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DECEMBER 2018

Message from SWICA President Daniel King Bay Insulation



As SWICA President the message for the newsletter may be too much you want to say and other times maybe not enough. But this month there's plenty of updates and progress I would like to share with our members. In an effort to keep my message simple as possible, I have noted the short/bullet version. Which hopefully brings awareness to continuing efforts making our organization "better serving" for our members. To start, we are very proud that the new SWICA website is up and running and more interactive. Linked to social media, links to all members websites and other industry associations. Just too much to list, so please visit our website and see all that has been done. But keep in mind, still more to be done and suggestions welcomed. Our 2019 Expo and Craft Competition is fast approaching. We are very pleased and excited with the number of exhibitors with limited space left.. So if you have not registered yet as an exhibitor please contact us ASAP. All the event times for the craft competitions and expo are in this newsletter. So make note, save the date and spread the word to attend. There is more to come and work in progress for the SWICA association. Over the next few



**2017 Champions from
Apache Industrial Services**

**Tuesday
January 15, 2019
Byron Sadler
Cryogenic Competition
at**



**Rilco Mfg.
12700 Tanner Rd.
Houston, TX**

Cryogenic Competitors get registered TODAY!

There are to be 3 man teams including a foreman in 3 bays allowing 6 competing teams. Two flights contestants AM group to arrive at 7 AM for safety and orientation to compete 7:30-11 AM. **All teams test 11:00 AM- Noon.** Afternoon flight arrive at 10:30 AM for orientation and safety and compete 12:30-4:00 PM. Between 11 AM and 12:30 models will be stripped for PM competition. Sponsored lunch will be served to all competitors and attendees between 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM. All are encouraged to attend at no charge. Bring hardhats. Register to attend: www.swicaonline.org

The SWICA Newsletter is published bi-monthly on behalf of the Southwest Insulation Contractors Association
2211 Briarglen #609
Houston, TX 77027-3518
(713) 977-0909 Fax (713) 977-1321



President Daniel King
Editor Mellanie Askew
Executive Director Linda Tracey

December 14, 2019- SWICA BOD Meeting
Feehery WebQn kitchen

January 15, 2019 Cryo Competition - Rilco Mfg

February 7, 2019 - SWICA EXPO/Bryon Sadler
Craft Competition -
Pasadena Convention Center
Pasadena, TX

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months and by our 2019 conference in Boca Raton we will present more ideas to our members to encourage more PPE (Participate, Plan & Execute) and how we are going to do it. Which also includes bringing more informative content to our conferences, website and newsletter. Plus a few other things.. Stay tuned.. Just a quick thank you and welcome to all our new members that have recently joined our association. We are glad you have joined and look forward to having you involved and part of the SWICA family. Most importantly, being in the holiday season. All of us at SWICA wish everyone a very joyous and safe holiday season.

Happy Holidays.

Keep calm and carry on insulating.

Daniel King, SWICA President



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Congratulations Scott Morris, Performance Contracting Group, Houston! Winner of the Combat Marine Outdoors Timberline 850 Grill drawing. With Golf Co-Chairs, Ralph Parrott, Owens Corning and John Harvey, Talon Products. SWICA's Linda Tracey far right.



SWICA proudly support Combat Marine Outdoors with our event fund raising. Our golf tournament games and auction raised **\$7159**

•Kigar Company with Match from Alpha Engineered Products from the dunking booth raised **\$260**

•And Diamonds in the Rough Sport Memorabilia raised **\$2515**

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED \$9,935

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One Big Day for Mechanical Insulation - Thursday, February 7th at Pasadena Convention Center

2019 EXPO & Byron Sadler Craft Competitions Schedule Wednesday, February 6, 2019

7:00 AM – Noon - Phoenix decorating pipe/
drape set up

Noon – 5:00 PM Exhibitor move in Pasadena
Convention Center Exhibit Hall

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM – “Exhibitors Appreciation
Reception” Exhibit Hall Pasadena Convention
Center

Thursday, February 7, 2019

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM – Exhibitor final move in
materials

10:00 – 11:00 AM – Peter Beard, Greater
Houston Partnership – Workforce program

10:30 AM – Rigid, Removable,
Commercial Craft Competi-
tors check in/orientation

11:00 AM – Morning flight of
contestants report to models
for installation competition

• Afternoon flight contestants
report to written test room.

