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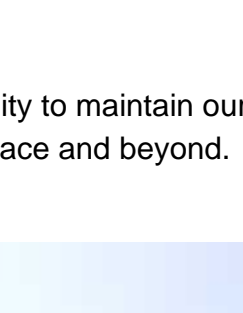
Welcome to our latest electronic edition of Epichem News. We invite you to forward this message to any interested parties at your workplace and encourage them to sign up to receive a copy directly in the future.

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## New Facility in Taiwan

To enhance its capabilities in Taiwan, Epichem Asia has invested in a brand new facility in the Kaohsiung Science Park. The complete transfer of operational functions was achieved in March 2005 and product shipping from the new factory is now fully established. This facility has more than 2000 sq metres available for existing and future processes including a class 1000 clean room.

A number of new personnel have been installed to enhance the services offered by our existing network of contacts. All order related issues and shipping enquiries remain with Ms Annie Chen hence the majority of customer contact is unchanged. In the production and technical area Mr Ocean Kuo is in charge whilst Mr Justin Huang is responsible for QC and customer complaints.



Annie Chen

We are proud of this new facility with its capability to maintain our excellent services to the local Taiwan market place and beyond.



The new facilities and the rest of the team in Taiwan (from l to r: Mr Justin Huang, Mr Ocean Kuo, Dr Ravi Kanjolia, Mr Ram Patel & Mr Jason Hung)

## Fixed Point EpiSensor™



Epichem developed the original EpiSensor™ to allow customers to accurately monitor the level of liquid chemical remaining in a bubbler continuously during its lifetime, without the necessity to remove the ampoule for weighing. This Multi-Channel equipment allows the fill level of up to 8 containers to be displayed and as such has been a hugely successful product. However, for some customers the system sophistication level is too high for their requirements with more output information than required.

Therefore Epichem have developed a new, even simpler device, namely the Fixed Point EpiSensor™ (FPES) - which is a simple stand alone battery operated device that gives an optical indication of the level of liquid in the bubbler.

The FPES fits directly onto the BNC fitting of the probe in the bubbler and no other equipment or cabling is necessary for its basic operation mode. The unit is pre-calibrated to the individual customer requirements prior to despatch and therefore on receipt it is simply attached to the bubbler and ready to use. A high brightness green LED flashes to show the device is working correctly.

As the bubbler is depleted during use and the fill level lowered the high brightness green LED is joined by a high brightness red LED when the pre-set warning level is reached. This warning level can be used by the customer as a reminder to order a new bubbler of chemical.

On continuing depletion the FPES will detect the alarm level and this is shown by just the high brightness red LED flashing. This alerts the customer to change out the bubbler.

This product has been developed for end users who wish to be able to determine change out times accurately and have quick turnaround times without the need to connect extra cabling or carry out calibrations for the new container.

Further details of this new product are available on request.

## Safety Award

Epichem is very proud of its safety record relating to the production of the hazardous range of chemicals it supplies. The pyrophoric, toxic nature of the majority of its products necessitates extreme precautions for their safe handling to ensure operators and the environment are not exposed or harmed in any way. It is therefore gratifying to achieve recognition for safe operations in the form of the British Safety Council International Safety Award and it is a demonstration of ongoing commitment to safety excellence that Epichem can announce that it has recently been presented with this prestigious award for the 9th consecutive year. An unprecedented achievement for chemical manufacturers in this field.

Epichem offers seminars in safe handling of its products and for further details contact your local representative.

## Epichem: set on achieving Investors in People status

Epichem is recognised as a world leader in the supply of precursors to the semiconductor industry and we view staff development as vital to this achievement. Epichem's commitment to learning and development is demonstrated through its aim of achieving IIP status. Currently the results of a recent assessment are awaited to confirm if the IIP standard has been attained.

The assessment benchmarks Epichem against the current IIP framework which is based around four fundamental principles:

- Commitment to investment in people to achieve business goals
- Planning how skills, individual and team are to be developed to achieve these goals
- Action to develop and use necessary skills in a well defined and continuous programme directly tied to business objectives
- Evaluating outcomes of learning and development for individuals' progress towards goals, the value achieved and future business needs

Investors in People UK - The organisation established in the early nineties to promote and develop the IIP standard - states that the potential benefits of working towards IIP recognition include:

- Improved earnings, productivity and profitability
- Customer satisfaction
- Improved motivation
- Reduced cost and wastage
- Competitive advantage through improved performance
- Public recognition

Epichem takes the professional development of its staff very seriously and the IIP scheme will play an important role in the future to ensure a well educated workforce can interact successfully to maintain internal and external appreciation of the company, its products and its services at the high levels demanded.

