

**Alaska Marine Safety
Education Association**

*A community-based cold water &
boating safety training network*

**Volume 22, Number 1
Early Spring 2006**



**MARINE SAFETY
UPDATE**

AMSEA Named ANTHC Partner of the Year



ANTHC CEO Paul Sherry, far left, presents ANTHC's Partner of the Year Award. Accepting on AMSEA's behalf were board members Margy Hughes, Ryan Hill and Mike Swanson.

Photograph by Samantha Holmberg, SCF.

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) recently awarded AMSEA its 2005 Partner of the Year award. At a ceremony during ANTHC's annual meeting in Anchorage, AMSEA was recognized for its continued support of programs that reduce water related injuries among Alaska Natives.

AMSEA makes an extra effort to make training available in rural areas of the state that have a large percentage of Alaska Native residents. Often these areas have the highest drowning and boating fatality rates in the state. In fiscal year 2005, over 4,000 people trained by AMSEA instructors lived in Interior or Western Alaska. This is more than a third of all people trained by AMSEA instructors that year.

AMSEA greatly values its relationships with ANTHC and other tribal entities such as health corporations, community development quota groups and individuals. AMSEA staff welcomes inquiries regarding assistance with boating safety education or training that would help to make boating safer in rural Alaska. Thanks to ANTHC for recognizing AMSEA with this award! We look forward to doing much more work in this area.

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Spring 2006 Training Schedule

Contact AMSEA at 907-747-3287 or visit www.amsea.org for information about events listed or to register to attend.

- Apr. 6 – 9, **Anchorage**: Exhibit and hands-on workshops for children at the Great Alaska Sportsman trade show.
- Apr. 13, **Juneau**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- Apr. 14, **Juneau**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- Apr. 21, **Kodiak**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- Apr. 22, **Kodiak**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- Apr. 22 & 23, **Homer**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- Apr. 22, **Kodiak**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- Apr. 24, **Port Lions**: Alaska Water Wise workshop for recreational boaters.
- Apr. 24, 25 & 26, **Unalakleet**: Cold-water and outdoor safety workshop for children and adults.
- Apr. 24 – May 17, most Mon. and Wed. evenings, **Sitka**: Alaska Water Wise Plus. Series of workshops for recreational boaters. Completion of all workshops qualifies attendees for nationally recognized safe boating certification.
- Apr. 27, **Haines**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- Apr. 27, 28 & 29, **Elim**: Cold-water and outdoor safety workshop for children and adults.
- Apr. 29, **Juneau**: Exhibit and presentation at IDEA Homeschool Program curriculum fair.
- Spring 2006, dates TBA, **Dutch Harbor**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- May 1 & 2, **Anchorage**: Exhibit and presentation at IDEA Homeschool Program curriculum fair.
- May 5, **Hoonah**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- May 5, **Ketchikan**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- May 8, **Ouzinkie**: Alaska Water Wise workshop for recreational boaters.
- Week of May 8, **Ouzinkie**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- May 15 & 16, **Old Harbor**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- May 17, **Larsen Bay**: Alaska Water Wise workshop for recreational boaters.
- May 18, **Larsen Bay**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- May 18, **Ketchikan**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- May 21, **Kake**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- May 22, **Petersburg**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- May 2006, date TBA, **Dillingham**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- May 2006, date TBA, **Wrangell**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- June 5 - 11, **Seward**: Outdoor Survival Educators Workshop followed by an optional F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training for schoolteachers and others who work with children.
- June 7, **Pelican**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.
- June 15, **Skagway**: F/V Emergency Procedures & Drill Instructor Training.

Marine Safety Update is published quarterly by the Alaska Marine Safety Education Association to provide information that furthers the safety of everyone who spends time on the water. Subscriptions are free with paid memberships in AMSEA. Sustaining, supporting and donor memberships receive recognition in this publication.

Memberships and all contributions to AMSEA are tax-deductible. Membership runs from January 1 through December 31. Membership dues received after October 1 are credited to the following year.

Contributions to this publication are welcome. Please submit them to:

AMSEA Marine Safety Update

2924 Halibut Point Road

Sitka, AK 99835

or fax 907-747-3259

or via www.amsea.org

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Marine Safety Instructor Training

The next session of AMSEA's six-day Marine Safety Instructor Training will be Sept. 19 – 25 in Sitka. This is AMSEA's premiere train-the-trainer course, designed for those interested in teaching marine safety and survival to commercial fishermen, professional mariners, teachers, children, government agency personnel or others.