11:00 AM – Exhibit Hall Opens

11:30 – 2:00 – Lunch served

Noon – 1:00 PM – Ron King –
Thermal Insulation Inspectors
Program Certification

2:00 PM – Morning competi-
tors report for testing,

Afternoon flight of contestants
report to models

2:00 – 3:00 PM – Michael
Bergen Industrial Info
Resources Update

5:00 PM – Competitions
end. Contestants change to
company shirts for Awards
Ceremony

5:30 PM – Exhibits close.
Awards Ceremony.



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Competitors Needed for All Competitions



Cryogenic Competition will be offsite at Rilco Manufacturing on January 15th using PIR products. Trophy holder Apache Industrial



Rigid Competition will use an Aerogel product and the current Trophy holder to beat is BrandSafway



Removable/Reusable Pad competition current Trophy Holder to beat is Brock Group



The Commercial Competition current trophy holder is Building Specialties.

Do You have what it takes to take the trophy away from the above and home for your company???

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Cross section of applied insulation

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 Michele Wierzbicki - Western Region 801-835-7686

Sponsors Needed

Byron Sadler

Craft Competition

2019

Our Byron Sadler Cryogenic Craft Competitions will be held off site at Rilco Manufacturing Facility at 12700 Tanner Road on January 15, 2019. Cryogenic competition winners will be presented again at the SWICA Expo and Rigid/Removable/Commercial competitions event February 7, 2019 at the Pasadena Convention Center. The Cryo Competitors will have a foreman and two insulators per model. We will have two rigid insulators per model and have refined the removable blanket competition with single or dual optional competitors and the same with the commercial competition. This years

Rigid, Removable and Commercial competitions will be held with the *SWICA EXPO 2019* and accessible only in the exhibit hall at the Pasadena Convention Center. This is an expensive and timely event that the Craft Education Committee has spent endless hours preparing exams, building models and setting standards long before the actual execution of such an event. Our Expo and Competitions bring out virtually everyone in the mechanical insulation industry. This is your opportunity to show your support and help the Education Committee set new education and safety standards for our industry. Please join industry leaders by sponsoring this worthwhile event.

All sponsors will be graciously thanked, referenced in all printed data and banners will acknowledge their sponsorship at the event. Awards Program 5:00 PM at the close of the EXPO.

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'Gift' Patron (a gift for contestants)

These funds will not only support the costs of this competition, awards for contestants but support our new Scholarship program to provide registrations for the new Thermal Insulation Inspector Program.



NIA's program provides a quality process metric for engineering/design firms, facility owners, and contractors to inspect mechanical

insulation systems. The industry's knowledge base is dwindling. This—in combination with the shortage of qualified labor, compressed construction schedules, modularization, and other factors—has contributed to an increasing need for independent review by trained and certified inspectors.

NIA's Certified Insulation Inspectors dedicate their time to improving the industry by gaining their certification. They are the leaders in this area and are raising the bar for the entire industry.

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* See data page for complete details

Strong Gains for Combined U.S. & Canadian Industrial Spending

RALEIGH, NC – October 1st, 2018

Research by Industrial Reports, Inc. shows combined U.S. and Canadian planned capital spending grew by 37 percent in September compared to August with \$64.09 billion in spending for the two nations. August's planned investment showed \$46.74 billion. The research organization reported 218 planned U.S. and Canadian projects in September.

Planned U.S. project spending expanded by 44 percent in September with \$55.66 billion in planned investment compared to the August total of \$38.60 billion.

Canadian planned investment showed a small improvement in September with \$8.43 billion in spending, up from \$8.14 billion in August. Projects in both nations ranged in value from \$1 million to \$6.7 billion.

Process projects led U.S. spending with \$41.60 billion in planned investment, followed by manufacturing projects with \$8.28 billion. Power and energy projects reported \$2.38 billion in planned U.S. spending.

In Canada, process projects led all markets with \$6.69 billion in planned spending. Manufacturing projects accounted for \$1.89 billion and power and energy projects showed \$28 million.

Texas was the U.S. leader in planned investment for the month with \$16.94 billion, followed by Ohio with \$6.97 billion and Pennsylvania with \$6.82 billion.

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In Canada, Alberta led the provinces and territories with \$3.69 billion in planned spending. Québec reported \$2.91 billion and Ontario reported \$1.44 billion.

Texas was the leader in U.S. project activity with 22 planned projects. North Carolina reported 11 planned projects and Kentucky had nine.

