

More than just “adhesive talk”

C2 takes a look back at the 44th edition of the MKVS (Munich Adhesives and Finishing Symposium), which took place from 28-30 October 2019

Hot melts, hot melt adhesives, melts – this is the profession and passion of more than 225 participants from no less than 20 countries at this year's Munich Adhesives and Finishing Symposium. In the conference centre of the Sheraton München Arabellapark Hotel, international product and machine manufacturers, process engineers, formulators and end-users from the adhesives, printing and converting industries met from 28 to 30 October 2019.

Brand new developments and trends in raw materials, processing and applications in 32 lectures provided lively discussions and plenty of input for the auditorium. Once again, the highly topical lectures were arranged in a content-rich, informative and harmonious manner, and the networking opportunities were perfect for cultivating long-standing relationships and making new contacts.



The MKVS has been established as a traditional event for the industry for decades

Focus topic “Hot Melt Adhesives”

The top-class lectures of the opening session were the prelude to the 44th edition of the symposium under this year's focus topic “Hot Melt Adhesives”. Organiser Stephan Hinterwaldner had invited Ansgar van Halteren, Adhesives Industry Association, with his remarks on the “EU Closed Substance Cycle Strategy – Importance, Challenges and Opportunities for the Adhesives Industry and Bonding Technology”. Together with the contributions of Dr Jürgen Wegner, Chemquest Europe, and Franky Dow, ExxonMobil Chemical Europe, the experts gained a comprehensive picture of current hot melt adhesive trends and a corresponding situation analysis. In more than one

presentation, the urgency and relevance of viable hot melt future solutions, especially in view of the ongoing discussions and legislative procedures around the circular economy with the catchwords “re-duce, re-use, re-pair, re-furbish and re-cycle”, formed the impetus for developments. In his opening speech, Stephan Hinterwaldner emphasised the importance of debonding in addition to bonding adhesives of all types and materials and encouraged all participants to have more courage to be creative in bonding technology.

Highlights from the programme

Reduction of the amount of melted adhesive through advanced, future-proof raw materials:

- Evonik Resource Efficiency with “Amorphous Poly-Alpha-Olefins (APAOs) in New Hot Melt Applications”,
- Sasol with “The use of FT-wax as a performance-enhancing additive in the new generation of adhesives for nonwoven hygiene products”,
- Lanxess with “Advancements in Low Free Isocyanate Prepolymer Design for Reactive Adhesives Systemes” and
- Dow Europe with “Creating Innovation: Polar and Non-Polar Olefin Copolymers for the Hot Melt Adhesives Industry”.

Improved technologies in mechanical and plant engineering e.g. in the joint lecture of TU Braunschweig and Adtracon with “3D application of post-curing hot melt adhesive” and the presentation of the “Planetary roller extruder in adhesive production” by Entex Rust&Mischke. Moreover, Malvern Panalytical presented the “Determination of viscoelastic properties of hot melts using rotational and oscillation rheometry – how to interpret the measurement curves”.

Further developments in (layer) materials were also discussed, as was the recycling of hot melt adhesives in packaging and other applications. Onusseit Consulting reported on this with “Recycling-fair bonding with hotmelt adhesives” and the Fraunhofer Institute IVV with “Recycling-fair packaging concepts and processes”.

In 2020, the 45th Munich Adhesives and Finishing Symposium will take place from 26 to 28 October 2020 - focused on the topics of bonding – converting – printing. ■