

CORTEC*vision*

September 2023

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Watching a Plastic Recycling
Dream Come True
at EcoCortec®



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COMPANY NEWS

'Circular Economy' Dream Coming True at New EcoCortec® Plastics Recycling Center



State-of-the-art Erema regranulation machine

EcoCortec® is bringing the "circular economy" one step closer to reality for Europeans who want to turn plastic waste into something useful. After several years of planning and pandemic interruptions, this European manufacturer of rust preventative packaging has installed a state-of-the-art Erema regranulation machine to reprocess plastic scrap and waste on site. Customers and other local businesses are now invited to bring their used plastic bags to EcoCortec® for recycling into new materials.

EcoCortec® is excited to start reprocessing plastic waste as soon as it becomes available from four main sources:

1. Scrap from in-house production
2. Used packaging from incoming shipments at EcoCortec®
3. Used packaging from incoming shipments at several local companies (e.g., building contractor, building material and beverage retailers, plastic company) who have previously agreed to collect packaging waste for EcoCortec®
4. Used VpCI® Films and Bags from EcoCortec® distributors and end users who can earn reprocessing credits by sending the materials back for regranulation

EcoCortec® is especially eager to expand this last category of plastic waste suppliers to create a win-win situation for EcoCortec®, its customers, and the environment. Initially, EcoCortec® will add 30% recycled content back into its VpCI® Films upon request. The company plans to extend this high level of recycled content to all standard VpCI® Films as the volume of recyclable materials increases.

Contact EcoCortec® to learn more about seeing your own plastic recycling dream come true: <https://www.ecocortec.hr/eng/recycling!>

Celebrating 25 Years of CorteCros® and CST!

This year marks the 25th anniversaries of CorteCros® and Cortec® Spray Technologies (CST) as part of the Cortec® Family. In 1998, CorteCros® started as a joint venture between Cortec® and Croscos, with the intention of serving the preservation needs of Croatia's largest oil and gas company. Business soared in the decades that followed, and CorteCros®



eventually became a wholly owned subsidiary of Cortec® Corporation in 2016. Back in 1998, Cortec® also purchased a contract aerosol fill plant that became CST in Spooner, Wisconsin! CST ships products around the globe and also has the privilege of private-labeling products for significant global companies with name recognition. Happy 25th anniversary to CorteCros® and CST! (Stay tuned to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Boris Miksic in the corrosion control industry in 2024!)

Cortec® Earns Fourth Governor's Safety Award!

Our global headquarters was recognized for excellence in workplace safety and health during the 2023 Minnesota Safety and Health Conference, May 2nd-3rd. Cortec® was one of 210 employers to be honored through the awards program, coordinated by the Minnesota Safety Council.

"Congratulations to Cortec® for their hard work, attention and dedication to safety," said Paul Aasen, president of the Minnesota Safety Council. "Keeping people safe and achieving award-winning performance is no accident. It takes everyone from the front line to executive leadership to help people work safe, drive safe and live safe."

COMPANY NEWS

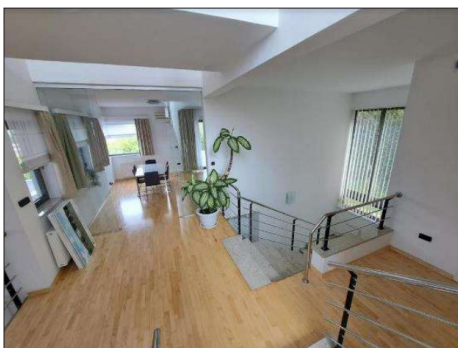
Jill Carlson, Safety & Facilities Specialist at Cortec's headquarters near White Bear Lake, MN, said, "We are honored to receive this award again! Our employees are the most important asset to our organization, and everyone here continues to make safety a priority. We have a great safety culture here and a great group of employees and without their dedication and care, this award wouldn't be possible."