Ontario led Canadian project activity with nine planned projects. Alberta reported five projects and British Columbia and Québec each had three.

Industrial Reports researches projects in the United States and Canada for companies that provide services, materials and equipment for new and expanding industrial facilities, including:

- Manufacturing Facilities
- Pharmaceutical Facilities
- Process Facilities -Food Process Facilities
- Chemical Process Plants -Pipelines
- Oil & Gas Projects -Mines
- Research & Development Laboratories
- Distribution Facilities -Energy Facilities
- Industrial Buildings
- Water/Wastewater Treatment Plants
- Solid Waste Facilities -Plant Dismantlements

A summary of the most recent opportunities is available on-line at:

<http://www.industrialreports.com/seereports.htm> Ontario:

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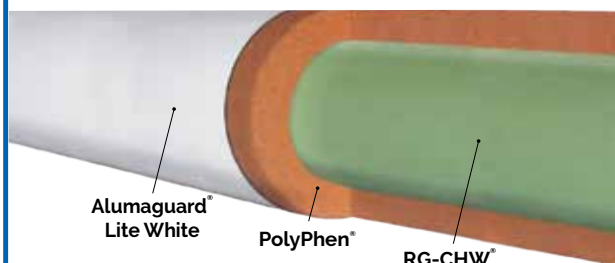
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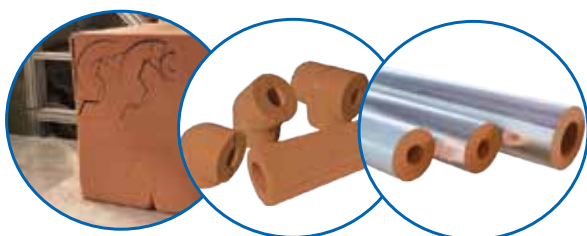


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Nanoparticles: The Next Asbestos?

Christine G. Barlow, FC&S Underwriters

Nanotechnology is a relatively new technology with the potential for significant impact on society. Nanoparticles have been around for hundreds of years, but the invention of microscopes that can see atomic-sized particles made it possible for scientists to develop a wide variety of uses.

Nanoparticles are extremely small. They are generally from 1 to 100 nanometers, that is, one-billionth of a meter. A two-nanometer-size particle is more than 10 billion times smaller than a red blood cell. For perspective, a human hair is 20,000 nanometers.

When materials are reduced to the nanoparticle level, they may have different properties, such as increased strength or making coatings more slippery. This change in properties makes it

possible to deliver medication to specific areas, create a fabric that is stronger or that doesn't wrinkle, or create medical bandages that fight bacteria, among other applications.

Nanoparticles can enhance consumer products, advance medical treatments, improve building components, and help in the cleanup of contaminated sites, for example. However, one downside is that the small size of nanoparticles allows them to enter the body through the skin, enter the bloodstream and cross the blood-brain barrier, pass through lung tissue, affect cells and accumulate in the air or soil, along with other potentially harmful effects. This possibility combined with the potential of the nanoparticles having different characteristics than the macroparticles raises some concerns about safety.

Toxicity and cancer

There are concerns that nanoparticles could lead to cancer. Toxicity depends on the type of nanoparticle

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and the type of exposure. Nanoparticles embedded in final products such as fabric may cause no problems, while the inhalation of powder could lead to complications similar to those found with asbestos.

Studies of titanium dioxide have shown that low toxicity particles of fine and ultrafine (nanoscale) sizes have exhibited pulmonary responses in exposed rats, including inflammation and lung tumors. Exposure to carbon nanotubes and nanofibers has shown similar results. Although there is no hard evidence that exposure to nanoparticles can eventually lead to cancer, the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has developed guidelines for workplaces to follow if employees are exposed to nanoparticles and posters that can be displayed in the workplace as well.

(Continues Page 18)



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November 1, 2018

Ray Sears, SPI, LLC announces the successful sale of the Mechanical Insulation segment of Foundation Building Materials. Our name is now SPI - "Specialty Products & Insulation," our legacy name and brand. This is an exciting development for SPI, one that will allow us to focus solely on our core business and become a platform for growth and expansion in the future.

As of today, we are a standalone company in the Dunes Point Capital portfolio. Dunes Point Capital is a family office and private investment firm based in Rye, New York with a mission to build great companies through vision and long-term commitment. Dunes Point is excited about acquiring SPI and committed to investing in and growing our business, while supporting our mission of being the distributor of choice in the industry.

