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SCORE: FLUOROPOLYMERS HELPING PROTECT OUR FAVOURITE SPORTING EVENTS

Dear Colleagues,

It would seem summer has already been and gone here in Brussels... Thankfully though, we have a whole host of sporting events to keep us entertained. Whether you've been cheering over the Euros, or enjoying the tennis, fluoropolymers have an important role to play in protecting the stadiums of those events.

Fluoropolymers make the perfect coating for roofs of large infrastructures such as airports, stadia and skyscrapers. Their unique set of properties provide protection from fire, water, weather and even corrosive chemicals resulting in durable, fire-proof and easy-to-clean coatings for buildings.

Read on for a deep dive into the fluoropolymer coating used for the Allianz Arena in Munich Germany, which is where Germany have played all of their Euro 2021 matches so far.

It's also been a busy month here in the Fluoropolymers Product Group – I participated in a panel dedicated to PFAS during the European Commission's annual Green week and Ronald Bock, our Chairman, spoke during a Chemical Watch event last week dedicated to regulatory updates around PFAS.

If you missed these events, make sure to follow our [LinkedIn page](#) where we regularly post about these types of things along with key applications of fluoropolymers.

Please get in touch if you would like to be featured as a case study in future newsletter editions. We are always happy to hear from our industry stakeholders and have prepared a template to facilitate the process.

As ever, please also feel free to share this newsletter with your wider network and invite people to sign up by emailing me at nicolas.robin@plasticseurope.org. Thank you in advance!

Kind regards,

Nicolas Robin

Director, Fluoropolymers Product Group

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NEWS ROUND-UP: WHERE YOU MIGHT HAVE SEEN US...

Last month, we were featured in two ENDS Europe articles. The first [article](#), published on 2 June, covered our participation in the Green Week event on PFAS making our point that fluoropolymers would enable the EU's green transition the focal point of the article. The [second](#) article, published on 3 June, reiterated fluoropolymers' role in the EU's Green Deal targets but within the context of a wider discussion on the PFAS restriction.



The EU Regulatory Landscape

Ahead of a meeting of the competent authorities for REACH and CLP (CARACAL), the European Commission published a [draft Restrictions Roadmap](#). The European Commission are preparing this roadmap in the context of a commitment made in the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability to prioritise several substances for restriction. The restriction on PFAS currently being prepared by the national authorities of the 5 countries is listed as having a “wide scope”. Although there are no specific mentions of fluoropolymers in this document, a Scientific Officer from the German Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health confirmed, during the [Green Week event](#), that fluoropolymers will be included in the scope of the registry of intention, due next month.



Fluoropolymers revolutionising sports stadium façades

When designing the Allianz Arena in Munich, the architects were faced with an issue... How could they protect spectators from the blazing sun or driving rain and ensure the grass gets enough natural light?

The solution was fluoropolymers and more specifically ETFE film, developed by Fluoropolymers Product Group member AGC.

The exterior walls of the stadium are composed of “inflated cushions” made of ETFE film. Thanks to fluoropolymers’ unique set of properties, this film has excellent heat resistance, chemical resistance, anti-stick properties, electrical insulation properties and long-term weatherability.

These cushions make the Allianz Arena very visually striking and more importantly transmit over 90% of solar light – glass only transmits 80% of light – allowing the grass to grow while keeping out the heat of the sun. ETFE film is also a lot lighter and more resistant to dirt than glass making it better suited to construction and easier to maintain.

An added benefit of using ETFE film is that, with the help of some carefully placed lights, the Allianz Arena has a fully colour-changeable exterior. Built for the 2006 FIFA World Cup, it was the first stadium in the world to be able to do this. Whether FC Bayern Munich or 1860 Munich are playing, the stadium can change its façade to match the team.

This technology has since been used in several stadiums such as FC Barcelona providing lightweight, durable and safe designs.

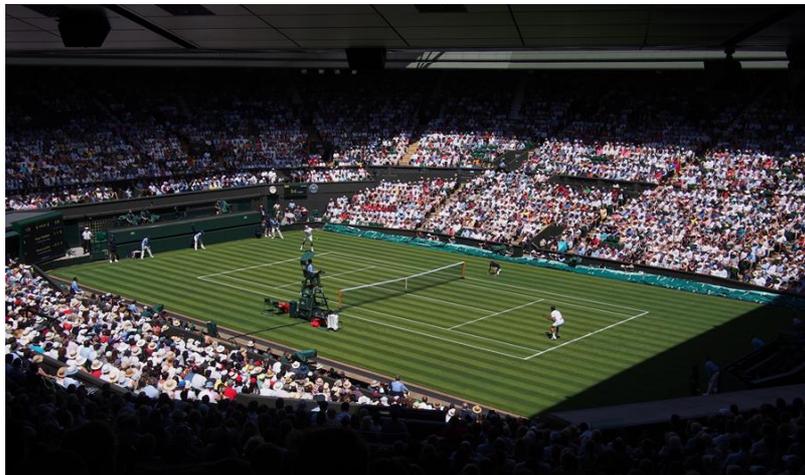


Fluoropolymers contributing to reduced energy emissions

One of the key areas of focus under the EU Green Deal is energy performance. As it stands, buildings are

responsible for about 36% of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions from energy. The European Commission has forecasted that in order to reach a 55% emission reduction target by 2030, buildings' energy consumption for heating and cooling must reduce by 18%.

Fluoropolymers can help contribute towards this targeted reduction in energy use in larger buildings such as airports, stadiums and skyscrapers. Through their applications in the coatings of their roofs, fluoropolymers provide resistance to heat therefore reducing the need for air conditioning.



Fluoropolymers reducing building costs & helping local economies

Through their applications in specific roof coating systems, fluoropolymers can reduce a building's cooling and energy use costs by up to 22%!

In addition, fluoropolymers help major sporting events continue despite adverse weather. For example, Wimbledon's centre court roof, containing fluoropolymers, guarantees this major tennis tournament will continue to attract tens of thousands of visitors every day who inject money into the local economy.

Read more about the socio-economic impact of fluoropolymers for Europe in [our report](#).



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If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Fluoropolymers Product Group or find us on [LinkedIn](#).

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