

REUSABLE PACKAGING TODAY

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Did you know.....?

Motor oils and lubricants are generally not regulated in transportation as hazardous materials. The "flashpoints" for these products are too high to be classified as Flammable or Combustible. Nevertheless, additives for cleaning or other properties can include certain solvents that could trigger requirements for hazmat packaging.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chemical Packaging Committee
February 11 - 13, 2015
Sarasota, FL

RIPA Technical Conference
TBA Spring 2015

15th International Conference on Industrial Packaging
June 3 - 5, 2015
Vancouver, B.C. Canada

IPANA Spring Conference
June 2, 2015
Vancouver, B.C. Canada

RIPA ANNUAL CONFERENCE - NEW ORLEANS JAMBOREE

Crescent City. The Big Easy.

Over 130 people turned out in New Orleans October 15-17 for the 73rd RIPA Annual Conference.

And as in other recent years, many more were on hand for the 12th Annual IPANA Conference. Members of both associations shared in several of the featured events.

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Larry Bierlein, Mary Solano, Paul Rankin

VANCOUVER CANADA IN JUNE 2015 !



Mark your calendars and update your passports – you don't want to miss the 15th International Conference on Industrial Packaging. The meeting, which will be held June 3 – 5, 2015 in the stunningly beautiful city of Vancouver, B.C., will feature three days of business and social events designed to educate and entertain the global industrial packaging community.

Conference Chair Rod Stewart, Bodtker Group, stands ready to welcome attendees and accompanying persons to his home city. "Both I and the Bodtker Group are thrilled that the 15th International Conference is coming to Canada," said Stewart. "Vancouver is not only a beautiful city, but it is situated near some of the most exciting venues in the world, including Whistler Resort and Vancouver Island."

RIPA COMMENTS ON DOT PROCEDURES FOR SPECIAL PERMITS AND APPROVALS

RIPA has submitted comments to DOT PHMSA in response to the agency's proposed procedures to govern the future consideration and issuance of Special Permits and Approvals. A key concern is the agency's criteria for judging an applicant's "fitness".

In its comments, RIPA said it believes that "fitness" should be limited, as proposed, to a time-limited horizon (e.g., 4 years). Additionally, RIPA believes that on-site reviews should be limited to the most serious instances of safety concerns. However, the criteria for "fit or unfit" appear

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

WOW! That's a great word to describe our Annual Meeting in New Orleans a few weeks ago. We had a great turnout with our friends at IPANA. I, for one, trust that both associations can continue to hold this joint meeting to promote the common interests of all our businesses. Speaking from a business perspective, the meeting was highly informative and the speakers gave each of us plenty of great information to take back home and apply in our operations. On the social side – it was New Orleans!



Ricky Buckner

Ricky Buckner

On the last night we all had a joyful evening with many of the past Morris Hershson Award recipients – Vincent Buonanno, Mike Murphy, Eliot Bank, Bill Shocklee, Rick Rubin, Peter Dewitt and Howard Skolnik, along with Paul Rankin and Larry Bierlein, gathered to celebrate the retirement of Larry Bierlein, our General Council for many years. I don't think we have ever had so many Hershson winners together in one room. New Orleans was a perfect place to have a celebratory event such as this.

There are several issues the association is working on now, including the continuing down-gauging of steel drums, IBC testing and marking, and various transportation issues. We have several committees working on these matters; the office will keep you abreast of findings of the committees.

I would like for everyone to keep in mind the upcoming ICCR 15th International Conference on Industrial Packaging; please make every attempt to attend. The staff will be sending out more information on the conference shortly.

If you experience any issues that we need to address, please let me, the staff, or any Board member know and we will get to work on them as soon as possible. We are here for you.

In closing, the year will soon be over and there are many holidays ahead. I hope you all have a great holiday season. From my family and staff, thanks for allowing me this opportunity to serve with you.



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Chairman.....Ricky Buckner
President.....Paul Rankin
Editor..... C.L. Pettit



Nine Hershson Award Winners!

