Our Cortec Spray Tech. family had a lot to celebrate on July 3rd! To kick off the 4th of July weekend, we had a barbecue at our Spooner, Wisconsin location.

It was great to have Aaron, his wife, Susan along with Cory and his soon to be wife, Nicole and baby Heather and son Adam there! Both are doing fine and still doing therapy. Cory’s first few hours back to work were that very morning!

We celebrated Aaron and Susan’s wedding from this past February and Cory and Nicole’s wedding happening the next day! Jay, Roger, Chuck, Ryan and Anna, happy that most of the “family” was there, enjoyed a couple of hours of downtime during the barbecue. What a great occasion having us all together there. We missed Erin, who now works at Cortec Advanced Films and Merle, who is working at Cortec Coated Products.

Another reason to celebrate is the fact that construction has begun on our new facility. It’s so great to see forward progress and know that in a matter of about 2 months, the building will be done. The liquid filling line will be set in place as soon as we have our occupancy permit! Our aerosol line should be in place by the end of November. It’s really great to hear how well we are doing and how fast we are getting things going.

We are coming back better than ever with more efficient equipment that is going to put Spooner on the map when it comes to high tech filling! Thank you all for the outpouring of love and support for all at CST and especially Cory and Aaron.

By: Anna Vignetti
A memorable occasion in the City of Spooner, Wisconsin

July 9th of 2008 marks a momentous and memorable occasion in the City of Spooner, Wisconsin history. On this day, the Spooner Fire Department was honored the Award of Excellence for their hard work and effort in battling the fire due to the explosion occurring at Cortec® Spray Technologies early on March 18, 2008. The explosion injured two workers and demolished almost 80% of the facility.

Sheriff Terry Dryden of the Washburn County Sheriff Department bestowed this Award to all 32 members of the Department. What is extraordinary is that the members of the Spooner Fire Department work on a volunteer basis with the exception of Darren Vik, the Fire Chief. The fact that the Fire Chief and Department is responsible for over 9,000 businesses and households in the area, stands out in giving so much time and effort from their work and personal lives.

In addition, special recognition was given to five men in the form of Medals of Valor. These medals commemorate the heroic effort given to saving lives at the Cortec facility. Sheriff Terry Dryden and Sgt. Dave Dennis presented the Medals of Valor to Darren Vik, Fire Chief, Nick Masterjohn, Les Hashbarger, Rick Saletri and Chris Thompson.

Washburn County, Wisconsin, Sheriff Terry Dryden:

“Thankfully in my almost 18 years as Sheriff for Washburn County we have never experienced such a potentially disastrous set of circumstances as the fire at Cortec® Spray Technologies on March 18, 2008. I am just as thankful for the volunteer firemen who make up the Spooner Fire district. Their effort on that day along with some individual accomplishment has strengthened this community’s trust and admiration in all firemen in this county. While the two men were being rescued and removed to a hospital, the long and arduous task of securing the site of the explosion for investigation, evacuating the other businesses and residences in the affected area proceeded rather smoothly considering the circumstances.

We in law enforcement and the fire service take every opportunity to learn from our experiences. I can tell you this; we got a belly full of experience on this one. Our response and actions during this explosion and fire have been critiqued and we are confident we have learned new ways of doing business and helping others. It is with gratitude that the employees and administration of Cortec® availed themselves to Washburn County Investigators and state investigators. This was very important for creating a transparent investigation for every one to know and see the results. The new Cortec facility is progressing and we are excited about the potential for not only Cortec®, but also the City of Spooner and Washburn County.

Every tragic event is most always followed by something good, the reconstruction of the building at Cortec®, which I am sure will enhance the safety and welfare of the workers and also the opportunity for emergency response services to learn from our experience are two of the “good” things resulting from this explosion and fire. The two young men hurt in this fire are continually in our prayers for a complete recovery.”

