

Report

Subject : **Meeting FEIBP Working Grop Paintbrushes**

Date : **24-09-2015**

Attending : Y. Baslimane, J. Marcussen, J. Monahan, I. Moss, C. Pogliani, GA Pogliani, M. Peveling, Th. Stollberg, A. Stollberg, M. Civiero, P. Dalle Crode, M. Maier, E Hoerz, R. Hoerz, K. Kirberg, U. Rietdorf, mrs Urte Rietdorf, P. Longoni, mrs Paola Dalle Crode, mrs. Donatella Dalle Crode, mrs Martine Loewert, G. Migliavacca, P. Langenegger, F. Ceelaert (general manager), M. Civiero (chairman)

From : Fons Ceelaert

Date : 31 August 2016

Reference : FEIBP vsleng.14018845

1. Opening

Chairman Alessandro Civiero welcomes the FEIBP delegates in attendance

2. Report of the meeting of the Working Group, held on 26 September 2014

This report was approved without any remarks.

3. Selected items

a. New FEIBP website

The new website will be presented and it contains a specific product section for paintbrushes, all paintbrush manufacturers are in the company tracker and content can be added by the Working Group Paintbrushes.

b. New categories trend price index

The chairman remembers that there is the suggestion to introduce some new categories like synthetic filaments and stainless steel ferrules.

During the 2014 meeting Piet van Erp proposed to consider the black bristle. This category is relevant for some countries like Holland but a low relevance for others, also cause of the increasing shortage of the black bristle.

The chairman proposes to consider again the synthetic filaments in a common size and diameter and finishing (eg. PET 64mm long 0.16mm diameter, tapered).

The general manager notes that the index is hard to feed as there are only a few manufacturers delivering data.

The chairman proposed to include the index in the closed section paintbrushes on the new website

c. EU Map of FEIBP Paintbrush Manufacturers

During 2015 the national associations were asked to provide a list of the paintbrush manufacturers in the respective countries.

The result was also used for input new FEIBP website.

The number of paintbrush manufacturers is limited but more companies can become active in the Working Group.

It was noted by the chairman that there are quite some paintbrush manufacturers Italy, who are not a member of Assospazzole.

Conclusion

The WG Paintbrushes could become relevant if more companies are prepared to take part and have interest to share a common project.

The “founding” companies have the responsibility to start with some interesting and relevant projects.

4. FEIBP Quality Chart Paintbrushes

The chairman recalls the discussion regarding the ABC Charter.

The main criticism was that the companies do not see the advantage in declaring the composition of the bristles/filaments, nor the origin of the paintbrush, certainly when it concerns private label.

Thorsten Stollberg mentions the German initiative for a “good paintbrush charter”, which failed because it was aiming at establishing a product standard.

Every company has to act based on its own strategy, market and customers.

Maurizio Civiero notes that the chart has the scope to set minimum standards only regarding the information on the product for the final consumers.

Pierre Simler says that what the Abc chart is requiring regarding the origin of the product is already mandatory in Italy as it would probably be the same in Europe soon.

The chairman asks what is the situation in the USA.

Ian Moss answers that is mandatory to declare the origin of the item and the composition of the bristles/filaments.

Thorsten Stollberg notes that the text of the Charter is too complex and that there will be not enough space on the paintbrush to declare more than minimal information.

Maurizio Civiero says that Assospazzole will work on the text in order to make it more simple and asks to Thorsten to work on the chart as incoming new FEIBP president.

Thorsten Stollberg states that he would do his best to create a solution for the Charter.

5. Economic outlook

Paolo Dalle Crode observes that the price of the steel items (ferrules) were substantially stable in the previous period.

The price of plastics has increased a lot at the beginning of year instead but in the last months it has stabilized.

Reinhold Hoerz reports that the price of the natural bristle has increased during the year for almost all the sizes.

Jens Marcussen spoke about the Northern European market, current year is good.

6. Closure

The chairman appreciates everyone's active participation and closes the meeting.