AMSEA Staff & Instructors Have a Busy Winter

Wintertime may be the time when things quiet down in Alaska, but AMSEA has not been idle. More than 600 individuals took part in AMSEA hands-on training courses during the months of December 2005 and January, February and March 2006. Many more were introduced to AMSEA's safety message with exhibits and brief presentations.

Seven Fisheries Observers completed AMSEA's Marine Safety Instructor Training (MSIT) during January in Honolulu, HI. Twelve students from Western Alaska, Southeastern Alaska, the Kenai Peninsula, Great Britain and Alameda, CA attended an MSIT course in Seward during March. Jerry Dzugan and Steven Campbell taught both of those six-day courses.

In December, January, February and March 190 individuals completed AMSEA Fishing Vessel Emergency Procedures and Onboard Drills courses. In December, Michael Morris finished up a semester-long course for Mount Edgecumbe High School students that earned participants both a F/V Drill Conductor and an Alaska Water Wise card for recreational boating. Likewise, Josh Miller concluded a Fishing Ves-

sel Emergency Procedures and Onboard Drills course for students at Valdez High School. Classes taught by Jerry Dzugan and Dug Jensen in Sitka and by Steven Campbell in Kodiak were well attended.

Steven, in his new position manning an AMSEA office in Kodiak, is very busy providing training. During January and February he taught four classes in Kodiak, and he also went to Bethel to train commercial fishermen.

In January, classes for commercial fishermen were taught in Sitka by Jerry Dzugan, in Cape May and Toms River, NJ as well as New Bedford, MA by Dan O'Connor and Teresa Collins, and in Neah Bay, WA by Steve Harbell, Eric Olsson and Sarah Fisken.

In February, Jerry Dzugan taught classes at Petersburg High School and in Sitka; Troy Tirrell and Torie Baker provided a class in Cordova; Jim Herbert taught in Seward; Dug Jensen taught in Nome; Dan O'Connor and Fred Mattera instructed in Point Judith, NJ; Steve Harbell, Eric Olsson and Sarah Fisken taught

continued on page 4



Dan O'Connor, standing, is seen speaking during one of two Emergency Procedures and Onboard Drills courses that he provided for fishermen in New Jersey. The Garden State Seafood Association sponsored the classes.

Busy Winter *continued from page 3*

another class in Neah Bay.

Steven Campbell kept up his pace in March, offering two courses for fishermen in Kodiak. He also co-taught in Tooksook Bay, Eek, Quinagak and Tununak with Chris Dock as well as Clifford Paniak and Michael Lane, new graduates of AMSEA's MSIT course. Those classes were in Yupik.

Marian Allen and Jerry Dzugan each taught a class in Sitka during March and Dug Jensen provided a course in Nome at Anvil Mountain Correctional Facility.

Training for other boaters and outdoor users occurred this winter as well. Maureen Knutsen provided cold-water safety training for 32 school children in Naknek during December. During January in Sitka, David Dean and Janet Cardenas taught children outdoor survival skills and Rick McElrath taught marine safety and methods of instruction to Search and Rescue volunteers. In Palmer, almost every month Charlie Ess teaches teens from villages around the state about cold weather dangers. Also in January, Jennifer Culbertson presented Kids Don't Float and Alaska Water Wise programs to children in Chiniak, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie and Kodiak.

Marian Allen taught a workshop for teachers involved with Sitka School District's Migrant Education Program in February.

In March, Paul Randall put recruits at the Trooper Academy in Sitka through their paces in cold water safety and survival skills, and Dug Jensen taught two courses for NOAA employees in Seattle. Rick McElrath and Mike Motti taught a Search and Rescue course in Arizona for Raytheon Polar Services personnel working at Palmer Station in Antarctica.

Mike Morris worked with schoolteachers

and children in Hydaburg as part of a contract with SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium. Alison Dunlap coordinated a cold water and boating safety and survival program for seventh graders as a part of Sitka School District's Migrant Education Program. Teachers and AMSEA instructors Chloe Copeland and Jarred Hirai, Community Schools staffer and AMSEA instructor Rick Petersen, as well as AMSEA instructor Tim Fulton assisted Alison, as did the US Coast Guard Sitka Aids to Navigation team. As part of the same program, Rick Petersen instructed Sitka High School ninth graders in emergency survival shelter construction. On Kodiak Island, Jennifer Culbertson continued to train more children and Trish Herrmann provided a Kids Don't Float program for school children in Sutton.