Croatian Team Proudly Presents New Zagreb Offices

We are proud to announce the opening of our new Zagreb offices: Cortec® Corporation European Operations and EcoCortec® d.o.o. Global Sales and Marketing. Our sales and marketing teams in Zagreb have moved to a new location in an elite part of the city situated on the green hills above the city center. The offices are located on 350 m² of an urban villa which houses a small corporate hotel on the upper floor. This onsite lodging will be offered to colleagues and



New Zagreb offices



partners who visit us in Zagreb and wish to stay close to our sales and marketing offices. See more pictures here: <https://www.cortecvci.com/news-alert-croatian-team-proudly-presents-new-zagreb-offices/>

Cortec® Celebrates 40 Years for Dean Santos



This summer marked the 40th anniversary of Dean "Dino" Santos working at Cortec® Corporation. Next to Boris Miksic, who founded the company in 1977, Dino is the longest-working Cortec® employee, having started on July 25th, 1983, when Cortec® was less than six-years-old and still located just south of downtown Saint Paul, Minnesota, and the Mississippi River. Little did Dino know he would still be running his signature VpCI® foam production line four decades later!

Dino came with Cortec® when the company moved to its White Bear Lake World Headquarters campus in 1992 and has been faithfully working in the production department ever since, always keeping a positive attitude through both good and difficult times.

Cortec® celebrated Dino's 40th work anniversary with a luncheon at Cortec® Headquarters on August 2nd, also inviting Tim Bliss (Cortec® Advanced Films Production Manager) to attend and receive his 35th anniversary plaque at the same time.

Congratulations to Dino and Tim for their decades of service and hard work!

Bionetix® Adds New Microbiologist

Our subsidiary Bionetix® International welcomed Irving Chang into the new role of Microbiologist and Biotechnologist Specialist on April 3rd. Irving will be helping Bionetix® develop new products and improve capabilities of current bacteria strains. Irving graduated with a degree in biotechnology engineering from Saint Mary's Catholic University in Peru and specialized in Genetic Resource Preservation at Kyoto Institute of Technology in Japan. He subsequently spent nine years in professional biotechnology research and/or fermentation and is currently a member of the Microbiology Association of Quebec. Irving is passionate about learning, science, and technology, and is fascinated with how the tiniest microorganism can do so much to improve the health of the environment. One of his goals is to get lab scale fermentation up and running to do more extensive biological R&D on site and ultimately develop new and better products that make life easier for people!



Irving Chang

PERSONNEL UPDATES

Bob Boyle Returns to Cortec®!



We were pleased to welcome back Bob Boyle in April as our new Vice President – Integrity Management & Preservation Solutions. Bob will be sharing his wide range of business and corrosion control expertise to support growth and success for Cortec® and its customers at multiple levels.

Bob has spent most of his professional career at Cortec® since 2001. He co-founded Cortec® Global Services and in 2018, when Cortec® Global Services spun off as a division of Presserv Group, Bob was tremendously honored to be asked to continue leading and serving at CGSI. He reflected, "As I've mentioned to others, the development and spin-off of Cortec® Global Services did not feel like leaving. That is a testament to how close Cortec® regional and global teams are with distributors and partners globally. It also shows how dedicated and committed the people of Cortec® Global Services and Presserv are to Cortec® as they are on the front lines and value close connections with all facets of Cortec® Headquarters."

Bob returned to Cortec® this spring, having learned and grown significantly while maintaining an intensely human side: "What guides me now is that regardless of the role we have

in our company or where we are at in our careers – we are always managing, leading, following and serving humans. No matter how large the account or complex the customer – there is always a human being on the other side. It's just that simple. And it's just that hard."

Please join us in welcoming Bob back to the team!

Cortec® Welcomes New Coatings Chemist

Please join us in welcoming our new Coatings Chemist, Jake Hemberger, to the team! After a careful search to fill a niche position, Cortec® has selected Jake as the right man for the job of bringing Cortec® Coatings to the next generation. Jake's friendly demeanor combined with chemistry knowledge and formulation experience serves as a strong foundation on which to improve and expand Cortec's line of corrosion inhibiting paints for metal while providing critical technical support to customers. Prior to joining our team on June 12th, Jake Hemberger (B.Sc., Chemical Engineering) spent more than a decade in laboratory and manufacturing



work, with six of those years as a formulation chemist at Valspar/Sherwin Williams. Coming from a background in solvent-borne and powder coating systems, Jake is intrigued by the challenge of turning his focus to a deeper technical understanding of water-based and eco-friendly coatings at Cortec®.

