

will offset growth in agriculture and other markets outside the US. DuPont puts science to work by creating sustainable solutions essential to a better, safer, healthier life for people everywhere. DuPont offers a wide range of innovative products and services for markets including agriculture and food; building and construction; communications; and transportation.

Following tables are included: summary of 1Q 2008 worldwide and regional (US, Europe, Asia Pacific, Canada and Latin America) sales performance; variances in 1Q 2008 earnings/share (EPS) versus 1Q 2007; business segment (Agriculture & Nutrition, Coatings & Colour Technologies, Electronic & Communication Technologies, Performance Materials, and Safety & Protection); pre-tax operating income; performance segment sales and related percentage variances for 1Q 2008 versus 1Q 2007; pre-tax operating income of business segments; consolidated income statements for three months ended Mar 2007 and 2008; consolidated balance sheets data as on 31 Dec 2007 and 31 Mar 2008; condensed consolidated statements of cash flows; schedules of significant items; consolidated segment information; reconciliation of non-GAAP measures; calculation of segment PTOI as a percent of segment sales; reconciliation of non-GAAP Measures; reconciliations of fixed costs as a percent of sales; consolidated income statements and larger offset by the associated tax impact; and reconciliation of base income tax rate to effective income tax rate.

DuPont 1Q 2008 results, 22 Apr 2008, (DuPont, DuPont Building, 1007, Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19898, USA, website: <http://www.dupont.com>)

Akzo in furniture move

Akzo Nobel's powder coating division has introduced the Interpon F brand of powder

coating designed solely for the furniture sector. The product line offers a step-change in terms of technical performance and colours intended specifically for the furniture market.

PPCJ, Polymers, Paint, Colour Journal, Apr 2008, 198 (4523), 9

Keco's loco for Teknix

Keco Coatings has purchased fellow US firm Teknix Powder Coatings. The acquisition would facilitate the entry of its Teflon and plasma coating technology into the southeast region. Keco is a coatings supplier to the printing sector, and is a licenced DuPont Teflon Industrial Applicator (LIA).

PPCJ, Polymers, Paint, Colour Journal, Apr 2008, 198 (4523), 9

A black beauty: Evonik launches coating powder

Evonik has introduced its black Vestosint polyamide 12 coating powder for electrostatic application methods. The product can be applied using tribo and corona spray guns. Vestosint is suited for coating flexible drive shafts for sunroofs and shading systems in the automotive sector.

PPCJ, Polymers, Paint, Colour Journal, Apr 2008, 198 (4523), 36

Go green with Pyrisma

Merck has introduced its Pyrisma pigment line, which is characterized by its deep blue-green colour and high chroma. Pyrisma T40-25, which creates a noble, silky colour, is the company's first turquoise pigment based on mica specially designed to meet the requirements of the coating sector.

PPCJ, Polymers, Paint, Colour Journal, Apr 2008, 198 (4523), 36

Akzo Nobel China ready to soar after year of transformation

Excluding ICI, Akzo Nobel achieved a 29% increase in net profits in 2007, with sales up 2%

to €10.2 bn. In China, the company reported a 16% increase in sales to \$1.031 bn. Completion of the ICI acquisition has made Akzo Nobel the global leader in decorative coatings and a major player in China. In Jun 2007, the company commissioned a polysulfides plant at Taixing in Jiangsu province with the aim of meeting rapidly growing Chinese demand. A new facility for decorative coatings came into operation at Langfang in northern China. At Ningbo, construction of a new chelates unit started in Mar 2008 and Akzo Nobel is also spending €250 M on a new ethyleneamines project at the location. The two facilities are scheduled for start-up in 2009 and 2010, respectively. Akzo Nobel China has set itself a target of achieving sales of \$2 bn by 2012.

China Chemical Reporter, 6 Apr 2008, 19 (10), 9

Speciality colorants: DIC Corp – focus on LCD colour filters, inkjet inks and photochromic glass

Dainippon Ink and Chemicals is stepping up its functional pigments business, with a focus on LCD colour filters, inkjet inks and photochromic glass, in addition to colour toners. The company, which officially took the name DIC Corp on 1 Apr 2008, will also continue to develop new solutions for its customers. DIC has come up with a distinctive green pigment made of a brominated zinc phthalocyanine that is finding adoption in LCDs. The material sends out green light with improved colouring power, helping to enhance NTSC contrast ratios for LCD televisions. The pigment rounds out a line of unique primary colour pigments from DIC. New blue pigments are close to market launch and red diketopyrrolopyrrole pigments are currently in development. The company is also working on several new products and