

CONTENT:**Editor's Note****Future of Additive Manufacturing**

— Prof. Long Lin

I am very pleased to see the inclusion of a paper on 3D printing in this issue. I still vividly remember the first time when I heard a presentation on additive manufacturing (AM) at a conference in Germany a few years' ago. Ever since then, I have frequently been reminded of AM by the first 3D printed chess castle piece that has spiral steps inside that landed on my desk soon after that conference.

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Technology Forecast**The Road Ahead for 3-D Printers (Part 1)**

— Alan Earls and Vinod Baya, PwC, USA

As 3-D printers become faster, easier to use, capable of handling multiple materials, and printing active components or systems, they will find use beyond rapid prototyping. The technology for 3-D printing, also known as additive manufacturing, has existed in some form since the 1980s. However, the technology has not been capable enough or cost-effective for most end-product or high-volume commercial manufacturing. Expectations are running high that these shortcomings are about to change. ([Click to Read the E-magazine](#))

Wood Coatings**China Waterborne Wood Coatings Market Research Report**

— Ms. Cathline Guo, Waterborne China Platform (WBCP); Mr. Charles Oliver, GCiS China Strategic Research

This China Waterborne Wood Coating Market Report ("report") is published by Waterborne China Platform (WBCP) and analysed by GCiS, a third party research organisation. The copyright in this report belongs to WBCP. This project is mainly focused on the wooden furniture and wood coating market analysis, providing details on the overall market demand, competition from the perspective of eco-friendly products such as waterborne wood coatings, as well as in-depth research of development trend in the future including market forecasts. ([Click to Read the E-magazine](#))

Additives**New Functional Additives with Branched Structures**

— Dr. Michael Bessel, Petra Della Valentina, Astrid Rudolphi, Zong Xian Hu, BYK-Chemic, Germany

By applying modern synthesis methods, BYK is producing branched polymer additives with tailor-made structures and new properties. For instance, a surface active polyacrylate is presented that gives excellent levelling, increases the surface energy and improves the wetting of cured coatings. Additionally, new wetting and dispersing agents based on tailor-made branched, spherical copolymers are introduced. These flowable, solvent-free additives exhibit a wide compatibility with all types of pigments. In addition, such branched core/shell wetting and dispersing agents can be applied in reactive formulations without negative impacts on pot life, cross-linking density and storage stability. ([Click to Read the E-magazine](#))

Automotive Coatings**Automotive Colour Trends**

Axalta Coating Systems has announced its North American Automotive Colour of the Year for 2016 - Brilliant Blue. The announcement comes in advance of the 2016 North American International Auto Show (NAIAS). ([Click to Read the E-magazine](#))

Regular Columns**Product Literature**

- TEGO® VariPlus LK lowers VOC content in pigment concentrates & coatings formulations
- Measure soluble salts on surfaces significantly faster with the new Elcometer 130 SSP Soluble Salt Profiler
- Jotun launches Jotachar 1709, mesh free epoxy passive fire protection coating
- Union Process develops new tank construction featuring a replaceable bar grid & removable ball valve for laboratory attritor mills
- Michelman's Ecronova™ RA 180 Plus for wood coatings resists stains & discolouration
- Air Products launches Surfynol® 107L surfactant & ZetaSpense® 3800 dispersant ([Click to Read the E-magazine](#))

Industry News

- Wanhua Chemical commissioned new IPDI plant
- PPG offers Sealants Europe products through Asia Pacific Application Support Centres
- Clariant confirms that sustainability & best-performance can go hand-in-hand for water-based wood coatings
- Lubrizol opens a compounding plant in Dahej, India
- IMCD opens office in Japan
- Covestro & TTP: developing revolutionary coating technology ([Click to Read the E-magazine](#))

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