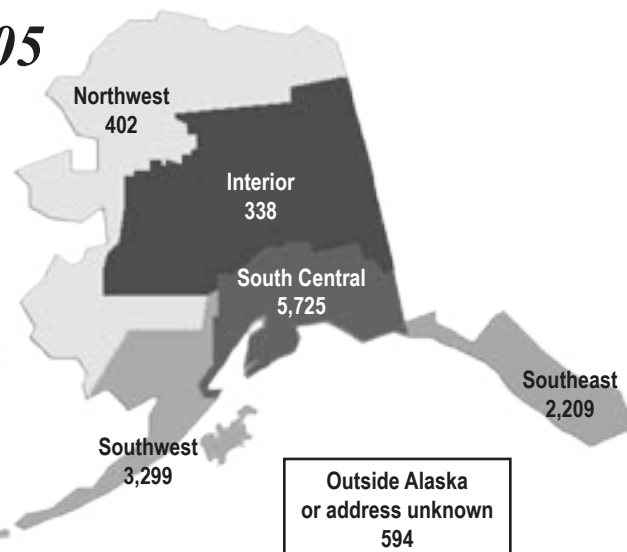
Alaskans were introduced to AMSEA training and materials at several other venues. December saw presentations by Trish Herrmann and Jerry Dzugan introducing AMSEA's K-12 *Surviving Outdoors Adventures* curriculum at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium meeting in Anchorage. In January, Trish Herrmann exhibited AMSEA books and videos at the Alaska Library Association conference in Juneau. In March, Kristie Sherrodd staffed a trade show booth at Juneau's Glacier Valley Rotary Boat Show; Jerry Dzugan gave a presentation in Juneau to the West Coast Fishing Vessel Coordinators for the U.S. Coast Guard; Marian Allen gave a presentation to the US Coast Guard Sitka Air Station.

Instructors are encouraged to report training so that AMSEA can share your activities with others!

Over 11,000 Received AMSEA Training in FY2005

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, AMSEA-trained instructors educated a record number of people in marine and boating safety. At least 11,973 people were reported as trained by AMSEA instructors. It is estimated that at least this many again are trained annually using AMSEA curriculum and materials.

AMSEA staff and board of directors bestow a sincere THANK YOU to instructors who report training to AMSEA. For the organization's continued success it is important to document what types of AMSEA training is delivered in various parts of the state and nation.



Addresses of the 11,973 individuals who participated in some type of AMSEA training during FY2005.

Nanotextiles *continued from page 10*

suggests the possibility of combining the comfort of cotton with the moisture wicking abilities of polypropylene.

Healthcare companies now market antimicrobial bandages coated with silver nanocrystals. Such antibacterial and antifungal properties are of obvious value for military clothing and attire for healthcare workers and other groups. In the next few years, nanomaterial clothing is expected to have more strength, wear resistance, and better warming, cooling or drying properties as needed.

While nanomaterial and composite material technology is already here and will grow in the next five years, the next evolution of nanoelectronics is still five to 15 years away. Although clothing already can be wired to have built-in CD players and controls, more complex electronic functions make garments too heavy or bulky to wear. Before textiles and fabrics are wired to transfer information within a piece of clothing, science has to work at transforming electronics to the scale of only a few atoms. If this is accomplished, clothing will be able to heat or cool its wearer, monitor vital signs, change color on command, and perform other functions.

There are thousands of potential applications of nanotechnology in almost every industry. It will have significant effects on the textile industry and consumers can expect to see some truly "smart" clothing in the years ahead. Due to the extra fine particle materials present in this technology, there may be safety and environmental issues that will need to be addressed. However, the potential for clothing with the inherent ability to change with the weather and conditions forecasts an exciting field to watch in the next decade.



AMSEA Awards Mini-Grants For Five Projects

On Feb. 17, 2006 for the fourth year in a row, AMSEA awarded mini-grants to help fund marine and boating safety training and education projects in Alaska. Five projects were funded totaling \$11,040.00.

The 2006 grantees:

Anna Borland-Ivy and Homer Middle School were awarded \$1,410.00 to provide cold-water survival training to all seventh graders at the school.

Norton Sound Health Corporation Injury Prevention Coordinator Charles Pullock received \$4,000.00 to attend AMSEA's Marine Safety Instructor Training course in Seward, Alaska. Afterwards, he will provide safety training for school-aged children in the communities of Little Diomedea, Gambell, Savoonga and Unalakleet.

