



### One Day Seminar on "Key Parameters for Box Strength" by Vidarbha Division – WICMA & WICMA R & D Centre



A one day seminar on "Key Parameters for Box Strength" and a "Workshop on Costing" was organised jointly by Vidarbha Division – WICMA & WICMA R & D Centre, on 07.01.2009 and 08.01.2009 respectively at Hotel Tuli International, Sadar Road, Nagpur.

Mr. Vinod Chowdhury, Convener Vidarbha Division – WICMA, Welcomed Chief Guest Mr. Vilasraoji Muttemwar, Union Minister of State for New and Renewable Energy, Government of India & all delegates to this first seminar at Vidarbha Division – WICMA.

Mr. Narendra Vora, President, WICMA, briefed the delegates about the various activities of WICMA and WICMA R & D Centre.

Mr. B. A. Shah, Chairman & Managing Director of Saurashtra Systopack (P) Ltd. and Past President of FCBM and I.I.P. spoke about the objectives of conducting technical seminars and how it helps in technical up-gradation of corrugated fibre board industry. He opined that such seminars should be conducted more often and hopefully at different parts of the Country.

Mr. Vilasraoji Muttemwar, Union Minister of State for New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, the Chief Guest, expressed happiness that a Trade Association like WICMA is conducting R & D activities to help the industry. He observed that corrugated fibre board industry is helping in finding eco-friendly solutions in the field of packaging. He wished the seminar all success.



Mr. Anil Kumar Reddy, President FCBM, expressed happiness over WICMA's arranging technical seminars in different parts of the State and complemented WICMA for arranging them in grand scale.



Mr. B. P. Agrawal, Vice President WICMA, delivered vote of thanks.

In the first session, Mr. Pravin Tapadia, President, Vidarbha Industries Association, chaired the session. The Panel of speakers included eminent persons, i.e., Mr. Pankaj Shah, Chairman, WICMA R & D Centre, who gave an analytical account of performance standards



vis-à-vis material standards, currently adopted by majority of members and users in CFB industry. Mr. Ramkumar Sunkara, Chairman, R & D Committee FCBM, spoke on the importance of two important parameters of Box Strength (BS) i.e. Bursting Strength (BS) and Box Compression Strength (BCT). Mr. P. V. Narayanan, Chair Professor and Advisor, SIES – School of Packaging, Navi Mumbai, spoke at length about the change in properties observed in CFB packages due to change in Rh (relative humidity) and temperature of ambient atmosphere.

In the interactive session held after lunch, Mr. Pankaj Shah, chaired the session. Various subjects such as 'Kraft paper grades'; Increasing Box Strength – Practical tips; Automatic plants – running experience were taken up for discussion.

Mr. Prakash Rathi, Chairman Kaygaon Paper Mills Ltd., Aurangabad, Mr. Dilip Andhare, MD, Ameya Paper Mills, Nagpur and Mr. Vijay Murarka, Director, Hariwansh Packaging, spoke about various paper grades available and how they need to be steamlined and standardized to optimize the properties to derive optimum strength properties in CFB packages.

Mr. Vinay Mehta, Director, Shree Krishna Packaging, Mumbai, Mr. Vineet Jain, Director, Girnar Corrugators Pvt. Ltd., Indore and Mr. Ramkumar shared their knowledge and experience with delegates as to how box strength can be increased by facilitating subtle structural changes in boards & boxes and by changing components judiciously.

Mr. Ashok Vyas, Chairman, Nalanda Group of Industries, Mr. Anil Reddy, Director Samhita Enterprises, Pondicherry and Mr. Samir Shah, Director Supack Industries Ltd., Rajkot shared their experience of running automatic plants; their merits and demerits.

Mr. Bharat Parekh, Hon. Secretary FCBM briefly explained about the various practical standards available for testing paper, board & boxes and informed that these are available free of cost to the industry on written request.

The seminar ended after group discussions where doubts / questions of the delegates were answered by eminent speakers. The seminar had 140 delegates.

### Workshop on Costing

A workshop on costing was arranged on 08.01.2009 at the same venue, for the benefit of members of WICMA / FCBM. The session was chaired by Mr. Baldev Mehta, Vice Chairman WICMA R & D Centre. Among the panel speakers, Mr. Ashok Vyas gave detailed presentation on "Costing – Raw materials". Mr. B. P. Agrawal gave a presentation on "Costing – overheads". Mr. Vijay Murarka gave a presentation on "Costing – other than raw materials". Mr. Anil Kumar Reddy also gave his presentation on this occasion. A typical example was discussed for better understanding of the subject. Also there was a discussion on recent trend/system of REVERSE AUCTION adopted by a few companies. Members gave their opinion that this REVERSE AUCTION system is not practical and most of them have conveyed that they no longer take part in REVERSE AUCTION. The workshop was attended by around 60 participants.