The Main Speakers Program featured talks from Greif COO Peter Watson, DOT PHMSA Deputy Administrator Bill Schoonover, RIPA's new General Counsel Rick Schweitzer, and manufacturing expert Jerry Jasinowski, former head of the National Association of Manufacturers. Also speaking was Dr. Rafael Moure-Eraso, Chair of the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board. Much of his talk focused on the dangers of combustible dust, which can be a risk in various industrial settings where metal dusts are present.

In RIPA's Product Group sessions, several important issues were featured. RIPA's Technical Director C.L. Pettit presented statistical data on the U.S. reconditioning industry for 2013. This data includes estimates on the scale of production, as well as survey data on industry practices and operations. See the RIPA [website](#) for a copy of the full report.

RIPA's IBC Product Group covered a range of important topics including progress being made with U.S. DOT on Special Permits for installing new leakproofness-tested bottles. The group also discussed plans for the annual testing for re-certification of select "cross bottled" designs.

The Steel Drum Product Group discussed ongoing concerns with the "down gauging" of

new drums, as well as environmental risks associated with sending "raw" drums to scrap yards.

A special panel convened the following day to offer advice on preparedness for a plant fire and considerations on issues of insurance. Ms. Julie Sealy (Samsung Fire and Marine) and Mr. David Smith (Strategic Insurance Partners) joined RIPA President Paul Rankin in making a very useful and insightful presentation.

The RIPA Board of Directors met on the final afternoon to conduct its usual business in finance, administration, membership and meetings.

On the final night of the conference, a special event was held

to honor outgoing RIPA Counsel Larry Bierlein. Larry is leaving the association after 34 years of service its members. The festive event featured testimonials from a number of RIPA's esteemed leaders, past and present. Indeed, nine RIPA Hershson Award winners were among those gathered to celebrate Larry's tenure with the association (see photo).

Also honored with a RIPA Honorary Lifetime Membership was Mr. Michael DeWitt of DeWitt Barrels in Marne, MI. Michael had been initially bestowed the honor at the Board's summer meeting in July.

Congratulations and thank you to both Larry and Mike!



Paul Rankin, Joe and Patty Wirth, Debbie Rankin, Vinny Buonanno



The Buckners and Loretta Butler enjoy the occasion



Juliet Grace (Evans) Shindler, Patricia Evans, Howard Skolnik, Robert Milanowski



Paul Rankin, Julie Sealy and David Smith



*... Lifetime Membership Award Winner
Michael DeWitt (left)*



Manufacturing expert Jerry Jasinowski



Peter and Galene DeWitt, Jim Munson

.....RIPA Comments continued from page 1

somewhat malleable. A field operations agent may have reasons to make recommendations that seem far removed from the narrow special permit or approval being sought.”

Additionally, “RIPA maintains that an on-site review of an applicant for an approval need not be a “curb-to-curb” inspection, but rather should be a limited review of the operation or packaging in question. Inspectors should take other action only on compliance issues “in plain sight”. In our experience, this threshold provides equivalency in terms of public safety.”

Finally, “RIPA believes that PHMSA’s plans to codify into the regulations certain Permits and Approvals with wide applicability and records of safety could also go a long way in disseminating new technologies and safe practices.”

For a copy of the complete comments, visit the RIPA website or contact the RIPA office.

IPANA ANNOUNCES NEW OFFICERS

The Industrial Packaging Alliance of North America (IPANA) has elected a new Board of Directors and Chairman for the 2015 – 2016 biennium. Mauser Director Technical and Regulatory Affairs Mr. Chris Lind is the group's new Chairman, succeeding Frederik Wentzel, Schuetz. IPANA Executive Director Sue Nauman noted, "Mr. Lind's technical expertise and regulatory knowledge will serve IPANA well in the coming years."

Following is a list of the other association officers elected by the IPANA membership:

Vice-Chair	Jim Craig, Manager Project Engineering, Plastic Drums, Greif
Treasurer	Kyle Stavig, Chief Executive Officer/Owner, Myers Container, LLC

Mr. Frederik Chin, Vice President – General Manager, Universal Chemical and Coatings, will remain as the Associate Member Representative on the Board. Mr. Larry Thomas, Production / Sales Engineer, Snyder Industries, was elected as the new Chair of RIBCA and will serve on the IPANA Board as a representative of that affiliate.