Meet Kristen Krohmer: Lead Customer Advocate



Kristen Krohmer is our new Lead Customer Advocate at Cortec® headquarters! Kristen joined Cortec® on August 7th, bringing a cheerful "can-do" attitude to the customer service team. Kristen's main tasks will be to work as a liaison between Cortec® and distributors to provide quotes on custom products and orders. Along the way, she hopes to document internal processes and introduce new efficiencies that will create more time to work with customers. She believes that building trust is a critical part of serving customers who are expecting a certain level of quality, timeliness, and consistency. Kristen has a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science with a Minor in Marketing and eight years of experience in account and product management.

OUT AND ABOUT

Meet Rebekah Brookshaw: Customer Service Representative



Rebekah Brookshaw joined our team on August 7th as our newest Customer Service Representative. She will be assisting U.S. customers with pricing and order placement and is eager to help! Rebekah has several years of experience in administration, human resources, and customer service and values the core principles of honesty, integrity, and empathy to guide her interactions with customers. "I love helping others with their problems. It is an effective way to build a strong foundation in relationships."

Cortec® Makes Its Mark at EUROCORR 2023

Cortec® was well represented among the approximately 1,000 delegates present at EUROCORR 2023, August



27th-31st in Brussels, Belgium. This year's "Annual Congress of the European Federation of Corrosion" focused on "driving corrosion prediction and protection towards a circular economy," an excellent match with Cortec's longtime efforts to pursue sustainability and environmental responsibility in this industry.

It was an honor to have Professor Marijana Serdar of the Faculty of Civil Engineering at the University of Zagreb present a paper on MCI®-2006 entitled "Development of cement with increased corrosion protection capacity through introduction of powder inhibitor" for the "Corrosion and Scale Inhibition" track of the technical program. Ivana Borsic (VP Sales, Europe) also presented a paper, developed in conjunction with the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture at the University of Zagreb, on the topic of M-645 float coat for protection of oil tanks made of mild steel.

Thanks to all who stopped by the Cortec® booth. We look forward to another great year of making new discoveries to share with each other at EUROCORR 2024!

Cortec® India Sales Meeting Resumes with Fresh Energy!

This marked the 30th year of Cortec® in India and the return of the India Sales Meeting (ISM) to Bangalore. After a pandemic pause, Cortec® India decided to relaunch the ISM in a smaller capacity by gathering top distributors from around India and welcoming back Bob Boyle as Cortec's new Vice President - Integrity Management & Preservation Solutions.

The conference kicked off on the evening of July 11th, followed by a day packed with technical sessions

by Bob and 18 interactive case study presentations from local distributors. PK Mathew also shared an update on Cortec® India and upcoming opportunities in the growing Indian economy where there is the potential for exports. PK mentioned that India sales actually grew during the pandemic period and peaked last year at 37% overall growth thanks to the dedicated efforts of channel partners and industry verticals, along with the continued confidence and support of Cortec® headquarters.



As always, the conference included awards for top distributors for sales and case study presentations.

ISM 2023 Top Three Sales Awards

First: Siva Technical Services (Chennai)

Second: HVS Agencies (Ahmedabad)

Third: Vertex Corrotech Solutions (Coimbatore)

ISM 2023 Case Study Presentations Awards

Winner: Corlub Speciality Solutions (Pune)

Joint Runners-Up: QSRS (Bhiwadi) and Vertex Corrotech Solutions (Coimbatore)

Second Runner-Up: Siva Technical Services (Chennai)

The event concluded with a sense of optimism and excitement in the air as everyone looked forward to ramping up efforts at their respective locations and returning to the next ISM with more success stories to share!

