

**GC3 Advisory Committee Call**  
2 PM Eastern Time, 50 min.  
November 5, 2007

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*Present: Eric Harrington, Interface Fabrics; Buzz Cue, Pfizer (retired); Mark Buczek, Supresta; Tom Swarr, UTC (retired); and Joel Tickner, Yve Torrie, and Melissa Coffin, Lowell Center for Sustainable Production.*

**Updates on Working Group Activities**

**DfE/Green Chemistry**

- The DfE working group sent a letter to EPA Assistant Administrator James Gulliford as a follow up to their meeting in September. The group is waiting for an official response.
- The working group and the NPPR held a joint meeting in Chicago in early October to find areas of collaboration between states and industry, with particular emphasis on identifying incentives for businesses to engage in Green Chemistry and DfE activities. A working group call will be scheduled soon to discuss the next steps that came from this meeting.

**Tools**

- The draft RSL database has been expanded to include a total of 19 company's lists. The Lowell Center will begin an analysis of the several hundred chemicals listed shortly.

**Drivers**

- The Drivers working group has identified the retail sector as a key target for outreach. To do this the group has decided to develop a glossary of terms used in sustainability conversations (biodegradable, natural, environmentally friendly, etc.) to establish common definitions. The Lowell Center has set up a wiki glossary with a draft of this glossary so the group can add to it, edit, and qualify definitions as necessary.
- Another way to engage retailers may be to present work Lauren Heine and Clean Production Action have been developing: a simple screen for "red" hazardous chemicals and "green" safer chemicals. This was initially presented to Wal-Mart a short time ago. Clean Production Action will be working on these screens further at a meeting at the end of November, and they will make them available for use in engaging retailers.
- The group would like to engage with and encourage retailers to join the GC3. Sears could be a good place to start since they have shown interest in participating in the past, and some GC3 companies provide parts for Sears products.

**Next GC3 Roundtable**

Several suggestions have been made for locations for the 2008 GC3 Roundtable meeting, including Corporate Express in Boulder, CO; Nike and the University of Oregon; and Interface in Grand Rapids, MI.

The following days were suggested as possibilities for this meeting: the weeks of May 5<sup>th</sup>, May 12<sup>th</sup>, June 9<sup>th</sup>, or June 16<sup>th</sup>. There were also suggestions of piggybacking other events, though there are pros and cons to doing so:

1. Green Chemistry in Fine Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals, May 29-30, Yale University
2. ACS Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference, June 24-26, Washington, DC
3. NPPR Environmental Summit, May 19-23, Baltimore, MD

We would like to have a Save the Date announcement out by Thanksgiving so your early input is appreciated.

### **GC3 Funding**

The Lowell Center estimates that about \$50,000 in staff time is currently being used to facilitate and conduct research for the GC3. Currently, these salaries are being paid through general grants received for Lowell Center work, and a small amount from the April 2007 Roundtable. To make the group sustainable, we'd like to find ways to generate funding to cover staff salaries. At our last Roundtable we discussed raising this funding through registration fees rather than through any formal dues structure. For the 2008 Roundtable, we will raise the registration fee from what it was in 2007, and will consider opening the meeting up for corporate sponsorship. Any sponsorship arrangement will require some lead time for companies to run it through their legal departments, so we want to establish a time and place for the event as soon as possible. Once the details of date and location have been finalized, we may also be able to capitalize on the money left over in corporate budgets at the end of the year.

The Lowell Center will put together a budget for day to day expenses to facilitate the GC3 as well as what the 2008 Roundtable might cost.