

CAFA NEWS

Coated Abrasives Fabricators Association Newsletter

www.cafa-info.org

October, 2006

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Al Regnier, who is an Honorary Member of **CAFA**, kindly accepted the position of President of **CAFA** for the period 2006-2008 after being nominated and voted in the last meeting of the Board of Directors held in Cleveland, Ohio last August. Al, with many years of experience as Member of the Board of Directors, brings not only knowledge but a unique familiarity with the Members of the Association. On August 19, Al mailed an introductory letter to start a direct communication from the Board of Directors to the Association. Please request a copy of this letter if you have not receive it at:

info@cafa-info.org



2007 Convention is back on the East Coast

After two successful conventions in Los Cabos, Mexico, **CAFA** is returning to the East Coast. We will follow the traditional program of going to the West Coast every three years. The Board already booked the East venue for the next two years.



Our 2007 **CAFA** Convention to be held in Marco Island, Florida is coming soon and will be here before you know it. The Convention will take place from Friday February the 9th to Monday February the 13th. Besides receiving more information and your reservation forms from **CAFA** in October, you can visit **CAFA**'s website for more information or you can visit the Marriott Resort, Golf Club and SPA website at www.marcoislandmarriott.com to learn more about this stunning resort.



This Marriott Resort is a magnificent and elegant venue. In recent years, Marriott invested in it over 150 million dollars in renovations including rooms, restaurants and general facilities! It promises to be a great site for a business and time off convention. Make sure to reserve your place early!

2006-2008 Board of Directors, Committees and Address

CAFA has a new Board of Directors and a new address as well.

On the Board, Kevin Wyckoff from Precision Abrasives was elected Vice President and will become President after the 2008 Convention. Scott Iding from M.P. Iding was elected Secretary and Lynne Henson from Superior Abrasives was elected Treasurer with Al Regnier being Assistant Treasurer.

The Committees for this period are headed by: Mike Faria from EA Engineered Abrasives and Kevin Wyckoff will head up the Membership Committee. Steve Burns from Keystone Abrasives and Jerry Casey from Adirondak Specialty Adhesives stands for the Entertainment and Educational Committee. Scott Iding will be responsible for the Trade Show Committee and Ignacio Ricaud from Fandeli is heading the Communication Committee.

Jim Carter, from Abrasives-South, as outgoing President, remains on the Board in an advisory capacity.

The Board is your Board and is always open for comments, questions and new suggestions.

CAFA new headquarters are now located in the West Coast:



CAFA

11362 Foster Road
Los Alamitos, California 90720
United States



888-464-2232



info@cafa-info.org

New Agenda for 2007

Derived from the Member's input in the last convention at Los Cabos, the Board established a new agenda that will come effective in the upcoming 2007 Convention. An important proposal that the Board received from the Members is that the Convention should be a balance between the business character of the meeting and the opportunity to socialize and reinforce the good ties that have been the cornerstone of our Association since it's foundation 26 years ago. The new agenda gives more time to the Members to interact and offers more free space to establish business meetings with your customers, vendors, colleagues and friends. Most of the leisure activities will take place the last day.

Friday, February 9

Opening reception

Saturday, February 10

Morning	General Business Session
Evening	Cocktails and Dinner

Sunday, February 11

Morning	Trade Show
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Monday, February 12

Morning	Golf Tournament
Afternoon	Tennis Tournament
Evening	Gala Dinner



When sending back your hotel reservations to **CAFA** Headquarters, don't forget to sign up for the **CAFA Golf Tournament** (The Rookery at Marco features an 18-hole championship course recently redesign!) and /or the **CAFA Tennis Tournament**.

New Format for the Marco Island 2007 CAFA Convention

On Saturday, February 10th, following the General Session, a new format will be implemented in the Convertor's Closed-Door meeting.

Convertors and Convertor/Associates and Associates will have an exceptional opportunity to interact in a session! Associates will be able to present to their actual and potential customers, in a 15 minute presentation, any topic that could be of interest for the Convertor Industry. Only Convertors will be allow to attend the presentation.

This is a voluntarily seminar and a unique occasion to introduce your company or product(s) to a captive/targeted audience. If you are interested in participating, more detailed information will be included in you October package from **CAFA**.

New Members

We all want our Association to keep growing and your support as a Member is enormously significant. Please let us know of someone that could be a potential Member of **CAFA**.

You can contact direct our Membership Committee: Kevin Wyckoff kevin@wesand.com or Mike Faria at mikef@eacanada.ca

CAFA Website



As a Member of **CAFA** you can post machinery that you want to sell through our website and get in direct contact with all the industry that can be an important potential buyer.

This is just one of the many services that the **CAFA** website offers to its Members.

We invite you to use the **CAFA** website as your tool to get in touch with your industry colleagues.

For website suggestions or equipment /material listings please contact Lynne Henson at lynne@superiorabrasives.com

Membership Directory Updates

The Board of Directors, through the Membership Committee, is contacting all the Members of the Association to update the Membership Directory that will be distributed during the Convention at Marco Island.

Drop us a line should any change in your address, telephone number (s), fax, emails, positions within your company and/or products have recently changed. Also let us know if you wish to receive a website password to navigate the **CAFA** website. Contact Mike Faria for corrections at mikef@eacanada.ca

Do you have any suggestions for our newsletter?

Would you like to include an article of your interest in our next issue?

Please send your comments to info@cafo-info.org or to iricaud@fandeli.com

EXTRA, EXTRA!! Industry News

•Supplemented in part by
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Rising prices of electricity are having an impact upon Chinese mineral production as producers are halting or backing out of previous agreements on the sale of Ferrosilicate, feed stock of the steel industry. The trend has some experts anticipating future increases in SIC and Aluminum Oxide prices.

Sources: Abrasive Users News - SIC & More

A consultant with technical expertise in the manufacture of coated abrasives products, nonwoven products and reinforced bonded products is looking for business opportunities. Serious inquires please contact abrasive@abrasivesmall.com.

Source: Abrasive Users News

Fastest growing Manufacturing sectors June '05 to May'06:

Computer and electronics	19.5%
Primary metal products	17.3%
Aerospace	13.2%
Electrical equip/appliances	11.5%
Plastics and rubber products	6.8%
Fabricated metals	6.5%

Source: NAM - Progressive Distributor Sep / Oct '06

Abrasive Users News: The International Journal of Abrasive Technology and Engineering is a new journal for abrasives technology. Preparation of the first issue is underway for peer-reviewed articles by international authors according to Editor in Chief Prof. Jun Wang, University of South Wales, Australia. Coverage will include original research papers, technical papers, note, short communications, case studies, and book reviews.

Special issues will be devoted to high profile aspects in abrasive technology.

Abrasive Users News will carry occasional reviews of journal contents.

Based on a 2007 Economic Outlook by Clair Urbain and Rich Vurna, "analysts say the manufacturing sector should continue to show strong growth in the coming year, with some predicting output will outpace the overall economy".

Also, the authors found **Five Top Business Concerns** based on a Progressive Distributor Magazine reader's survey:

- Keeping existing customers
- Getting new customers
- Finding/keeping qualified employees
- Low-priced competitors
- Competition from non-traditional distribution channels

Source: Progressive Distributor – September / October '06