REGISTRATION OPEN FOR THE FORUM ON SUPERIOR ENERGY PERFORMANCE APRIL 7. Join the leaders in Texas who will be presenting their experiences with implementation of a management system for energy as part of the Superior Energy Performance Texas pilot project. Hear first hand from energy managers and management system experts at the four Texas plants that piloted the Superior Energy Performance program, a national plant certification program for a plant's energy performance improvement. The Forum program and registration link is available at Superior Energy Performance April 7 Registration. There is no charge for the Forum, but pre-registration is strongly encouraged. The plants participating in the Texas pilot project were Cook Composites and Polymers Co., Houston; Owens Corning, Waxahachie; Freescale Semiconductors, Oak Hill; and Dow Chemical, Texas City. See related story on Superior Energy Performance below.

The Forum will also be webcast. There is a charge for the webcast. Registration information can be found at Superior Energy Performance April 7 Registration.

TEXAS MANUFACTURING PLANTS FIRST TO BE RECOGNIZED BY DOE FOR SUPERIOR ENERGY PERFORMANCE. On December 09, 2010, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced the first industrial plants in the country to be certified under the Superior Energy Performance (SEP) program. The SEP energy management certification program is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). These Texas plants volunteered to pilot the program during its development. More information on SEP can be found at www.SuperiorEnergyPerformance.Net.

DOE presented companies who had successfully completed their certification audits by December 2010 with awards during the World Energy Engineering Congress.

• Cook Composites and Polymers Co. Houston (photo to right)
• Owens Corning, Waxahachie (photo below)
The pilot program began in May 2008 as a partnership between DOE and Texas Industries of the Future, located at the University of Texas at Austin, with additional funding from the Texas State Energy Conservation Office. For more information, go to http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/news/progress_alerts.cfm/pa_id=449

NEW TOOL ON ASSESSING EFFICIENCY IN CHEMICAL PLANTS AND REFINERIES AT LOW RUN RATES AVAILABLE FROM TEXAS IOF. The chemical and refining industries are primarily continuous processes that are designed and optimized for maximum production. It is well known that during times of low demand these operations become less energy efficient. Due to historically low fuel prices and the uncertainty associated with the duration of low demand periods, energy efficiency at low demand operating conditions has not been given much consideration. This tool was developed for plant owners, operators and energy managers. The tool provides basic information to help plants improve their energy efficiency in general, with a special focus on low-cost opportunities that can be realized during periods of low demand. It is a collection of BestPractices from the DOE, general industry literature, academia and industry experts. Download it from the Texas IOF website at http://texasiof.ces.utexas.edu/tools.htm

UPCOMING TEXAS IOF EVENTS. Go to the Texas IOF website for program and registration information, unless otherwise specified. Registration open one month before the event on the Texas IOF website

- Energy and the Environment Track presented by Texas IOF at the Texas Chemical Council EHS Seminar, Galveston, June 9.

Professional development hours are available for participation in all onsite programs.

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