Advances in Porcelain Enamel Technology

Ceramic Transactions, Volume 211


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Charles Baldwin

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Preface

The PEI Technical Forum Committee is pleased to provide you with the combined proceedings of the 70th and 71st Annual PEI Technical Forum. This volume is the culmination of the efforts of the committee, who spent much time preparing for the two conferences. Both were held at the Double Tree Downtown Hotel with the 2008 Forum from June 9th–12th, 2008 and the 2009 Forum from May 4th–7th, 2009. As you receive these proceedings, work is already underway on the 72nd Annual PEI Technical Forum, to be held in Nashville in May of 2010 and the upcoming International Enamellers Congress to be held in Chicago, tentatively in 2012.

First, I would like to thank everyone who attended the two conferences, and, in particular, those who participated by giving talks. I would also like to thank the members of the Technical Forum Planning Committee for planning and successfully executing these two conferences. We have all lived through stresses, strains, and sacrifices of the recent Great Recession. Our businesses are demanding more and more of less and less of us than ever. It is more difficult to get travel approved, hard to be away from the office and family, and it is more difficult to find the time outside normal business hours to do the work above and beyond required for an endeavor like the PEI. As such, everyone’s extra effort is appreciated more than ever.

The PEI and the associated Back-to-Basics seminar have significantly educational and training value. Decades of experience and many viewpoints are brought together, and it is a unique opportunity to meet with multiple customers at once. The PEI Technical Forum is provides invaluable information and training to the industry for people of all knowledge levels. Marketers and design engineers worldwide learn of enamel and how to best put it to use as a low cost environmentally friendly finish capable for lasting for centuries. We need to continue fulfilling that purpose while training people new to the industry so it can be guaranteed a prosperous future.

This proceedings volume is dedicated to the memory of Dana Chase, Bob Long, Tony Mazuca, John Oliver, and Charlie Summers who all passed away during 2009.

Charles Baldwin
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Porcelain Enamel Institute
PO Box 920220, Norcross, GA 30010
Phone: 770-281-8980
E-mail: penamel@aol.com
www.buyporcelain.org / www.porcelainenamel.com
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