PRODUCT NEWS

Strengthening Ties at OTC 2023

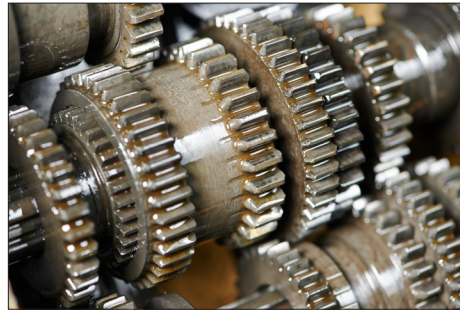
It was great to have our team back in Houston May 1st-4th for the annual Offshore Technology Conference (OTC)! With attendance rebounding at this major oil, gas, and offshore event, OTC 2023 offered even more opportunities than AMPP to have deep conversations with industry professionals facing real offshore corrosion problems.

This year, we noticed an especially large segment of international attendees looking for new technologies to bring back home. It was also interesting to see how many individuals and companies had VCI technology as part of their current project proposals. It was especially fun to enjoy ongoing interaction with Cortec® Friends and Family from CGSI and Queenston who spent a day or more helping us staff the booth!

Overall, the show had a great vibe, and we are grateful for those of you who took time to stop by, share thoughts, ask questions, or just say "hi."



High Viscosity Version of M-535 Oil Additive



In April, we introduced M-535 HV, a high viscosity version of our corrosion inhibitor additive for ashless lubricating systems. Prior to this development, asset owners were limited to using M-535 for protection of low viscosity lubrication systems. Now, M-535 HV gives preservation managers the option of applying the same corrosion inhibitor package to an even broader range of critical equipment. M-535 has a base oil viscosity of ISO 46, making it suitable for low viscosity systems such as turbines and compressors. With M-535 HV, the chemistry is identical, but the base oil viscosity is higher, bringing M-535 HV to ISO 320 for compatibility with high viscosity lubricant systems such as those in gearboxes. Learn more: <https://www.cortecvci.com/product-release-cortec-releases-new-oil-additive-to-prevent-rust-in-gearboxes/>

VpCI®-609 Powder Available in Aqueous Version

In June, we officially announced the availability of VpCI®-609 Powder in a premixed aqueous version. The resulting VpCI®-609 W cuts out the hassle and ensures optimal results for end users who ordinarily mix VpCI®-609 Powder with water before application. VpCI®-609 W prevents rust on ferrous metals and aluminum. It contains Vapor phase Corrosion Inhibitors that protect metals below and above the waterline, with vapor-



phase protection as its forte. One of its main attractions is that VpCI®-609 W is made from VpCI®-609 Powder, which is biodegradable in marine environments according to OECD-306 Marine Closed Bottle Testing. Learn more: <https://www.cortec-watertreatment.com/2023/06/29/press-release-outstanding-biodegradable-vci-powder-available-in-ready-to-use-aqueous-version/>

Idaho Adds MCI®-2005 NS to Its QPL



The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) has added another MCI® admixture to its Qualified Products List (QPL)! MCI®-2005 NS was approved for the ITD QPL on July 13th. It falls under category "709 Concrete Curing Materials and Admixtures," subcategory "Type S - Corrosion Inhibitor for Concrete." It is an excellent addition to the three MCI® products already approved in Idaho, a state where concrete corrosion inhibitors are strongly needed to combat deicing salt corrosion! Learn more: <https://www.cortecmci.com/news-alert-idaho-adds-another-mci-admixture-to-its-qpl-mci-2005-ns/>

PRODUCT NEWS

New Patent for Compostable Stretch Wrap Technology!



In August, Cortec® was awarded a US patent for its commercially compostable industrial strength stretch film technology, also known as Eco Wrap® film! This patent is a significant milestone in Cortec's ongoing quest to develop environmentally responsible products and distinguishes Cortec® as a leader in "green" packaging technology! It was certified industrially compostable by TÜV Austria (#TA8012106218) and can be used to replace conventional plastic stretch wrap with the goal of improving the user's environmental image and reducing conventional plastic waste when the material is properly disposed in a commercial composting environment.* Learn more: <https://www.cortecpackaging.com/cortec-awarded-patent-for-industrially-compostable-stretch-wrap-technology/>

**This product is intended to be composted in a commercial composting facility operated in accordance with best management practices. Check locally to see if such a facility exists in your community and if they will accept this product. Not suitable for backyard composting.*

