

FTA Europe News

Association News 2-5

- Diamond Awards 2022:
Awarding flexo excellence
- A busy period for FTA Europe!

Members News 6-8

- ATEF's collaboration to promote HISPAC, the Spanish packaging industry show
- EFTA-Benelux organised a seminar on sustainable packaging materials
- Kick-off EFTA Flexo Academy
- FIAUK members enjoy a ferry nice evening for their 50th Anniversary celebration

Events 9

EU Policy Corner 10

- Current policy developments in packaging

Industry News 11

- Report: European supermarkets falling short on packaging commitments
- Consumers are unsure about food contact materials according to VZBV study
- AF&PA Report: Corrugated board's impressive recyclability rate
- Self adhesive label market to grow to \$62.3B by 2026

Partners 12

FTA Europe: The European Flexographic Industry Association

Avenue Louise 130A, 1050 Brussels, Belgium

+32 (0) 2 230 86 46

info@fta-europe.eu

www.FTA-Europe.eu



Diamond Awards 2022: Awarding flexo excellence

FTA Europe and 370 guests from the flexo industry celebrated the top printers in Europe, by attending the Diamond Awards 2022, on 5 May, at UNA Hotels Expo Fiera Milano, in Milan, Italy.

The winners of the 14 categories were chosen amongst 120 entries of excellent flexo works and were awarded with a beautiful Diamond. Diamond Awards' finalists are winners of national flexo competitions held by ATEF (ES), ATF Flexo (FR), ATIF (IT), EFTA Benelux and FIA UK. This makes the printers participating in the Diamond Awards truly the top printers in Europe and beyond. Indeed, this year's awards reached flexo excellence beyond Europe's

borders, as in the "International" category we had the opportunity to see works from Brazil, Australia and USA.

The fourth edition of the Awards welcomed a record number of guests, with 370 people joining from all over Europe. Anne De Baetzelier has been our wonderful presenter for the evening, which ended with our guests dancing to a unique DJ set accompanied by percussions.

The Diamond for the "Best in Show" was awarded to one of Italy's winners, Scatolificio Ceriana for their work Aurilis Group Italia – SC51 Scatola Portabici Green Valley.

[Click here to see the winners of the Diamond Awards 2022](#)



Association News



Wim Buyle (Vice President, FTA Europe) and Sante Conselvan (President, FTA Europe) awarding the winners of the 'Best in Show' category.

MEET OUR SPONSORS

Uteco
JOIN THE FLEX-CONVERTING

3M **ALLSTEIN** **BOBST** **DEC IMPIANTI**
your environmental partner

I&C GAMA GROUP **KOENIG & BAUER** **Lohmann**
The Bonding Engineers

miraclon **Re** **tesa** **WINDMOELLER & HOELSCHER**
PASSION FOR INNOVATION

AsahiKASEI **COMEXI** **SIEGWERK** **Sinapse** **SOMA** **ZDUE**
Asahi Photoproducts Print Simulators

A busy period for FTA Europe!

FTA Europe has been present in major flexo events! On 13-16 March, President Sante Conselvan (ATIF, IT), travelled all the way to Texas, USA, to attend FTA Forum and INFOFLEX. FTA Forum was followed by the 40th edition of INFOFLEX - the first live exhibition in three years

Sante Conselvan also attended the Flexographer's Conference 2022 organised by the PLFTA – Polish Flexographic Technical Association, that took place on 23-24 May in Pila. The FTA Europe President had the honour to be the first to give a speech, in which he



FTA US gave a warm welcome to FTA Europe and President Sante Conselvan

for the entire packaging printing industry.

President Conselvan moreover sent his virtual greetings for the flexo and label printers FPLMA Technical Forum, while Mr Giuseppe Gianetti gave a technical presentation. The forum took place on 24-25 February.

mentioned the flexo market, the opportunities and challenges of our industry and of course, our association's activities.

Early this June, Mr Conselvan also attended the FINAT conference.

Association News



Sante Conselvan with Krzysztof Skrobot, the current director of the office of the Polish Chamber of Flexographers.



Jules Lejeune (FINAT), Philippe Voet (Etivoet, FINAT) and President Sante Conselvan.

