



WCPA Board Meeting Set: EXPO Location Update! Contact us if You have Suggestions!

The next WCPA Board meeting is set for September 4, 2014 from 10 AM – 2 PM at A&R Tarpaulins Inc. at 16426 Valley Blvd. in Fontana, CA.

The WCPA thanks immediate past president Bud Weisbart for his generosity in providing the location for the upcoming board meeting.

Members are welcome to attend the meeting. Just RSVP by sending an e-mail to Carol at wcpa2012@hotmail.com.

If you have any ideas, topics, questions, and Expo location suggestions, please feel free to send us an e-mail at the above address.



Up for major discussion will be the location of the next WCPA Expo. Currently, Seattle is

the number one choice. Activities will include a visit to Teatro Zinzanni, a bewitching European cabaret and cirque featuring music, comedy, and a fabulous five-course feast.



Other activities will include the Annual Meeting, the Expo, the call for entries to the WCPA Excellence Awards, and a tour of Rainier Industries!

Rainier has generously offered to host a tour of their facilities in Seattle! They have a variety of products including tents, awnings, yurts, and more! Visit www.rainier.com to learn more about this amazing WCPA member!

A program of

events including workshops and seminars is also being planned. The Seattle location and



activities are just one option that the association is considering. If you have any suggestions, please contact us as soon as possible.

The 2014 WCPA Expo and Meeting featured seminars on Cash Flow and Public Relations & Marketing. For the 2015 event, the association is asking for suggestions from its members.

What would you like to learn?

Let us know by contacting us at wcpa2012@hotmail.com.

Also, remember to renew your member-

ship so you can take advantage of WCPA's MIP Coupon Book, discounts to the 2015 Expo, and attend regional meetings.

Visit the WCPA online at www.wcpaonline.com to renew today and check out photos from this year's Expo.



Over the years, the WCPA has moved from location to location. This has allowed members from all over the association's coverage to take advantage of the Expo and its networking, new business, and educational opportunities.

So let us know where you would like to see the next Expo!

Diversification and Innovation: a Quick Look at the U.S. Textile and Specialty Fabrics Industries

By Carol Park

Diversification and innovation is essential for any business. Just producing one product or servicing just one industry isn't enough.

While U.S. manufacturing has shrunk over the years, the textile industry is still holding on strong.

Today, the U.S. textile industry is ranked fourth in global export value behind China, India, and Germany. U.S. textile exports increased 12 percent between 2010 and 2012 to \$17.1 billion.



The U.S. textile industry makes up 2 percent of the country's manufacturing workforce. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, the textiles industry has investments of more than \$1.2 billion annually in total capital expenditures.

Staying competitive through diversification and innovation has kept U.S. textile manufacturers in the global market.

"In recent years, U.S. textile companies have focused on retooling their businesses, finding more effective work processes, investing in niche products and markets, and

controlling costs," according to the Department of Commerce.

For the Specialty Fabrics Industry, there are key markets that will see growth in 2014, according to an Industrial Fabrics Association International report.

Businesses that focus on producing and selling high value products and services – safety and protection, geosynthetics, smart fabrics, medical textiles, wide-format digital textile printing, eco-friendly materials and application such as soft signage in the fabric graphic markets – will likely grow between 2 and 10 percent this year, according to the IFAI report.

The Specialty Fabrics Industry is growing. In the U.S. the industry grew by 2 percent in 2013. The global market for specialty fabrics grew 2.5 percent in 2013 and is expected to achieve 2.7 percent sales growth this year.

Continued investment in innovation and diversification is the next step to keeping the U.S. specialty and textile industries thriving.

To read the IFAI report visit: http://specialtyfabricsreview.com/articles/0114_f3_state_industry.html.

SMART Promotes Adoption of EPA Rule

For nearly 30 years, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secondary Materials and Recycled Textiles Association have been working together to promote the adoption of an industrial wiping cloth rule that clarifies the handling and disposal of solvent contaminated industrial wiping cloths, according to a story published by the Specialty Fabrics Review.

For more info. visit:

http://specialtyfabricsreview.com/articles/081414_smart_eparule.html.

Like us on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/TheWCPA>

Check us out online at www.wcpaonline.com