) technology – two of Rühl’s central activities.

Most recently he worked as a sales director for German polyurethane equipment manufacturer specialist Hommerling GmbH.

• Frank Hessecke, a trade official with the European Commission, most recently from 2005 to 2006 as head of the European Union delegation to the Middle East;

• Philip Khoury, a financial expert and co-founder and managing director of a Turkish asset-management company.