NAM: FEDERAL REGULATIONS COST U.S. ECONOMY MORE THAN \$2 TRILLION ANNUALLY

According to a new study prepared by the National Association of Manufacturers, complying with federal regulations costs Americans \$2.028 trillion in lost economic growth annually. This figure is roughly equivalent to 12 percent of total GDP; money that could be invested back into our nation's businesses, which would help expand our manufacturing base and add new jobs.

The study, conducted for NAM by economists Nicole V. and W. Mark Crain, concluded that manufacturing businesses face a disproportionate share of the burden, or \$19,564 per employee per year—nearly double what the average U.S. business pays to comply with federal rules. Incredibly, small manufacturers pay more than three times as much as the average U.S. firm, or \$34,671 per employee per year.

"Manufacturers have long cited more and more complex regulations as a barrier to their growth, and today, we have new data demonstrating the true burdens shouldered by manufacturers throughout the supply chain, particularly the smallest firms, in complying with growing federal mandates," said NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons. "Manufacturers rely on a stable, balanced and commonsense regulatory environment to create jobs and fuel economic growth. With growing regulatory compliance burdens, policymakers should be alarmed that our nation's smallest manufacturers are being put at a competitive disadvantage within the global economy."

The newly released NAM study builds on previous studies conducted by the Crains for the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy. This study updates previous estimates of the cost to comply with federal regulations using new data sources and incorporates the findings of an extensive survey of NAM members that validate conclusions reached in the economic analysis. "Our data continue to show that small businesses and manufacturers bear a disproportionate share of compliance costs," said Nicole V. Crain.

"Overall, we hope that this analysis helps policymakers as they contemplate additional regulatory proposals," added W. Mark Crain. "Small businesses and manufacturers most frequently identified regulatory issues as the top business challenge."

For more information, including the full study and the executive summary, visit [NAM's website](#).

RIPA COMMENTS ON DOT PROPOSED UN HARMONIZATION RULES

DOT has proposed a wide-ranging rule designed to bring the U.S. into closer harmonization with current United Nations requirements. RIPA has long supported international regulatory harmonization efforts where feasible and practicable. The association identified for comment five provisions in the proposed rule that directly affect manufacturers and reconditioners of industrial packagings.

In HM-215M, DOT is proposing a new definition of the term “Large salvage packaging,” that mirrors the newly adopted UN language. RIPA supports the proposal for safety purposes. However, RIPA President Paul Rankin has contacted German regulatory authorities in an effort to learn more about these containers, which all have capacities greater than 119 U.S. gallons and volumes not larger than 106 cubic feet. By way of comparison, a standard 55-gallon steel drum has a volume of about 7.3 cubic feet.

On a related matter, RIPA is supporting new marking and performance testing standards that must be met by all large salvage packaging. If the rule is adopted, these packagings be marked and tested for PG II materials; successfully pass a leakproofness test at 30 kPa; be provided with cushioning and absorbent materials to prevent the accumulation of free liquids; and, be marked with the proper shipping name of the material carried.

RIPA supports amending the definition of “non-bulk packaging” to permit the use of certain bags or boxes for the transport of low weight, large volume items, such as air bags. RIPA’s support is conditioned on the presumption that the Agency’s references to “bag” and “box” in the definition do in fact limit users to all the conditions stipulated for these items in subpart L. For example, woven plastic bags (178.518), textile bags (178.520) and paper bags (178.521) all impose a maximum net mass limitation of 50 kg (110 pounds).

RIPA supports deletion of an existing requirement that all salvage packagings bear the term “SALVAGE DRUM”. The proposed requirement would allow use of the generic term “SALVAGE,” starting immediately but not mandated for approximately four years (i.e. through December 31, 2016).

The association has asked PHMSA to clarify that the symbol applicable to an IBC designed for stacking or not designed for stacking must be marked on all IBCs manufactured, repaired, remanufactured or “routinely maintained.” When adopting this rule several years ago, DOT failed to include routinely maintained IBCs in this requirement.

For further information on RIPA’s comments, contact the association. A copy of the comments may be found on the association’s [website](#).



EUROPEAN RECONDITIONERS ELECT NEW OFFICERS

At its most recent Board and General Meeting, members of the association of European drum reconditioners (SERRED) elected new officers for the coming year. SERRED presently represents 25 companies with headquarters in twelve European nations.

