



Tin in the News

23 Aug 2010 Food cans celebrate bicentenary

America's Can Manufacturers Institute (CMI) is drawing attention to the fact that this week we should be celebrating the 200th "Can-niversary" of the food can, and "acknowledging its consistent relevance in our past, present and future."

The can revolution began on August 25, 1810, when Englishman Peter Durand was granted a patent for an idea to preserve food in tins. The can manufacturing industry was born in England in 1812 and was brought to the United States by an English immigrant, Thomas Kensett, that same year. Kensett originally started his canning business with glass jars, but soon, like Durand, switched to tin and received a U.S. patent in 1825.

"From the single-serving cans of soup mothers across America use to feed their children to the industrial-size cans of vegetables cooks use to feed our troops at military bases around the world, the can's popularity will continue to endure as cans are the most reliable, recyclable and versatile package," said Robert Budway, CMI President.

Looking to the future, the CRU-ITRI Asian Steel Packaging Conference next month will be reviewing the start of the third century of canning for food and other products. In a programme with the theme "Sustainable Packaging - Preserving the Future" market dynamics and technology change will be debated by speakers and delegates from around the world. The event takes place in Kuala Lumpur on 22 - 24 September and more details are available at www.asiansteelpackaging.com.

Complete issue of ITRI's Tin in the News below.



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Today it's the 200th birthday of the tinfoil can - see the second story below. Looking forward to the next century of tinfoil, don't forget the conference being jointly organised by ITRI and CRU in Kuala Lumpur in September, further details of which are at this link: www.asiansteelpackaging.com

Kuala Lumpur is the place to go for tin networking in the coming months, as there will also be a major conference on the rehabilitation of mining land organised by the Chamber of Mines, KLTM and Malaysian government departments on 1-3 November. More information on this will appear in our next report.

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25 Aug 2010 Adex arranges funding for Mount Pleasant project

Adex Mining Inc has announced a deal with a Hong Kong based investor to arrange funding for its Mount Pleasant project in New Brunswick, Canada. Adex could potentially start production of tin, zinc and indium from the North Zone of the project in 2012, while another orebody could subsequently produce tungsten, molybdenum and other by-products.

Great Harvest Canadian Investment Company Limited will provide up to C\$12 million in equity and C\$50 million in loans, which will cover the great majority of estimated C\$71 million pre-production capital requirements for the North Zone project. A final feasibility study is due to be completed not later than May 2011.

A preliminary economic assessment of the project is based on production of 3,200 tpy of tin-in-concentrate over a 10 year mine life and Adex will later this year also examine the viability of building its own smelter to treat this. Zinc and indium production is indicated at 4,000 tpy and 40 tpy respectively. Indicated and inferred resources at the property contain some 63,500 tonnes of tin.

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23 Aug 2010 Indonesian exports steady

The tonnage of tin metal checked prior to export from Indonesia in July was 8,870 tonnes, 1% higher than in the same month last year and 10% up on the previous month. "Smelters raised output and released their stockpiles after gains in tin price," Alberth Tubogu, export director for mining and industry products at the Ministry of Trade, told Bloomberg. However year-to-date shipments in the seven months to July this year, at 52,133 tonnes, are 12.2% lower than in the same period of 2009, due to adverse weather and the depletion of onshore mining areas. This has affected production by small mines and private smelters in particular.

Prolonged rains after the usual end of the wet season in Indonesia in the first quarter have hampered mining and further tightened tin ore supply. "It will affect our offshore production. But we expect to boost output in the second half," Abrun Abubakar, corporate secretary of state miner PT Timah Tbk, told Reuters. He said the company expects its tin output this year to be in the range of 45,000-50,000 tonnes, revised down from a previous forecast made in May for 50,000 tonnes. Timah produced 45,086 tonnes of refined metal last year and will publish H1 2010 operating results shortly.