SPI is now better positioned to accelerate our growth and expand our product portfolio while continuing

to deliver exceptional levels of customer service and operational excellence to you. SPI will continue to be run by the same experienced management team and the same great teams in our branches and fabrication shops. You will begin seeing some changes, starting with the re-branding of our facilities and fleet. For now, it is business as usual with the team of people you know and the same great customer service, expansive branch network, and broad product offerings for which we are known. You have our commitment to keep you updated on future changes as we move forward.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We hope you are as excited about the future of SPI as we are. We look forward to continued growth with you as we work together in the future. If you have any questions, please let us know.

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Karl Metcalfe

**Vice President, Sales &
Business Development**

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O: 1-800-673-0925

E: karl@integrity-products.com

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Petrin's David Gottlich and Debra Barrett will be married December 29th. We've loved getting to know Debra and so happy for David to have been blessed with this new life! Congratulations to this great couple!

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(Continued from page 13)

Control exposures

Dry powders present the most potential for exposure, either through the skin or through inhalation. Likewise, nanomaterials suspended in liquids have the potential for inhalation when in spray form.

Various controls are recommended for various exposures. Fume hoods, ventilated bagging stations, exhaust vents, ventilated spray booths, downdraft tables and wet cutting or machining are all recommended ways to control exposure.

The use of procedures when handling nanoparticles is recommended, as well as training workers on the risks of exposure and how to handle the materials. The use of personal protective equipment is recommended when other measures can't guarantee safety. The use of gloves, lab coats or coveralls, safety glasses or face shields, and respiratory protection are

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all recommended for workers who may be exposed to the particles.

Exposure to asbestos presents a known risk of cancer, although it took several decades of exposure before bans were put in place. The Environmental Protection Agency banned it in 1989, overturned that ban in 1991 and put a new ban in place in 2007. The EU and France banned all forms of asbestos in 1998. The United States is considering allowing some specific uses of asbestos once again, even though new cases of mesothelioma, which is caused by exposure to asbestos, continue to occur.

Early warning

It's important to control the exposure of workers to nanomaterials as much as possible. Because of the studies so far, NIOSH has set an acceptable exposure limit of one microgram per cubic meter of elemental carbon as a respirable mass eight-hour time-weighted concentration. The exposure to raw materials is different from exposure to sunscreen and other end products, but nanomaterials may not be completely safe.

A factory worker in 1898 warned of the harmful effects of asbestos, and over subsequent years there were more suspicions linking asbestos to disease and death before countries finally banned it. What if it works the same way for nanoparticles, and not just for workers, but for consumers as well? One inventory lists 1,827 products containing nanomaterials. Items range from sheets to bicycle-cleaning kits to socks to hair dryers to lip balm, among others. With this wide range of products, the unknown aspect of whether nanomaterials do have detrimental effects or whether they might over long-term exposure is significant.

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Product liability issues

Substantial product liability issues may arise. One factor, of course, will be which product the consumer was exposed to that caused the ill effects. With asbestos, the product exposure is limited. Nanoparticles could be in almost anything. At the point of illness related to exposure, would the consumer have to prove that it was the lip balm and not the sheets or sunscreen that caused the illness, or would there be reasonable claims against all manufacturers on a proportional basis? The product liability exposure is enormous, and something the industry should look at going forward.

Nanoparticles are in many ways useful and exciting technology, but there are concerns. These concerns must be carefully reviewed and studied so that people, and particularly workers, are protected from possibly serious effects.



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DJ Page has generously volunteered his time and expertise to judge the SWICA Cryogenic Competition on January 15th and the Rigid/Removable & Commercial competitions on February 7th.



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Chapel Hill, NC, September 18, 2018 – Armacell, a global leader in flexible foam for the equipment insulation market and a leading provider of engineered foams, announces the launch of ArmaFlex® Shield, a new pipe insulation for HVAC, plumbing and refrigeration with a built-in protective jacket that resists impacts from the jobsite or the environment.

New ArmaFlex Shield flexible foam insulation is a moisture- and UV-resistant product solution with a durable protective coating specially designed for line set and HVAC/R applications. Its strong coating resists tears and punctures when pushed through walls or rough openings. Once installed, it stands up to the effects of weather and protects against thermal losses, condensation and moisture ingress.