## New protection against an existing problem....

2005 has seen the Protectosil® building protection materials establish themselves as the preferred choice for many local governments and private companies. Already this year we have seen Protectosil® Antigraffiti (PAG) gain a larger market share within the UK, often finding it specified on new projects - the most recent of these was the Camden Park project. PAG was chosen over others as it did not alter the breathability or appearance of the substrate once applied, but did offer unrivalled protection against graffiti. This position we currently have will also be strengthened later this year, with the introduction of another antigraffiti treatment, yet to be named. This new material has many of the same attributes as the existing treatment (breathable, invisible, environmentally benign, etc), but has been designed to be used where PAG offered too much "protection". The introduction of this new material should be in Q3 of 2005 and notification will be sent to our existing customer base.

Additionally a new graffiti remover will also be introduced at the same time - Protectosil® ProfiClean Gel. Designed to be used in conjunction with the Protectosil® treatments, it will allow for the easy removal of spray paints, lacquers, felt tip or ball point pen scribbling. As with the new antigraffiti treatment, our existing customers will be notified once this product is available.

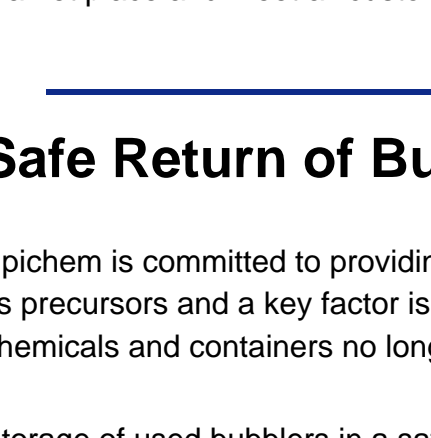
With the introduction of both new products only a couple of months away, please do not hesitate to contact Chris Richards, for any additional information on either 0151-334-2774 or [richardsc@epichem.co.uk](mailto:richardsc@epichem.co.uk)

## "Gases for the Electronic Industry" Seminar



A joint seminar was held recently in the JC Mandarin Hotel in Shanghai to officially announce the cooperation between two important players in the semiconductor industry to help develop the Chinese Silicon Industry markets. Epichem and Degussa have become partners to supply a wide range of gases used in this area and the meeting was aimed at introducing the product offerings to a wide audience.

On the day of the seminar in February 2005 it was raining and quite cold. The precise number of attendees had not been confirmed and so it was with great pleasure that Epichem and Degussa welcomed more than 50 senior engineers from the major wafer FAB manufacturers. Representatives from GSMC, SMIC, Hua-Hong NEC, TSMC, CSMC, Hejian, SinoMOS, and IM-BCD were all present along with numerous others.



All personnel from Epichem Shanghai and Sunway (our Chinese distributor) were introduced prior to beginning the seminar with welcome speeches from Epichem Group - Barry Leese, Degussa - Claus Barasinski and Sunway - Jim Yu. Further presentations were delivered by a number of Epichem and Degussa personnel to cover the product range and delivery options. The engineers showed great interest in our products and it is hoped fruitful interactions will continue to develop to allow Epichem and Degussa to service this market place and meet all customer needs in this exciting new market.

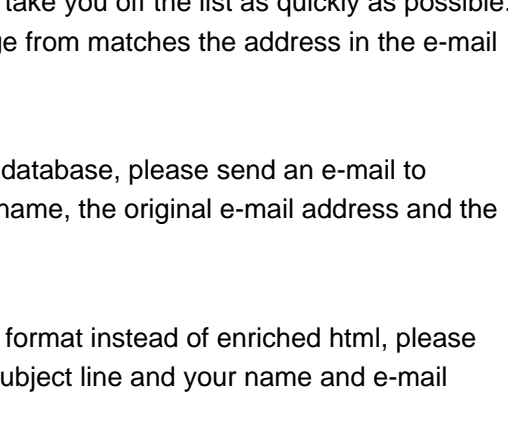
## Safe Return of Bubblers

Epichem is committed to providing a full product life cycle for all its precursors and a key factor is ensuring the safe return of all chemicals and containers no longer required by the customer.

Storage of used bubblers in a safe manner at a customer site can prove problematic due to the sometimes highly hazardous nature of the compounds involved. To encourage bubbler return for safe treatment at an Epichem site we have a number of policies in place designed to help simplify the process and minimise costs.

We provide expert help in meeting transportation regulations to ship our products back to a local site. With increasingly strict rules to follow, it can be difficult to ensure all documentation and packing is correct. Epichem personnel are available to advise or complete the arrangements, as required. Unfortunately, the transport costs for hazardous materials are very high and Epichem is always conscious of trying to reduce this impact to the customer.

In order to reduce cost we can arrange combinations of product by consolidating bubbler returns from localised areas. Where applicable, particularly in Europe, Epichem has also facilitated the collection of containers from different institutes or companies close to one another to provide significant reductions per customer. To minimise customer storage hazards it is recommended to review the chemicals present on site. Please contact your local Epichem representative to arrange for products, which are no longer required, to be returned in the safest, cheapest manner possible.



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