The new officers and their company affiliations are listed below.

Chairman	Phillip Verstraete	EarthMinded
Vice-Chairman	Pim Janus	Janus-Vaten
Treasurer	Frits Janus	Janus-Vaten
Secretary General	Jacques Merritt	Retired
Chair, Operational Committee	Eddy Schuer	EarthMinded
Board Member	Mike Rooms	Ken Rooms, Co.
Board Member	Michael Eigener	Bayern Fass
Board Member	Hervé Hobaton	DuoEmballages

RIPA Chairman Ricky Buckner offered the new SERRED Board his full support going forward. "I am delighted to see that SERRED remains a vital and important organization throughout Europe," he said. "Industrial packaging is increasingly a global industry, so I look forward to working with my SERRED colleagues, and Chairman Verstraete in particular, to ensure that reconditioners everywhere remain at the forefront of political, regulatory and standards issues."

NEW 2015 RIPA MEMBER DIRECTORIES

Hot off the presses! Your new 2015 RIPA Member Directories are on their way! New Member Directories were shipped to members during the first week of November.

This invaluable resource provides you up-to-date contact information for all your friends and colleagues around the nation and the world.

Member listings are loaded with personnel information, e-mail addresses, website addresses, street addresses, phone numbers, faxes and even U.S.-registered "M" and "R" numbers (or registered symbols).

Please make special note of the member companies with advertisements. These members make a special effort to reach out to all the industry's leaders.

Also make note of the Hershson Award Winners, the Association Officers, the Board of Directors, the various Committee Chairs, and the Lifetime Honorary Members. These distinguished leaders have earned their places in the history of our industry.

Finally, readers also should note the RIPA Mission Statement, the Code of Operating Practices, and the Antitrust Statement. Each of these is an important part of RIPA's charter.

Significantly, RIPA member companies are also listed on the RIPA [website](#), under the heading: "Find a Member". Companies are searchable by name or by state, province, or country. Potential customers are often referred to the website for open access to the member listings. Indeed, many customers rely on the RIPA website to access reconditioners and other providers from any number of locations.

Of course, additional copies of the printed Member Directory are available through RIPA (a small fee applies).

We hope you enjoy the new Member Directory. And thank you for your continued support!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

RIPA is pleased to announce the official acceptance of membership for the following new members:

Reconditioner / Distributor

Penn Barrel, Inc.
308 Columbia Road
New Kensington, PA 15068
Mr. Adam Kaufman, President
www.pennbarrel.biz

International Member

Contenedores Industriales Mexicanos
CIMEX
Carr Miguel Aleman SI2-A
San Nicolas de los Garza
Mexico 66477
Mr. Luis Felipe Salas, CEO
www.cimexicanos.com.mx

New Supplier / Associate Members

Nordson Corporation
28601 Clemens Road
Westlake, OH 44145
Mr. Chuck Nagy
www.nordson.com

Shred-Tech
295 Pinebush Rd.
Cambridge, Ontario N1T 1B2
Mr. Joe Roberto, VP Sales & Marketing
www.shred-tech.com

Vecoplan, LLC
P.O. Box 7224
High Point, NC 27264
Mr. Bob Gilmore, Dir. Bus. Develop.
www.vecoplanllc.com

Strathmore Products, Inc
1970 W. Fayette Street
Syracuse, NY 13204
Mr. Mike Yauslin, Dir. Operations
www.strathmoreproducts.com

DOT ISSUES ADVISORY ON EBOLA

U.S. DOT has published a Safety Advisory on requirements for persons preparing, offering, and transporting “non-treatment” materials (e.g., sheets and bedding) suspected of being contaminated with the Ebola virus.

These materials are regulated as Category A infectious substances under the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMRs). They must be packaged in conformance with requirements for Category A substances. A Category A infectious substance is a substance in a form capable of causing permanent disability or life-threatening or fatal disease in otherwise healthy humans or animals following exposure. Ebola contaminated materials that have been neutralized or deactivated (e.g., by incineration, steam sterilization, chemical disinfection, or other appropriate method) are longer subject to the HMR.