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Armacell’s latest innovation meets the IECC code requirements for outdoor insulation and is code-compliant for use in air plenums. It is a low-maintenance alternative to unprotected insulation or adding a separate jacket on the jobsite. Because the strong factory-applied jacket resists abrasions, it protects the piping from line trimmer damage making it a great choice for outdoor applications.

ArmaFlex Shield is available through Armacell’s network of insulation distributors and HVAC and plumbing wholesalers. Visit www.armacell.us for locations.

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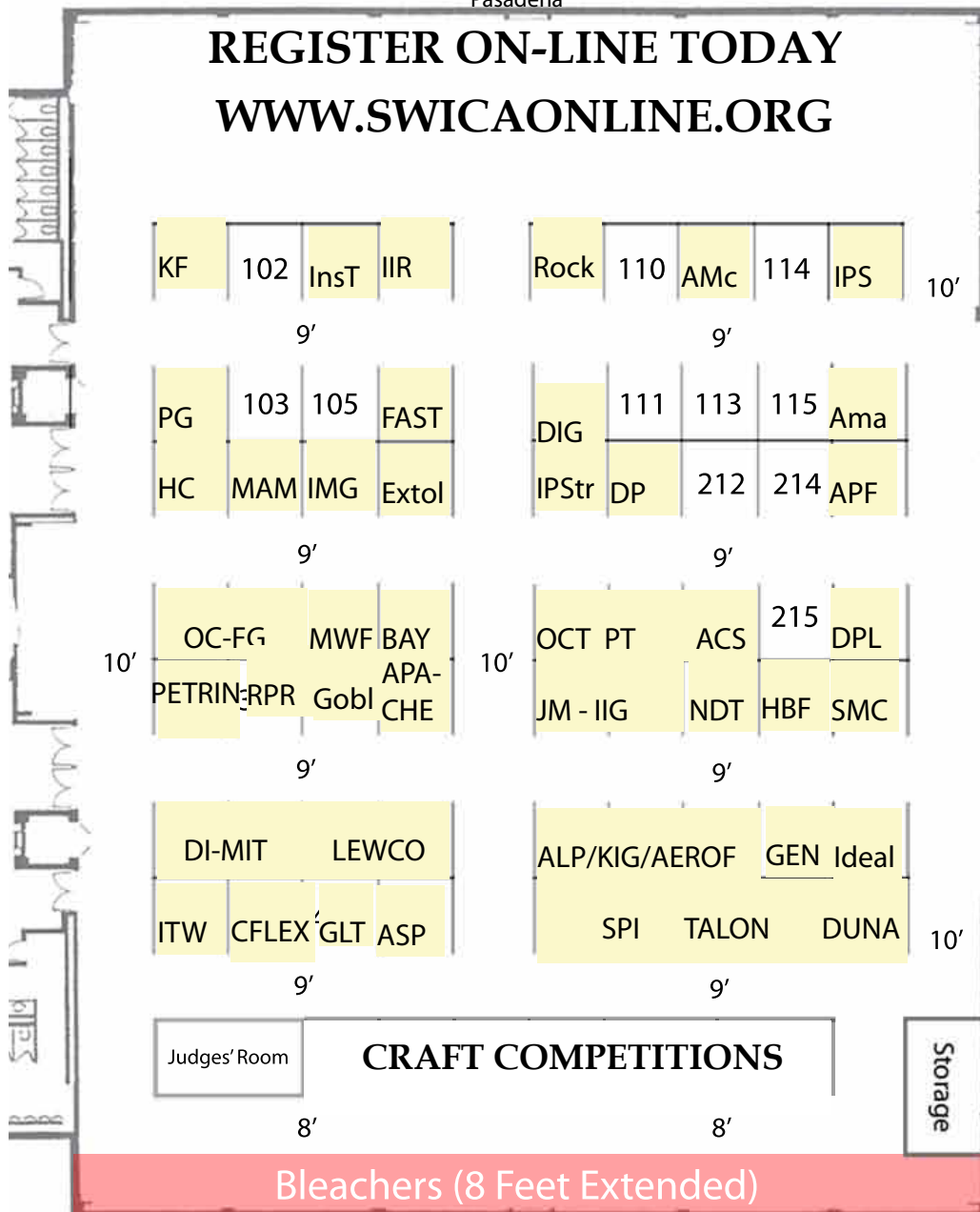
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