ATEF's collaboration to promote HISPACK, the Spanish packaging industry show

Hispack has exceeded expectations: Together with Graphispag, the packaging and logistics show attracted 31,118 visitors. Fira de Barcelona's exhibition recaptured the atmosphere of the great industrial trade fairs, bringing together companies, organisations and professionals in packaging, to showcase innovation and share knowledge at a time when the transition towards the circularity of packaging is accelerating. The 18th edition of Hispack brought together 643 exhibitors and 1,027 brands, attracting 31,118 visitors, 11% of them visiting from outside Europe. The event was combined with the graphics and visual communication industry show, Graphispag.

Hispack has left a good impression among the participating companies, speakers, international buyers, guests and the public. Attendees discovered plenty of new products, joined customer meetings and made quality professional contacts and business deals. These were four days of continuous activity in the conference centre, demonstrating the strength and dynamic of an industry that is essential to the Spanish economy, with an annual turnover of around 30,000 million euros.

The selected dates and venue, along with Graphispag have been highly valued for their contribution in increasing the commercial power of both fairs, and have moreover made visible the synergies between packaging and printing. Due to this collaboration with Graphispag, this has been one of the largest industrial trade fair platforms of the year in the Iberian market.

It is worth highlighting the interest aroused by the 147 sessions and round tables with 322 speakers held within the framework of the fair,

with an estimated attendance of more than 6,000 people.

ATEF was particularly active, with presentations from their members (OQ CHEMICALS, QUIMOVIL, ENPLATER and TPL-Transparent Paper). The topics focused on sustainability strategies in packaging, branding, materials and improving the user experience.

After this successful edition, Hispack will take place again from 14 to 17 May 2024 and from then on will resume its triennial periodicity and fit into the international trade fair calendar of the packaging sector.

EFTA-Benelux organised a seminar on sustainable packaging materials



prepare themselves? How does all this affect packaging design, the choice of materials, the suitability of packaging for recycling, and the investment in new technology?

This was the subject for which almost 50 members and invited guests (including some representatives of Kartoflex (cardboard and flexible packaging) and NRK Verpakkingen (plastic packaging) were present on 12th of May in Rotterdam on board the former steamship of the Holland-America Line near the famous Hotel New York. As chairman Roel Seele put it, "to be taken on a journey to a world of new knowledge".

It is no longer solely the printing parameters that determine the choices. How can packaging companies in these sectors

Kick-off EFTA Flexo Academy

Under the guidance of EFTA-Benelux chairman Roel Seele, and board member Henk Edzes, the first course day of the EFTA Flexo Academy 2022 started on the 19th of May 2022, at Oerlemans Plastics B.V.

During the first day of the course, some basic concepts about printing, the machines and the construction of printing forms were discussed. The content of the first day of the course is a good addition to the knowledge of the internal and external sales staff and laboratory staff from companies within the flexo industry.

During the upcoming months 5 more sessions will be organized, both in person and online.



FIAUK members enjoy a ferry nice evening for their 50th Anniversary celebration



FIAUK is pleased to report that its calendar of 50th Anniversary celebrations has continued to make waves with a successful trip along the River Mersey on Tuesday 14th June.

In an event to be remembered, FIAUK members were invited to an evening of entertainment, refreshments and networking aboard the famous Mersey Ferry, watching the sun set over the waterfront. After a warm welcome from FIAUK Chairman of the Board, Andy Wilson, followed by a short speech from Rob Hawkins on behalf of Sun Chemical, the Diamond Plus Partner of FIA UK, the evening was punctuated with a Beatles tribute band in a fitting nod to the host city of Liverpool.

The event, like many through the FIAUK

calendar, provides the flexographic industry with a chance to connect and unwind away from offices and production floors.

As the year cruises along, we look towards the next major event - the FIAUK Gala Awards Dinner on 22nd September. The Gala Dinner sits alongside the FIAUK Awards, an event that showcases the brightest and best along the flexo supply chain. Tickets for the Gala Awards Dinner are now available to reserve.

FIAUK would like to give sincere thanks to all who attended and helped to make the evening so special.

To find out more about the organisation's upcoming events programme, please contact admin@fiauk.com

Events

2022

SEPTEMBER

22/09/2022 FIA UK Annual Awards Gala Dinner

NOVEMBER

15/11/2022 ATIF (IT) BestInFlexo

16/11/2022 ATIF (IT) Flexo Day



Click [here](#) to download the flyer with the program

Current policy developments in packaging

The **Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (PPWD)** proposal is expected to be published in Q4 of 2022 according to the Commission's announcement, together with other files that are part of the Circular Economy Package II. The Directive may become a Regulation, in order to ensure a more harmonised implementation in all member states.

