

Appointments

After more than four years at DSM Desotech's sales office in Shanghai, former Asia-Pacific Sales Director Myron Bezdicek has returned to the U.S. as Marketing Manager, Fiber Optic Coatings.



Myron Bezdicek

In May 2003, Mr. Weber Lin assumed the role of Asia-Pacific Sales Director, allowing Myron to devote the remainder of his expatriation to the establishment of DSM Desotech Specialty Chemicals (Shanghai) Ltd.

Optical Fiber & Cable News

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Editor

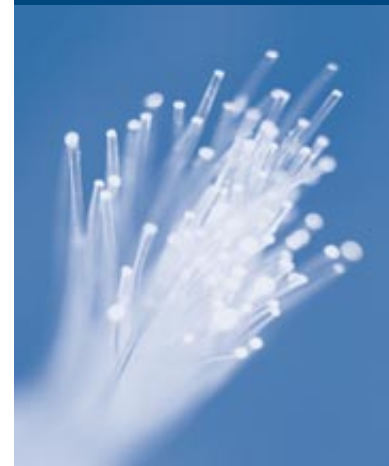
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DDSC: Open for Business!



Above: Celebrating the opening of Desotech's newest manufacturing facility, **DSM Desotech Specialty Chemicals (Shanghai) Ltd.** (see page 2)

Plus: *Bufferlite™ 3000 Series Materials* named among the **Top Products of 2004** by *Wire & Cable Technology International!* (see page 3)

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Celebrating the Opening of DDSC: DSM Desotech Specialty Chemicals (Shanghai) Ltd.

With the customary fireworks to ward off evil spirits and bad luck, DSM Desotech officially celebrated the opening of DSM Desotech Specialty Chemicals (Shanghai) Ltd. [DDSC] on January 14.

The new plant—Desotech's fourth manufacturing facility to date—now produces Cablelite® optical fiber inks for customers in the Asia-Pacific region, making both purchase and delivery faster and easier than ever before.

"In the past, Chinese import regulations required that these materials be brought to a bonded warehouse before resale, where the finalization of import duties and customs clearance could add days of delay to each order," says Desotech Sales Director Asia-Pacific Weber Lin.

Also contributing to that delay was the need for an import agency to handle the transaction. "Foreign companies are also not allowed to sell in local currency," explains Lin.

With the opening of DDSC, Desotech's Asia-Pacific customers now enjoy the benefits of local production, including immediate delivery and the ability to purchase directly in local currency. Best of all, they continue to receive the same world-class Cablelite quality they've come to expect from DSM.

DDSC's production equipment, manufacturing processes and quality control measures have been carefully engineered to match those of Desotech's production facility in Stanley, North Carolina.

"Key production equipment was shipped from our Stanley plant," says Lin, "and Stanley production associates spent weeks in Shanghai testing the equipment, training the production staff and assisting with manufacturing."

Desotech's Asia-Pacific customers now enjoy the benefits of local production, including immediate delivery and the ability to purchase directly in local currency.

As a result, our China customers confirm that Cablelite inks produced by DDSC are consistent in both

package appearance and product quality as those they've received from Desotech in the past.

DSM Desotech continues to be committed to the success of the optical fiber industry worldwide. For more information about DSM Desotech Specialty Chemicals (Shanghai) Ltd., contact your local Desotech sales representative.

Above photo: Open House ceremonies for the new plant were held on January 14 in Shanghai. Pictured from left to right: Mr. Xue Fu Min, General Manager Cao Lu Town Industrial Company; Mr. Eberhard Rank, General Manager DNP China; Mr. Patrick Niels, DSM Desotech VP Fiber Optic Materials; Mr. Stefan Sommer, DSM China President; Mr. Les Nack, DSM Desotech VP Operations.

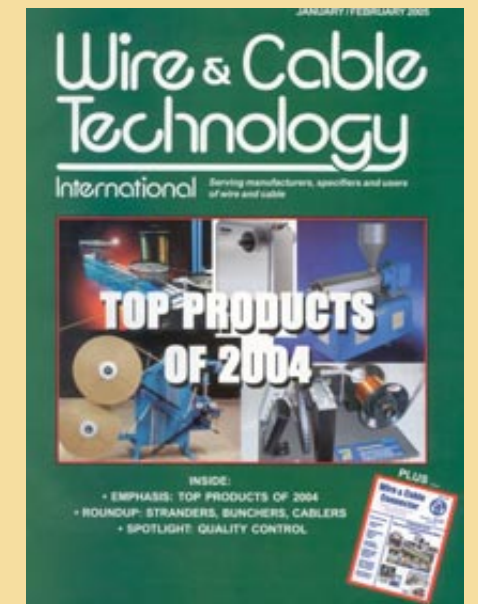
Bufferlite™ Named Among Top Products of 2004!

DSM Desotech's Bufferlite 3000 Series UV-curable tight buffer resins have been named among the Top Products of 2004 by Wire & Cable Technology International magazine. The news is especially exciting since winners were selected based on the total number of reader inquiries received by the journal throughout the year.

Desotech first introduced Bufferlite 3000 Series Low-Smoke, Zero-Halogen buffers for use in riser applications in November 2003. One year later, it followed with the introduction of Bufferlite 3038 Series Easy Strip tight buffer resins for use in 500-900 micron applications.

Bufferlite 3000 Series Low-Smoke, Zero-Halogen tight buffer resins are the first flame-retardant UV-curable materials to challenge traditional thermoplastic buffers. In addition to their high processing speeds, low scrap rates and environmentally-friendly design (all Bufferlite materials are lead-free and halogen-free), these resins also pass UL 1685 smoke and UL 1666 flame-propagation requirements, making them suitable for riser applications

Bufferlite 3038 Series Easy-Strip tight buffer resins offer the same processing, scrap rate and eco-friendly advantages as other Bufferlite materials, while also allowing manufacturers greater design flexibility than thermoplastic materials. These resins are suitable for either 500 or 900 micron applications and, true to their name, are easily stripped off inked fiber even after long-term aging.



"We're pleased to see how well these materials have been received by the industry," says Dave Chase, Desotech Marketing Manager Inks & Matrix Materials. "People are just beginning to realize the full extent of the manufacturing and performance benefits that can be achieved by replacing traditional thermoplastics with these UV-curable materials."

For more information about Desotech's complete line of Bufferlite tight buffer materials—including 1000, 2000 and 3000 Series resins, contact your local DSM Desotech sales representative or log on to www.dsmdesotech.com