Bottom: Spooner firefighters were honored July 9 as a group and as individuals by the Washburn County Sheriff’s Office for their lifesaving actions during the March 18 Cortec explosion and fire. Washburn County Sheriff Terry Dryden (at far left) presented the Spooner Fire District with the Award of Excellence.
Cortec® Corporation’s EcorFoam VpCI™ is a superior foam produced from soy vegetable oil that provides flexible packaging, corrosion protection, cushioning, anti-static, and desiccant action all in one step. You can eliminate expensive and messy rust preventatives with EcorFoam VpCI™ and parts protected are always ready for use: no degreasing or coating removal is required. Application of multifunctional materials such as EcorFoam VpCI™ results in significant savings.

EcorFoam VpCI™ is specially designed with vapor corrosion inhibitors impregnated throughout the foam’s polymeric matrix. EcorFoam VpCI™ provides excellent protection for ferrous and nonferrous metals as well as continuous protection against humidity, condensation, aggressive industrial atmospheres, dissimilar metal corrosion (galvanic corrosion), salt air, and residual impurities left after processing. EcorFoam VpCI™ does not change critical physical and/or chemical properties of electronic components and is suitable for protection of printed circuit boards.

EcorFoam VpCI™ contains ten times more VpCI™ chemical than traditional VCI papers and other wrapping materials. This makes protection of objects with large surface areas possible (i.e. aluminum and steel coils). The unique combination in EcorFoam VpCI™ affords long-term protection for large export packages, crates, and seagoing containers. The high performance patented formulation of VpCIs provides fast, easy-to-use protection even in aggressive overseas shipments.

EcorFoam VpCI™ is nitrate and chromate free. EcorFoam VpCI™ meets military specifications MIL-PRF-81705D for static dissipative materials.
VpCI™-395 is a waterborne epoxy primer that provides excellent adhesion, salt spray, immersion, and long term corrosion protection to steel. It differs from other epoxy primers by minimizing long-term embrittlement and has a fast drying time (20-30 minutes dry to touch) as well as excellent corrosion resistance. The product’s water-based formulation makes it easier to comply with environmental regulations governing solvents and VOC limits. Clean up is easy using soap and water.

VpCI™-395 may be applied by spray or brush. A dry film thickness of 1.5-3 dry mils (37.5-75 microns) is recommended. The coating dries in about 20-30 minutes; however, it takes approximately one week before the coating is fully cured. A top coat can be applied between 30 minutes and 8 hours after the primer is applied, depending upon the type of top coat and drying conditions.

S-14 RO is a multifunctional antiscalant for reverse osmosis systems, highly effective in preventing calcium carbonate scale formation on membrane surfaces. Besides its excellent calcium carbonate scale inhibition properties, S-14 RO is effective in controlling calcium sulfate, calcium fluoride, and metal oxides scale formation. It has compatibility approvals from membrane manufacturers.

All ingredients in S-14 RO are certified to ANSI/NSF Standard 60 for use in reverse osmosis systems producing potable water. S-14 RO is not affected by chlorine or other oxidizing biocides under normal conditions of use. It should be injected in membrane systems after chlorine and sodium metabisulphite treatment.

S-14 RO is miscible with water in all proportions and should be dosed continuously and proportionately to the feed water flow to maintain the recommended dosage level. The dosage level required is dependent on the quality of the feed water and the saturation indices of the various scale forming species present in the concentrated brine. Recommended operation limits of the most relevant brine water parameters:

- Silica: up to 200 ppm max.
- LSI: <2.78
- Iron: <1 ppm max.
- Aluminum: <0.5 ppm
- Calcium Sulphate: up to 8000 ppm max.
We are happy to announce that our German Distributor, Corpac Germany has been able to gain a Volkswagen Supplier number for our VpCI-126® film. The number is 104895/00. VpCI-126® series films combine the latest film technology with the most effective corrosion protection for all metal products. Sealing the Volkswagen product in Cortec® VpCI-126® film protects metal parts from all types of corrosion including rust, tarnish, stains, white rust, and oxidation for up to 5 years.

