



WELCOME

John Ular
President
Crosslink Technology, Inc.

TRFA President

Our world is not connected just by molecules. It is connected through our ideas, experiences and personal interactions. As a group, we can see better collectively than any one of us sees alone; we can do more and be more effective collectively than any one of us alone; and, we can celebrate better than any one of us alone!
The Thermoset Resin Formulators

Association is providing a forum for our technology exchange, regulatory direction and a genuine celebration and appreciation for the business in which we are all employed.

My term of office as President of this association has been a wonderful learning experience. I would like to share some characteristics of this group that I found most exhilarating:

- That epoxy and urethane formulators are always optimistic, always enterprising and never satisfied.
- They always look forward to doing better than they have done in the past.
- They understand that you cannot do today's job with yesterday's methods and technology and be in business tomorrow.
- In this organization we act – together - as trustees of the future for our businesses and marketplace.

I will always be thankful and appreciative for the opportunity to have had this experience and honor of service in this capacity. Sometimes you earn more by doing jobs that pay nothing.

This trade association has a great future! The members of the Board are a dedicated group of well qualified individuals who have been working diligently to ensure the success of the TRFA through all of the programs and initiatives that have been instituted in the recent past.

A mission for the Association and a strategic plan to support it have been adopted to focus our resources and energies and to shape TRFA programs. TRFA's mission is to "serve the needs of thermoset resin formulators and suppliers and help them achieve their goals by providing a forum for sharing and interaction." Specific objectives were assigned to the market-focused committees who have been meeting via conference call to begin their work to drive the strategic plan. We are looking forward to implementing many of the programs the committees have envisioned.

However, the elected leaders and market-focused committees cannot do it alone. Your participation and membership will be key in the continued success of this group. By becoming a member, you are practicing good corporate citizenship, ensuring the financial stability to maintain the administration required to run such an organization, and keep a market association that represents our needs and provides a forum for vision and action in both the short and long term.

We are also continuing our tradition of excellent papers at our Fall Conference in Boston. As with all the previous conferences, we have many crossover papers that span more than one market area, and some of the best revelations and new knowledge are discovered in the most unlikely of papers or questions and answers. If you're not here, you lose out on that opportunity, and if you are here, listen very carefully: opportunity could be knocking at your door very softly.

Rudy Hartenstein
Senior Project Supervisor, Applications Technology Group
Emerson & Cuming

TRFA 2004 Conference Chair

Welcome to the Thermoset Resin Formulators Association 2004 Annual Meeting in Boston. The two day schedule includes three technical paper sessions, open Market-Focused Committee Meetings, two Regulatory Affairs sessions, a general membership meeting, and a table top Exhibitor Showcase.



Rudy Hartenstein
2004 Conference Chair

The technical paper sessions feature the knowledge and hard work of presenters representing a cross-section of organizations that enables our industry to meet the ever changing demands of our customers. Academia, formulators, raw material suppliers, processors, and manufacturers are all represented.

The Regulatory Affairs sessions provide information on how we can make and sell our products and how our customers can use our products in safe, healthy, and legally compliant ways.

The topics covered touch on the TRFA market areas of focus: Coatings, Civil Engineering, and Flooring; Sealants and Adhesives; Composites and Tooling; and Potting, Encapsulation, and Electrical. There is also a presentation on the global and North American resin demand that these markets contribute to.

Take advantage of this unique opportunity to establish and renew professional relationships with our industry colleagues during the meeting and receptions and afterwards in your free time.

Try to make some time to experience some of historic Boston. Boston proper is a compact, easy to get around city. The hotel is in the heart of the financial district and just a short distance from historic attractions, evening entertainment, and New England shopping and eating.

Lastly, the TRFA wants to be in a position to serve the needs and help information exchange of thermoset resin formulators and suppliers. Please contact me or any of the TRFA Board of Directors and pass on any comments or suggestions you may have to help the organization to identify and offer services pertinent to your business or personal professional needs.