Medical waste generated from the direct treatment of an Ebola patient (e.g., syringes, etc) transported by a government employee to a disposal facility is not subject to the HMR; however, PHMSA recommends that government personnel comply with the requirements of the HMR to ensure the safe transportation of the material.

PHMSA has issued Special Permit SP16279 to certain waste carriers authorizing alternative packaging for transporting materials contaminated with Ebola for treatment and disposal. Other waste carriers may apply for “party status” Special Permit SP 16279 in accordance with 49 CFR 107.107. Contact RIPA for details.

RIPA RELEASES REPORT: INDUSTRY SURVEY AND STATISTICS 2013

RIPA's report, "U.S. Packaging Reconditioning 2013, Survey and Statistics", includes significant trend data for U.S. production in reconditioning, as well as data on a variety of operational practices, equipment profiles, and regulatory issues.

RIPA survey work and statistical analysis reveals several significant developments

- U.S. 55-gallon steel drum production is estimated at 25,145,000 - up 4% from 2011.

An additional 6.5 million units are estimated as scrapped, up significantly from an estimated 3.5 million in 2011. This uptick was the first in several RIPA surveys going back to 2000. The recessionary years were likely one factor for the decline from 31 million in 200 to a low of 24 million in 2011.

- U.S. 55-gallon plastic drum production was estimated at 4,1234,000 – down 4% from 2011
- U.S. composite IBC reprocessing (275- and 330-gallon) is estimated at 2,591,000 – up 19% over 2011.

Other findings include shares of packaging used for hazmat: steel 56%, plastic 73%, fiber 20%, and composite IBCs 78%. Of these, the estimate for fiber drums may seem somewhat high, according to knowledgeable sources in the industry.

The RIPA report includes a variety of other survey data that profiles the industry. For a copy of the report, go to RIPA's [website](#) or contact the RIPA office.



PUBLIC RELATIONS GROUP FORMED ON REUSE AND SUSTAINABILITY

At the annual conference in New Orleans, the RIPA Board of Directors established a member workgroup to formulate a public relations message on reconditioners' products and businesses as sustainable and "green". The outreach also will include "messaging" on the safety and environmental risks associated with sending "raw" drums to scrapyards.

The committee is currently comprised of Howard Skolnik (Skolnik Industries), Noah Flom (Apex Drum), Richard Rudy (BASCO), and Randy Speights (Mitchell Container). One of the objectives will be to tap new social media for optimal outreach. Another objective will be to establish for reconditioning a definitive identity – an image or a "brand" -- as a sustainable business practice.

More developments will be reported as work gets underway.



Drum It Up!

October 2014

PACKAGING NEWS

Winemaking News

Skolnik Royalty Making the News

For the last four years, patrolling Skolnik has been the responsibility of two noble cats, namely King and Prince. Working with Tree House, a Chicago based cat rescue, King and Prince were brought in as a critical part of the Skolnik team — their job — to keep the Skolnik physical plant free of rodents.

Four years later and King and Prince are doing their job, and doing it well! Since they began their patrol, not a single rodent has been seen! The program of placing cats in businesses throughout Chicago was started by Tree House and is now a successful abatement program. So much so that publicity about Cats at Work has reached as far as Athens, Greece and made frequent news and television spots. More recently, **Community Cats**, by Anne Beall, identifies the prolific cat communities in Chicago and the growing use of cats to solve one of the most common problems in Chicago. Both residentially and commercially, cats are stepping up to do their job in cat colonies around the city! With an entire chapter dedicated to our King and Prince, [you can read the interview I had with Anne Beall](#) about our Skolnik royalty.

—Howard Skolnik

DGIS “Heats-Up” in Scottsdale

While people usually don't flock to the 110F+ temperatures of Phoenix in the summer, last's month's Dangerous Goods Instructor's Symposium hosted by Labelmaster, had a record breaking turnout with nearly 200 dangerous goods professionals attending. The conference opened with outstanding workshops including, LaQuita Donald demonstrating Effective Teaching Strategies, Sonia Iruستا presenting DG Transport Realities and the Trainer, and Geoff Leach presenting an update of ICAO 2015. The following days were filled with riveting presentations by other industry leaders including Kristel Vermeersch, Mike Hoysler, Robert Jaffin, Shannon Mizell, Aaron Montgomery, Bob Benedict, Donna McLean, Bob Richard, Neil McCulloch and Rhonda Jessop. A notable highlight was the powerful presentation given by Wendy Buckley entitled, **Lac Megantic — Anatomy of A Tragedy**. The conference was held at the W Hotel and everyone enjoyed the social aspects of this annual networking opportunity. Held annually, the 2015 DGIS will be September 9-11 in St. Louis. To register for this free conference, contact Labelmaster.