New Paper-Eating Solution from Bionetix®

In August, Bionetix® released one of the most cost-effective "paper-eating" products on the market! The

new PAPERATOR™ contains specialized probiotics and enzymes that efficiently break down cellulose-based materials frequently found in toilet paper, seat covers, and paper towels. This action significantly reduces the risk of paper clogging pipes and sewer systems and leading to expensive plumbing interventions. It also speeds up the overall organic waste digestion process, cutting down on bad odors in the meantime. Better yet, by harnessing the technology of nature, PAPERATOR™ presents a sustainable solution that does not harm plumbing or septic systems. Learn more: <https://www.bionetix-international.com/bionetix-introduces-paper-eating-solution-to-toilet-paper-clogging/>

New Extra-Strength Version of AQUACLAR™

AQUACLAR™ PLUS is the new extra-strength version of AQUACLAR™ from our subsidiary Bionetix®. This water clarifying bacteria/enzyme blend improves water clarity by digesting and consuming nutrients that cause algae growth. AQUACLAR™ also lowers toxicity by allowing sequestration of heavy metals and ammonia. AQUACLAR™ PLUS contains a higher concentration of bacteria (50 times more than regular AQUACLAR™) for better adsorption capacity and a more powerful ability to attack waste products and excess nutrients in water, making it well-suited to problem areas. Learn more: <https://www.cortecvci.com/press-release-improve-water-clarity-naturally-with-aquaclar-plus/>

New Cooling Loop Croc™ Joins Gator for Cooling System Protection

In September, we announced a new addition to our water treatment



"menagerie." The new Cooling Loop Croc™ will help water treatment service providers and maintenance crews get off to a better cooling tower startup next spring by introducing a powerful dose of Vapor phase Corrosion Inhibitors paired with an organic-dispersant. As facilities are preparing to shut down their cooling systems for the fall and winter, now is an excellent time to plan ahead by ordering Cooling Loop Croc™ in preparation for a smoother spring start-up! Learn more: <https://www.cortec-watertreatment.com/2023/09/08/cooling-loop-croc-joins-the-gator-to-take-a-bite-out-of-corrosion/>



UPCOMING EVENTS

EOS/ESD Symposium & Exhibits

October 1st–6th, 2023
Riverside Convention Center
Riverside, CA
Booth #403
www.esda.org



Cortec® Asia-Pacific Sales & Strategy Meeting

November 8th–10th
Grand Copthorne Hotel
Singapore
<https://info.cortecvci.com/l/562712/2023-09-07/lryctk>

Cortec® Latin America Sales & Marketing Meeting

October 4th–6th, 2023
Jurerê Beach Village
Florianopolis, Brazil
https://www.cortecvci.com/whats_new/announcements/LASM_Save_the_Date_NA.pdf

National Aboveground Storage Tank Conference

December 5th–7th, 2023
The Woodlands Waterway Marriott
The Woodlands, TX
www.nistm.org/



AWT 2023 Annual Convention

October 4th–6th, 2023
DeVos Place & Amway Grand Plaza Hotel
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Booth #101
<https://www.awt.org/>



World of Concrete 2024

January 23rd–25th, 2024
Las Vegas Convention Center
Las Vegas, NV
Booth #S12157
www.worldofconcrete.com



European Sales & Strategy Meeting

October 11th–13th
Radisson Blu Resort & Spa
Split, Croatia
https://www.cortecvci.com/whats_new/announcements/Save-the-Date-2023-Cortec-European-Sales-and-Strategy-Meeting-3.pdf

AMPP Annual Conference 2024

March 3rd–7th, 2024
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
New Orleans, LA
Booth #1311
www.ampp.org



2023 ICRI Fall Convention

October 16th–18th, 2023
Trade Winds Island Resorts
St. Pete Beach, Florida
<https://www.icri.org/page/2023-fall-exhibit-sponsor>



NFMT 2024

March 12th–14th, 2024
Baltimore Convention Center
Baltimore, MD
Booth #1357
www.nfmt.com



ACI Concrete Convention

October 29th–November 2nd, 2023
Boston Convention Center &
Westin Boston Waterfront
Boston, MA
Booth #406
www.concrete.org



International Aboveground Storage Tank Conference & Trade Show 2024

April 3rd–5th, 2024
Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel
Orlando, Florida
www.nistm.org/



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