Right: VpCI-126® Blue

Cortec® Employee News

Our own PK Matthew of Cortec® India has been recognized for his untiring efforts in India to help industries fight corrosion. First, he has been inducted into the membership of select and elite National Corrosion Management Committee of the Confederation of Indian Industries. The committee meets regularly at different locations in the country to discuss and make key decisions to provide service to the industry on Corrosion Prevention and Control and to provide them knowledge base and technical support to combat corrosion.

Secondly, he has been elevated to the position of Vice President, NACE South India for the period July 2008 - June 2009. This, apart from carrying the Cortec flag in India! No wonder this guy never sleeps!! Cortec® Corporation is proud of PK’s accomplishments and wish him all success in his fight against corrosion.

Left: Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty, Cortec® India Managing Director PK Mathew, and Cortec® President/CEO Boris Miksic at the Hyatt, New Delhi.
Recently, the Japan Association of Corrosion Control (JACC) held their annual meeting in Tokyo, Japan which was attended by more than 200 members. This meeting was two days long with more than 40 presentations about corrosion and corrosion protection. At the conference, Mr. Shishio Oka, Manager of the Cortec® Team (Industrial Materials Dept. 1) for Itochu Plastics, Inc. presented on Cortec® technology and test results of products recently completed by JACC. The well received presentation was attended by more than 70 people. Also in attendance were Mr. Motofumi Eto (Deputy General Manager, Industrial Materials Division for Itochu Plastics, Inc.) and Mr. Haruya Muramatsu and Mr. Cliff Cracauer of Cortec® Corporation. After the presentation attendees met with the Cortec® Team to discuss the presentation and corrosion protection methods and applications. Congratulations to Mr. Oka for a very professional and well rehearsed presentation. We see many good things to come in Japan in the months and years to ahead!

In July of 1983, Cortec hired Dean Santos to work in the foam impregnation department—what was then a new concept for a new company in a new industry. At that time, Cortec was located on Chester Street in downtown Saint Paul, Minnesota, and employed only six people. He was able to run two 150’ rolls of foam per day. 25 years later, Cortec now has 150 employees at four locations, and Dean is still here, impregnating 18 to 19 132’ rolls of foam with VpCIs each day! When asked about his plans, Dean said: “I plan on being here another 25 years, God willing! Cortec and Boris have been good to me. This is a great place to work.” Cortec wishes him many more years and thanks him for his excellent contribution to the company.

Left: Dean Santos with Cortec’s first emitter machine.

Right: Dean with Boris Miksic President/CEO of Cortec® Corporation

Dean produced over 20,000,000 ft. 6,096 km. of foam since working at Cortec® 25 years!
Cropac conference
Plitvice National Park, Croatia

Left: Dr. Steve Cartlidge of Lake Chemicals & Minerals of United Kingdom and Ivana Miksic at Cropac conferences at Plitvice National Park, Croatia.
Right: Boris Miksic with Dr. Steve Cartlidge

European Sales & Strategy Meeting

The Cortec® European Sales and Strategy Meeting will be held in the beautiful region of Baranja – Croatia, in the city of Beli Manastir. This will be a great opportunity to visit Cortec’s newest manufacturing plant, EcoCortec®, and witness its state of the art production facilities. The dates are Friday and Saturday, October 10th and 11th. We will do our Sales & Product review and strategy discussion on the “hottest” Cortec® topics.

Asian Sales & Strategy Meeting

We are pleased to invite you to the Cortec® Asian Sales and Strategy Meeting. This year our meeting will be held in beautiful Vietnam, in Ho Chi Minh City. The dates are Friday and Saturday, December 12th and 13th.

We will do our usual Sales and Product review and strategy discussion and seminars on the “hottest” Cortec® topics.