The measures expected in the upcoming proposal include:

- National packaging weight reduction targets per capita by 2030.
- Recyclability requirements, including targets, ranging from recyclability percentages, design criteria for recycling, negative list of packaging characteristics, definitions of compostability and biodegradability, mandatory compostability of selected products (lightweight bags, tea bags, fruit labels, films for food), target on recycled content in plastic packaging.
- Labelling requirements on sorting, reusability, recycled content.

What is yet to be clarified is the notion of the 95% recyclability per packaging unit.

Due to this upcoming revision, FTA Europe has co-signed a joint industry paper circulated by EUROPEN, the European organisation for packaging and the environment, in order to bring to the attention of the European Commission a joint proposal for a harmonised definition of recyclable packaging.

The paper is specific to flexible packaging and therefore it is directly relevant for the flexo industry. The objective of this joint initiative is to ensure that packaging is not only recyclable but effectively recycled by 2030. The paper strives for a clear and actionable definition of recyclability, enabling innovations in packaging,

infrastructure and recycling technologies.

The upcoming revision of the **Waste Framework Directive** is expected to be published in the Q2 of 2023. The Directive will have an impact assessment, as the Commission launched a call for evidence past January. The objective of the revision is to sustain an efficient market for secondary raw materials within the EU and thus enhance the circular economy. It is moreover crucial to strengthen the harmonisation and enforcement of EU recycling regulations and proper collection of packaging waste to achieve the EU waste recycling targets.

Concerning Food Contact Materials (FCMs), the Commission is currently revising the rules to allow the use of recycled plastics in **food contact material applications**, revoking legislation from 2008. This revision is meant to provide clear specifications, including rules for all relevant stakeholders, such as operators and competent authorities. The revision will also include information on the types of plastics that are safe to be used in printed materials coming into contact with food.

The Commission has published the proposal for an **Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR)** this March, with the objective to set a framework for the establishment of ecodesign requirements (both information and performance requirements), that products will have to fulfill to be allowed on the EU market. The Ecodesign Directive will be revoked - ESPR will contain an extended scope, containing requirements not only focused on energy-related products but will also cover product durability, reusability and/or reparability for specific products.

Industry News

Report: European supermarkets falling short on packaging commitments

Civil society organisations Changing Markets Foundation and Break Free From Plastic published a report that investigated plastic pollution related actions carried out by 74 of the largest European supermarkets. Considering data transparency, published packaging goals, and support for government reuse or recycling targets, the total average score achieved by the retailers was 13 out of 100.

Read more [here](#).

Consumers are unsure about food contact materials according to VZBV study

The German consumer organisation Verbraucherzentrale Bundesverband (VZBV) conducted a market study, which results showcase that consumers are concerned about food packaging safety but are not very much aware of the chemicals in packaging - consumers assume all food contact materials have been tested for safety by relevant authorities.

Read more [here](#).

AF&PA Report: Corrugated board's impressive recyclability rate

The American Forest & Paper Association's (AF&PA) report on paper recycling rates in 2021 confirms once again the high recyclability of paper products, at 68%. Old corrugated carton stands out with an astounding recyclability rate of 91.4%.

Read more [here](#).

Self adhesive label market to grow to \$62.3B by 2026

The global self-adhesive labels market size is projected to grow from \$47.9 billion in 2021 to \$62.3 billion by 2026, at a Compound Annual Growth Rate of 5.4 percent from 2021 to 2026, according to a new report from Market and Markets. Flexography is the fastest growing segment in self-adhesive labels.

Read more [here](#).

Partners

Asahi Photoproducts
an Asahi Kasei company

26 - 28 April - Brussels
**LABELXPO
EUROPE 2022**
www.labelxpo-europe.com
Visit us at booth 5A34



CleanPrint for
a Sustainable
Flexo Printing Future.

Best Quality. CO2 Measured.

AWP™-DEW

Water-washable plates

This water-washable plate is ideal for highest quality flexo applications, including flexible packaging and labels. It features CleanPrint technology for sustainable reduction of the printers' carbon footprint.

For Cleaner Flexo, Think CleanPrint. Think **Asahi!**

AsahiKASEI

AWP™-DEW
is certified by
the Carbon
Trust in
accordance
to PAS 2050



ASAHI-PHOTOPRODUCTS.COM

