December 4, 2013, Swissotel The Bosphorus, Istanbul, Turkey

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PAGEV IS GOING TO DISCUSS "PLASTIC APPLICATIONS FOR FOOD INDUSTRY"

Main theme of 8th PAGEV Turkish Plastics Industry Congress is 'Food Plastics'

Need for "food" is among the most important problems of the world today. It would be a big step to solve the problem if we could deliver the wasted food to those in need and extend shelf-life of the food. This is the point where the importance of life of plastic packages used in food industry comes up. "Plastics" used in food packages extend the shelf life of the food and preserve them from external factors. Considering it a mission to bring the developments in world plastic industry to Turkey, Turkish Plastics Industry Foundation (PAGEV) evaluated the matter and selected the main theme of 8th PAGEV Turkish Plastics Industry Congress, which is going to be held this year, as "Plastic Applications for Food Industry".

Performing works for Turkish plastic sector, which has caught the second place in Europe with the 2,2 million tons of production which was made in the first quarter of 2013, to catch up with the world in plastic technologies, PAGEV organizes the 8th Turkish Plastics Industry Congress this year. The congress will be held on 4 December 2013 at Swissôtel The Bosphorus where mainly the advantages of using plastics in food packages and technologic developments in the sector will be discussed.

Plastics draw attention as the material most preferred by package business. Used as an alternative for paper, steel, aluminum, wood, or glass materials all around the world with the effect of economic developments, user-friendliness, energy saving and environmental factors, plastics' use in package industry is increasing day by day. If it wasn't for plastics, average weight of packages would increase by 4 times, energy spent to produce package would increase by 2 times, and volume of packages would increase by 2,5 times.

Among the reasons why plastics are used in food packages stand out factors such as low cost, easy moving, recycling, applicability of various production technologies, lighness, and transparency.

Choosing plastics in food industry's packages and accurate applications extend shelf-life of food while also preventing food waste. Plastic packages are particularly preferred for the packages of

fruits and vegetables, meat, fish, poultry products, frozen food, instant food, dry good, candy, baked products, dairy products, beverage, and baby food.

Mainly plastics are used in food packages in our country as it is around the world with rigid and flexible options. Plastic packages, which can be put in microwave, open easily or re-covered once open, are particulary an ideal option for instant or frozen food. It increases the tendency for these products that fast consumption has become widespread and instant food industry has developed with the increasing number of working women.

Topic titles for the presentations in "Plastic Applications for Food Industry" congress have been determined as "Innovative food packaging solutions, New robotic technologies in Packaging, Recent process, products and strategies in food packaging, Smart Packaging, Rigid and flexible packaging and global trends, New technologies in flexible packaging, Innovations in closure systems, Barrier materials and shelf life stability, Retort and aseptic packaging, Scavengers and barrier films, Uses of new packaging films, Improve the agricultural film performance with 5 layers coextrusion, Plastic composites, Global trends in film production machinery, Shelf life analysis considering microbes, Enhancing shelf-life of Packaging, Minimising migration in food, Food safety and traceability technologies and food inspection system, Innovations in laminating adhesive technologies in respect of food packaging safety, LCA and Carbon footprint, Packaging as a waste preventer, Regulations, testing, standards and quality control, Packaging sustainability in the context of the food value chain, Investment potential for the food packaging industry in developing countries."

Please visit <u>www.turkishpic.com</u> or contact PAGEV for detailed information about "Plastic Applications for Food Industry" congress of PAGEV.

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