

GC3 Advisory Committee Call

July 1, 2008

Present: Buzz Cue, Pfizer (retired); Richard Cottrell, SYSCO; Mark Buczek; Eric Harrington, True Textiles; John Frazier, Nike; and Joel Tickner, Yve Torrie, Aisling O'Connor, Melissa Coffin, and Aliza Gordon (intern), Lowell Center for Sustainable Production.

GC3 Roundtable, July 9-11

Walking through the meeting agenda a few points were highlighted of interest by the group. The Thursday morning session on the role of standards should be interesting and useful. The DfE program has recently added a performance component to its formulator process but has yet to specify what minimum performance standards might look like. Existing standards, such as ASTM and others, may play an important role for firms looking for DfE certification. The session at the Roundtable will stimulate discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of consensus standards versus private standards, and offer perspectives from third party certifiers.

The tour of Nike later Thursday afternoon will include a tour of the production and research facilities in the Mia Hamm building which is generally not offered on standard tours.

Maintaining Energy in the GC3

Since the GC3's creation in 2005 the Lowell Center and GC3 Advisory Committee have worked to maintain a level of engagement by participating firms and ensure that work products were both useful and of added value to work already going on. The GC3 is heavy on chemical users, but lacks representation from chemical manufacturers, some formulators, and retailers. Discussion of CleanGredients may help to bring these firms into the GC3, but we must be actively outreaching to these sectors which are underrepresented.

There are several emerging projects that may synergize with GC3 efforts:

- The American Chemical Society/Green Chemistry Institute may be interested in partnering with the GC3 on specific work products;
- Dave Long is working to form a Cleaning Products Roundtable through the GCI to convene formulators around sustainability issues; and
- Other sector specific roundtables, such as biorenewables or textile dyes might also be forming.

It is important to narrow our focus and our niche so there is no confusion when these partnerships occur. This clarity will also be helpful, as the GC3 grows to include more vocal participants, to ensure the integrity of the group and its collective focus.

Increasing our visibility would also help to grow participation in the GC3. The Lowell Center and Nike are collaborating on a press release for the July roundtable, but press in trade journals, such as Chemical and Engineering News or Chemical Week would also be beneficial.

Electing the 2008 Advisory Committee

The ad-hoc Advisory Committee formed at last year's Roundtable has been extremely helpful to the Lowell Center in managing the GC3. We will take nominations for new and existing

Advisory Committee members during the July Roundtable, and follow up by email with instructions for voting in late July or early August.

Desired Outcomes

The following list of outcomes which would signal the GC3's success in its activities was generated:

1. Make clear progress in the working groups and be able to show measurable progress between annual GC3 meetings.
2. Create a "business plan" for the GC3 which would allow firms to point to take-home products in return for their time and financial investment in the Council. There should be some kind of reality check that the deliverables will balance these resources as well as the staff capacity at the Lowell Center.
3. Begin planning the 2009 Roundtable now for the first half of the year, including a plan and process for the working groups' progress.

Next Steps

The Lowell Center will reach out to its contacts at Chemical and Engineering News to discuss options for GC3 press.

Following the July Roundtable the Lowell Center will circulate information and instructions for electing Advisory Committee members.

Based on input, Lowell Center staff modified the agenda for the July 9-11 GC3 Roundtable.