

Brussels, November 2nd, 2010

SOLVIN AWARD FOR PVC INNOVATION 2010 ACCLAIMS THE WINNERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AND CREATIVE DESIGN

The winners of the 2010 SolVin Award for PVC Innovation were unveiled on October 28th during the K2010 International Plastics Trade Fair in Düsseldorf, Germany, honouring the most impressive innovators among 141 contestants which represented the entire vinyl value chain. In this fourth awarding ceremony of the SolVin Award, the jury honoured innovations which highlight the decisive contribution of vinyl to sustainable development combining environmental efficiency, creativity in design and improvements to quality of life.

The **Gold SolVin Award** of EUR 50,000 goes to **Georg Fischer Deka** (Germany) for its innovative photo bioreactors based on 100% transparent PVC pipes and fittings to grow micro algae.

The **Silver SolVin Award** of EUR 25,000 goes to **Rohm and Haas** (France) for SureCel™: a breakthrough in Processing Aid Technology aiming at saving 20% of material in Foamed PVC profiles.

The **Bronze SolVin Award** of EUR 10,000 goes to **Alkor Draka** (France) for the Highest Fire Resistance Stretched Ceilings in PVC with zero smoke emission.

The **Recycling SolVin Award** of EUR 7,500 goes to **Profine** (Germany) for their Window and Door System KBE System_88 mm. This window is made of up to 50% of recycled PVC and by its conception achieves spectacular energy savings (Uf 0.79 W/m²K) particularly interesting for passive houses.

The Jury was so impressed by the sophisticated processes used to create and decorate a wide range of jewels that they decided to change the name of the Industrial Design SolVin Award into CREATIVE Design, insisting on the good combination of rationales and emotional.

The **Creative Design SolVin Award** of EUR 7,500 goes to **Molusk** (France) for their Aquatic jewellery – the fresh touch of this event.

To know more about the SolVin Award visit our website: www.solvinaward.com.

SolVin combines the competences of Solvay (75%) and BASF (25%) in the European vinyls sector. The synergies achieved in know-how and organization, the complementarities of product ranges as well as upstream integration have built up SolVin as a leader on the PVC and PVDC markets. The joint venture has operations in France, Germany, Spain, Italy and Belgium and a total annual production capacity of 1.3 million tons of PVC, with nearly 1600 employees. For further information, visit www.solvinpvc.com.

SOLVAY is an international industrial Group active in Chemistry. It offers a broad range of products and solutions that contribute to improving quality of life. The Group is headquartered in Brussels and employs about 17,000 people in 40 countries. In 2009, its consolidated sales amounted to EUR 8.5 billion. Solvay is listed on the NYSE Euronext stock exchange in Brussels (NYSE Euronext: SOLB.BE - Bloomberg: SOLB.BB - Reuters: SOLBt.BR). Details are available at www.solvay.com.

For additional information, please contact:

Richard THOMMERET

Marketing Manager

SolVin SA

Tel : +32.2.264.32.61

richard.thommeret@solvay.com



Gold SolVin Award for Innovation

Georg Fischer DEKA - Germany Innovative photo bioreactors based on 100% PVC to grow micro algae

This innovative project is dedicated to the production of efficient pipes and fittings made of 100% transparent PVC to be used as photo bioreactors to grow micro algae. The products are UV-stabilised and are characterised by innovative elements that can be combined for spectral modulation of the light (UV/vis/NIR) irradiated into the suspension of algae.

The product range is wide, including the integration of static mixers into the pipe and the possibility to produce pipes with very thin walls having high optical quality and excellent interior surfaces. In addition, significantly energy saving pipings / fittings are provided for the level and parallel arrangement of the photo bioreactor pipes.



From left to right : Richard Thommeret, Barbara Andreani,
Dr. Stephan Schüssler, Marlène De Wouters



Silver SolVin Award for Innovation

Rohm & Haas – France SureCel™: Breakthrough in Processing Aid Technology for Foamed PVC

SureCel™ represents a breakthrough processing aid technology for rigid foam PVC. This technology relies on the reaction of the processing aid with PVC to build a polymer network in the melt during the extrusion process. This leads to a specific rheology allowing for reductions in density, impossible to reach with existing processing aids.

Reductions in density of up to 20% equate to not only lighter materials but also to a 20% reduction in the amount of PVC compound required to produce a specific linear length of foamed PVC product. Sheet thickness can also be increased while maintaining a good cell structure and modulus. SureCel™ can be used in place of conventional processing aids without adversely affecting product recycle and reuse. SureCel™ and foamed PVC are an innovative combination for sustainable building materials, saving raw materials.



From left to right : Marianne Gilbert, Bernard Cora and Eric Lundquist



Bronze SolVin Award for Innovation

Alkor Draka – France Highest Fire Resistance for Stretched Ceilings in PVC (Bs1d0)

The European market for stretched ceiling applications requires materials with good fire reaction and medium smoke emission (BS2D0). For CE labelling according to the NF EN 14716 standard, the EN 13501-1 standard for measuring fire reaction and smoke emission considers 3 different aspects for classifying the material: heat, smoke and dripping. As the smoke density is the main cause for killing people in the case of fire, our aim has been to improve the current state of the art performance of the materials used for stretched ceilings.

Using the right combination of a new formulation and our calendaring process, we have developed and produced new plasticised PVC films with Bs1d0 classification, which means the best smoke density classification achievable with plastic films.



From left to right : Matt Defosse, Guy De Bruille, Raphaël Lesprit and Agnès Verbois



Recycling SolVin Award

Profine - Germany KBE Window and Door System_88mm

KBE System_88mm, the most recent product developed by profine Group, is the best possible window system made of PVC; not only from an ecological point of view, but also with regard to function, aspect and comfort.

This new PVC window complies with technological requirements to come in the next years, and uses up to 50% of recycled PVC.

The achievement is spectacular in regard to energy savings and CO₂ emissions reduction, with an Uf less than 0.79 W/m²K, contributing to the protection of our environment.



From left to right : Marc Habermeyer, David Cook, Gerhard Schwager and Dr. Stefan Huck



Creative Design SolVin Award

Molusk – France Aquatic jewellery by Molusk

Inspired by the Ocean, Molusk jewels are creative in the extreme.

Diverse techniques such as silk-screening, using a multitude of colours and patterns as well as metallic gilding, allow the plastic to metamorphose into refined and stylish designs.



This soft flexible jewellery seems to adapt and become part of the body.



From left to right:
Marianne Gilbert and
Lucille Saliou