

#### STUDENTS OF TODAY: EXPERTS OF TOMORROW



European Plasticisers is committed to science and is constantly engaged to foster a sound scientific debate around plasticisers.

To encourage research activities and raise awareness, amongst the younger generations, about the safe and sustainable use of plasticisers in flexible PVC applications, European Plasticisers, with the support of VinylPlus, launched a call for the best essays on plasticisers and/or flexible PVC last January.

We received very interesting work from Bachelor, Master and PhD students from Belgian, German and Italian Universities.

A selection panel composed by industry experts reviewed all the papers and appreciated the high quality of the essays submitted, as well as the dedication and commitment of all authors.

We are pleased to inform you that the scientific selection panel has selected the following winning paper:



A. Pasquale and F. Acciaretti, Di-2-ethylhexyl adipate (DEHA), A NEW HOPE! A sustainable and promising process for the plasticisers industry, University of Milan Bicocca

[Read the full paper]

# A special mention also goes, ex-aequo, to the papers:



Y. Albano, Biomass as source of furan-based plasticizers: an alternative to phthalates, RWTH University Aachen [Read the full paper]



R. Hiessl, Inline analytical supported process development towards alternative bio-based plasticizers Institute of Technical Biocatalysis -Hamburg University of Technology [Read the full paper]

# 2021 PVC CONFERENCE

All the participants will be invited to attend the 2021 PVC Conference in Edinburgh, the world's leading forum on vinyl. The students will have the chance to meet the industry, learn about the opportunities offered by vinyl, the newest technologies, the latest scientific researches, the regulatory challenges as well as the sustainability aspects related to PVC.

## THANK YOU!

We would also like to thank the following students who contributed to our call for papers for their participation and the quality of their work:

- Carmen Plass "Soft PVC and Sustainability" (Universität Bielefeld, Germany)
- Mathias Verstappen "Sustainability: How to improve a sustainable use plasticizers and/or flexible vinyl" (Thomas More Geel, Belgium)
- Mick Bartels "Alternatives to phthalates" (Thomas More Geel. Belgium)

- Niels Bergmans "Plasticisers in PVC: a brief summary" (Thomas More Geel, Belgium)
- Ruben Van Den Broeck "PVC and its plasticizers: How to make them sustainable?" (Thomas More Geel, Belgium)
- Yassmina Azaoum "Green Plasticizers: How to improve a sustainable use plasticizers and/or flexible vinyl" (Thomas More Geel, Belgium)

NB: the views, information, or opinions expressed in the papers are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of European Plasticisers. The papers were written independently by their authors and were not commissioned by European Plasticisers.

# European Plasticisers contributed to the update of the Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry



European Plasticisers has recently led a coordinated effort between member and non-member European companies producing plasticisers to update the plasticisers' chapter of the Ulimann Encyclopedia. The chapter presents the main substances of the major plasticiser families, and lists their applications and performances. It also gives an overview of their properties and use, not only in PVC but also in other polymers such as polyamides, polyolefins, rubber.

>> Read more here

## WHAT'S NEW?



#### VinylPlus Progress Report 2020

The European PVC industry recycled 771,313 tonnes of PVC in 2019 - that's more than 96% of the VinylPlus programme's 2020 target. Find out all the VinylPlus results in its new 2020 Progress Report.



#### New Video!

Discover our <u>new video</u> of our series "How the wheels turn" about how science, policy and public opinion work together.



# INFOGRAPHIC "Wires & Cables"

Did you know that 25% of plasticisers produced in Europe are used in flexible PVC wires and cables? Find out more facts and data on our new infographic.



# Update of the sustainability page on Plasticisers.org

Discover our new content here



### New Science section on Europeanplasticisers.eu

The website now has a scientific section where we have uploaded recent studies on plasticisers. Read them here.



# **EVENTS**

Following the escalation of coronavirus (COVID-19), the major events scheduled to take place this spring have been postponed in order to guarantee the safety and well-being of the attendees.



# VinylPlus Sustainability Forum

VinylPlus® has made the decision to host the VinylPlus Sustainability Forum 2020 ONLINE as a single day event on 15 October 2020.

#VSF2020 will feature quality speakers, speeches, interactive debates and live polling sessions that you will now be able to attend from anywhere in the world.

>> Sign up on vinylplus.eu/



## **PVC 2021**

NEW DATES CONFIRMED: 9-12 MAY 2021

The city and venue stay the same - Edinburgh International Conference Center

Read the official statement from IOM3 - organisers of PVC 2020 >>  $\underline{\text{www.pvc2020.org}}$ 

# STAY IN TOUCH!







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