—Howard Skolnik

Wine Drums Survive Earthquake!

The 2014 South Napa earthquake occurred south of the city of Napa, California on August 24 at 3:20 a.m. local time, measuring at 6.0 on the moment magnitude scale. The tremor's epicenter was located approximately 3.7 miles (6.0 km) northwest of American Canyon near the West Napa Fault, beneath the Napa Valley Marina on Milton Road, just west of the Napa County Airport. The earthquake was the largest earthquake to hit the San Francisco Bay Area since the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake 25 years earlier. Significant damage and several fires were reported in the southern Napa Valley area, and there was also damage in the nearby city of Vallejo, in Solano County. The quake injured about 200 people and interrupted electric service to more than 69,000 customers. An experimental earthquake warning system gave seismologists a short notice of the imminent shaking.

Despite this critical event, wine aging racks with many Skolnik stainless steel barrels survived the ferocious ground movements. Our thanks to Terin Ignozzi of Bryter Estates Winery that sent us this [photo](#) and comment, “just a quick note to say that even a 6.1 earthquake can't defeat Skolnik SS drums... All survived to last another vintage!” Thank you Terin! We are grateful that in addition to the barrels, that you and Bryter also survived such a disastrous event!

—Jason Snow

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REBUILT VALVES-This is where Stainlez got our start! We have the valve you need! Call and tell us what IBC brand you have and we'll find the right one for you.



VALVE ADAPTERS AND COUPLINGS- Adapters are built to fit and ship, while couplings help you get the job done without worrying about parts coming loose.



IBC VALVE CAPS-We offer a variety of fittings and thread types. Some available without a thread, they just lock into place.

We offer all major OEM replacement parts for every IBC and Drum at a value, count on Stainlez to deliver Innovation, Quality, and Service.



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News:

Effective December 3, 2012 Watson Standard acquired certain assets of Delta Coatings Corporation, a privately owned coatings company specializing in the development and manufacturing of coatings for the general industrial and packaging industries.

Acquiring Delta allows Watson to re-enter the general industrial coatings marketplace and add to its existing portfolio of coatings and adhesives. The acquired business will operate as Watson Standard Industrial Coatings.

“We are enthusiastic about this return to an industry that was a facet of our foundation and represents our continued investment in and dedication to the coatings industry,” remarked Jim Lore, President of Watson Standard.

This acquisition provides significant benefits to both companies’ customers, current and prospective. Watson Standard will expand upon Delta’s product offerings through its development capabilities and organizational synergies. Combined, Watson and Delta are able to supply additional general industrial market segments with solvent based, water based, Ultra Violet (UV), and Electron-Beam (EB) products. Watson Standard’s acquisition will also foster additional global growth opportunities.

Watson: Past . . . Present . . . Future

Founded in 1902, Watson Standard is a privately held specialty coatings and adhesives manufacturer, headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, serving the global marketplace.

Watson generates about one third of its business in international markets, which is supported by multi-lingual customer support, a global distribution network with partners in Australia, India and the U.K., toll-manufacturing in Spain and sales and distribution agents in Mexico, Central America and South America. [®]

Watson Standard is dedicated to developing the most innovative coatings, adhesives, and related products for the international general industrial, rigid and flexible packaging markets.

Delta: Strengths and Reputation

Delta Coatings Corporation, located in Melrose Park, IL., has been a vital and innovative member of the industrial coatings community since 1996. Delta is best known for its water-borne coatings for the container and drum industries (interior and exterior), OEM/general industrial and transportation industries.

Delta’s portfolio includes high solids, conventional solvent-based, HAP’s- free and solvent-free radiation curable coatings for spray, dip, roll-coat, coil, electrostatic and electro-coat applications.

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