



Subscribe here

#### **WHAT'S NEW**

#### German version of the safety brochure

The German version of our safety brochure is available in our website and French is coming soon. <u>Download and</u> share it!



# **DID YOU KNOW?**



Did you know that construction is the largest end-user sector for epoxy applications in Europe? There are 3.3 million construction and engineering firms with a combined turnover of €1,556 billion and 10.5 million jobs in Europe. Although often used in small quantities, epoxies are largely used by many of these firms as replacements for mechanical fixings. Read more about the use of epoxy resins in construction.

# **EPOXIES AT WORK**

Photo by: UNI MANCHESTER

#### Clean water for everybody

We may be one step closer to solving one of the world's biggest problems: the lack of drinkable water. A team of researchers in the UK have created a graphene-based sieve capable of removing salt from sea water, and epoxy had played a great role on this achievement. Previous works had proven to be inefficient, as graphene oxide membranes swell when immersed in water. Now, thanks to epoxy-made walls placed on either side of the membranes, the expansion can be controlled and the desalination becomes possible. Read the full story.



Photo by: El Mundo

# **Epoxy resurrects colossi in Egypt**

Spanish archaeologist Miguel Ángel López Marcos is facing the giant task – pun intended – of restoring two 10-metre colossi found in Cairo. Epoxy glue has helped rebuilt the torso of the "standing colossus", whereas the head of the "sitting colossus" is back in place thanks to a prosthesis made using epoxy resin, gravel and sand. Read the full story (Translation provided by Google Translate).



Photo by: Air Force Academy/Tech Sgt. J. Delos Reyes

# Cease fire: Epoxy in bulletproof vests

Hayley Weir, an Air Force Academy cadet, could be the next world's hero. It all started in 2014, when she was asked to create a material that could stop bullets as part of a chemistry class project. After more than 20 attempts, she developed a new material using – of course – epoxy mixed with Kevlar and carbon fibre. The super-strong material

may be used one day to lighten the weight of bulletproof jackets and, as a result, the armour carried by soldiers, which can reach 57 kilos. Read the full story.

#### **POLICY UPDATES**

# Trade bodies seek EU rules on drinking water contact materials

Legislation on materials in contact with drinking water must be harmonised across the EU, the European Drinking Water Initiative (EDW) has said. Currently, Member States have their own requirements and approval schemes in place, creating an uneven playing field for industry, according to the EDW. The Commission is conducting a review of the Directive with a first proposal expected at the end of this year. Volker Meyer, EDW chairman, said "thresholds and limits" are likely to be imposed on contact materials. Read EDW's press release.

#### BPA designated as an endocrine disruptor - the industry point of view

EU experts have agreed to designate Bisphenol A as a human endocrine disruptor on top of its current classification as a repro-toxic SVHC approved last December. The inclusion of BPA in the Candidate List as such does not mean its uses are unsafe: EFSA's comprehensive re-evaluation of BPA exposure and toxicity concludes that it poses no health risk to consumers of any age group at current exposure levels. The Polycarbonate/Bisphenol A group provides further information to interested stakeholders and answers questions about the processes and possible implications. Read the industry position.

Visit our website

Epoxy Resin Committee PlasticsEurope Avenue E. Van Nieuwenhuyse 4/3 1160 Brussels Belgium

<u>Preferences</u> | <u>Unsubscribe</u>