Aleutians East Borough was granted \$1,893.00 to allow Sand Point Swimming Pool manager Jason Bjornstad to attend AMSEA's Marine Safety Instructor Training course in Seward, Alaska.

Earl Jeffrey and Hydaburg City School District were awarded \$800.00 towards providing a commercial fishing Onboard Emergency Drills course for Hydaburg High School students.

Jennifer Culbertson, Alaska State Parks, and Valent Maxwell, Kodiak Area Native Association, received \$2,937.00 to conduct safety training for children at schools in six villages and at various youth camps on Kodiak Island.

If funding allows, in January 2007 AMSEA will publish a request for proposals for 2007 mini-grant funded projects.

Sitka Fifth Grader Applies AMSEA Safety Lessons In Real Vessel Emergency

For a number of years the Sitka School District's federally funded Migrant Education Program has paid for an AMSEA marine safety program for all third, fifth, seventh and ninth graders. This program provides marine and boating safety education for about 400 school-aged children each year.

Unfortunately, Sitka's vibrant fishing and boating community experiences a high casualty rate. Training in the schools is an important way to develop a boating safety culture. The program has seen enough longevity that individuals trained as children in this program now have their own commercial fishing operations, charter boats, or personal recreational vessels.

Last fall, just a couple of weeks after the annual fifth grade Sitka Migrant Education/

AMSEA training, a fishing vessel carrying a graduate of that training struck a rock. The skipper ordered all to abandon ship. The fifth grader grabbed his immersion suit and said, "I can do this! We just practiced it in school!" The vessel ultimately did not have to be abandoned, but it was obvious that, if needed, the child was fully prepared and knew what he was doing.

New federal requirements no longer allow migrant education funds to be used for safety training. However, the Sitka School District feels this long-running program is important and is seeking other ways to fund this training. AMSEA greatly appreciates the Sitka School District's recognition of the importance of training children at an early age to develop a culture of safety on and around the water.



File a Trip Plan On An EPIRB or PLB

by Charlie Bond, Ralston Cunningham Associates

Satellite Distress Beacons, known as PLBs or EPIRBs alert Search and Rescue directly through satellites. Each has a unique identification number (UIN) that is registered to you through a free NOAA database. Three to four minutes after your beacon is activated, they will have the information you registered and will know that you are in distress. Minutes after that they will have your location either by Doppler satellite, the built-in GPS on some models, or a trip plan filed online by you.

All 406 beacons must be registered. Registration is free and must be updated at least every two years. Registration information can be mailed or faxed, or completed online at www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov. Online registration allows you to update information seasonally or change it for a specific trip or expedition.

You can use the Additional Data section to file a trip plan. This takes less than five minutes online. Give the dates that this information applies, and specific information about your group, your equipment, and your trip.

Know how to activate or deploy your EPIRB or PLB. Your 406 beacon must be activated before anyone can see your information and trip plan, but then the people who read it will be trying to save your life.

Examples of PLB trip plans:

- Sept 6 - Sept 8, climb SW Ridge Ingalls Peak, bivy first and last night at Ingalls Pass, eight people in three climbing groups, FRS radio 5.10. Near Mt. Stuart, WA.
- July 20 - Aug 17, 47' Bayliner yacht, "My Dream" cruise inside passage to Juneau, AK, four people on board, one is an insulin-dependent diabetic. Departing Seattle about 7/20, expected return about 8/17.

Example of PLB loaned to friend for a trip:

- March 19 - April 15, loaned to Mike L. Revleson, 3027 Rosebush St, Gig Harbor, WA 98335, for kayak trip near Cabo, Mexico. Contacts: Michael (son), cell 206-888-8888, Beverly (spouse) 253-888-8888

Example of an EPIRB trip plan:

- Nov 05 – Feb 06, Crab fishing out of Dutch Harbor, Alaska aboard F/V Lotsofcrab. 110' blue hull crabber, call sign WTF 8529, seven people on board, two liferafts, captain has a PLB on suit.

Remember, all 406 beacons should be activated only in life-threatening situations. But in those situations, the information you provide in your trip plan will give searchers the facts needed to assist you in your rescue. And, you can file your plan online and at your convenience!

