



Welcome to our IPI Newsletter (Edition October 2008)



**Master of Engineering in Packaging Technology -
next start March 2009**

Are you interested in the Master program?

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**Theodoros Zontanos, Business Development Manager,
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«I'm highly benefiting from what I have learned at IPI in my daily business. The state of the art - knowledge delivered by IPI experts has built an immense foundation of packaging knowledge. Due to the overall understanding of technical possibilities and limits, I am now really able to consult my customers which results in many business opportunities. Beside the great content IPI also delivers a unique learning environment and helps to improve my Packaging Network.»

The Master of Engineering in Packaging Technology is a part time study program and delivers excellent packaging knowledge and specific management skills to master today's and tomorrow's challenges in the packaging industry. During the program the participants will not only acquire new expert knowledge across the whole packaging value chain but also learn different methods how to transfer the knowledge into practice. The program is designed

according to the guidelines of the Bologna-system and held completely in English. It includes 96 study-days divided into one-week blocks spread over two years. The IPI Master of Engineering is an internationally recognized academic degree and represents 120 ETCS Credits (European Transfer Credit System). The next Master study program starts on March 2009 and ends in February 2011.

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Vereinfachungs- und Logistik-Ingenieure
Association of Service Packaging and Logistic Engineers

Packaging Market Thailand

After China and Russia the focus of this years IPI-VLI event was the packaging market of Thailand.

With its fast growing demand and its capacious development potential the industry of packaging is a booming branch in whole Asia. Almost every industry branch needs packaging material in increasing amount, which needs to comply with high requirements at the same time. Asia has become an important trading partner for packaging technologies, machines and production materials worldwide. This trend can't be ignored by local companies. Consequently, understanding these markets is the key factor to succeed. In this context, IPI together with VLI organised already three events at which members of the packaging industry can get information about a specific market. The participants of the event are introduced to chances and peculiarities of the specific packaging market. Important facts and data concerning the segmentation of the packaging market and figures about the economy of the relative country were given as well.



BioPack08 – Are bioplastics better for the environment?

BioPack08, the largest conference on bioplastics in the Nordic Countries, was held in Gothenburg the 17th of September. The latest trends in bioplastics were presented to 100 participants, by keynote speaker Harald Kraeb, European Bioplastics Organisation and several of the leading bioplastic suppliers, including Novamont, BASF and Mirel Bioplastics by Telles. Views were also given from packaging converters as Tetra Pak and retailers as ICA.

Bioplastics represent 0,1 % of conventional plastics. Most important applications so far, are found in organic food and service packaging for catering, shopping bags and biodegradable mulch film & horticulture auxiliaries.

Are bioplastics better for the environment? A simple question, but no simple answer. Different materials have different merits and there may

be a place for all of them. In some cases bioplastics makes a lot of sense in others not, at least not yet.

A key note is, that packaging needs to be looked upon as being part of a life-cycle based product system, with the over-arching criterion being eco-efficiency. This message is something the packaging supply chain needs to work on harder, to reach through.

The conference and the panel discussion were moderated by Per-Stefan Gersbro, IPI International Packaging Institute. The conference was arranged by Nord Emballage in cooperation with ScanPack.

[For further information click here >>](#)

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