MARK

The water so smooth
 Sun slides across streaming, gathers
 At a line where a red canoe tipped,
 A boy
 slid in as if slipping between sheets
 One day reading Dostoevsky,
 The next, a surprised gape of wonder
 On the narrow face of a fish
 (a bottom feeder)
 barely illuminated by the distant sun.
 His mother, as if sensing the hush
 At his leaving
 Took on a silence
 you might mistake as acceptance.
 In all the quiet,
 The smooth water, the hush,
 A frozen wail, held breath.
 Sun glares the truth on this still place.

By Heidi Owen



THANKS!

The people and organizations listed here help keep AMSEA's marine safety training programs afloat. Please join them!

2006 Sustaining Memberships

S/V Wyldewind, Sitka

2006 Supporting Memberships

Craig F. Campbell, Anchorage
 Dwight & Leslee Downer, F/V Bavaria, Haines
 Aaron "Pat" Dye, Cooper Landing
 Wayne Engle, Chugiak
 David & Maggie Herbert, Seward
 Ryan Hill, Anchorage
 Charles & Christine Horan, Sitka
 H. Daniel Hull, F/V Gretchen S, Anchorage
 Sue Jorgensen, Juneau
 Michael LaGuire, ReMax of Sitka
 Jennifer Lincoln, Anchorage
 Fred Mattera, F/V Travis & Natalie, Narragansett, RI
 Thomas Millman, F/V Four Daughters, Mankato, MN
 Michael Morris, Sitka
 Dick & Judi Rice, Back Country Sports, Skagway
 Kristie Sherrodd, Sitka

2006 Donor Memberships

Ray Cammisa, Anchorage
 Maureen Knutsen, F/V Jenny O. Daun, Naknek
 Felicia McAuley, F/V Amber J, Juneau
 Liz McKenzie, Sitka
 Beverly R. Noll, Crescent City, CA
 James Stegall, Seward Adventure Charters,
 Anchorage
 Susan Sugai, Fairbanks
 Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester
 Point, VA
 Wally & Kathleen Warm, Sitka

THANKS ALSO to AMSEA'S many 2006 individual members and the others who teach and contribute to marine safety education!

Recent Equipment & Service Donations

Carolyn & Randy Nichols – Immersion suit
 Hames Corporation – Three immersion suits

Strike First Fire Extinguishers Recalled

A recall notice has been issued for some U.S. Coast Guard approved fire extinguishers made by the Strike First Corporation of America.

Strike First determined that the valve stem seats in a number of 2.5 and 5 lb. dry chemical fire extinguishers, assembled between December 2002 and February 2004, may prevent the extinguisher from discharging properly when the lever is activated. As a result, Strike First



has initiated a fire extinguisher retrofit program for these units. Retrofit kits are available free of charge by contacting Strike First or any Strike First distributor.

The Coast Guard recommends that vessel operators take the action recommended by the manufacturer. For details visit: www.strikefirstusa.com/bulletin002.htm.

Questions or comments regarding this safety alert may be addressed to Mr. Klaus Wahle of the U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters Life Saving and Fire Safety Standards Division at 202-267-0256 or kwahle@comdt.uscg.mil.



JOIN AMSEA!

AMSEA membership benefits:

- Subscription to AMSEA's quarterly publication *Marine Safety Update*
- All members receive 15% off purchases from the AMSEA store: books, videos, survival kits, more!
- Memberships of \$50.00 or more are given recognition in *Marine Safety Update*
- Memberships of \$100.00 or more receive a choice of thank-you gifts, including an AMSEA baseball cap or one of several videos on VHS or DVD
- Individuals and small business owners with memberships of \$50.00 or more may take part in AMSEA training courses at special member rates
- Organization and business members are eligible for AMSEA training at special hourly rates
- Contributions to AMSEA are tax deductible (less the value of AMSEA's thank-you gift)

Name: _____

Company/Organization/Vessel: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Please check here if this is a renewal

Individual and Small Business Membership Levels

- Individual Membership \$20.00
- Donor Membership \$50.00
- Supporting Membership \$100.00*
- Sustaining Membership \$500.00*

Organization and Business Membership Levels

- Organizational Membership ... \$250.00*
- Sustaining Membership \$500.00*

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Account number: _____

Expires: _____

* Please select your thank-you gift:

- AMSEA baseball cap
- When Seconds Count* video VHS DVD
- Beating the Odds* video VHS DVD
- Rescues at Sea* video VHS DVD
- A Matter of Survival* video VHS DVD

Thank you! for becoming a part of the

ALASKA MARINE SAFETY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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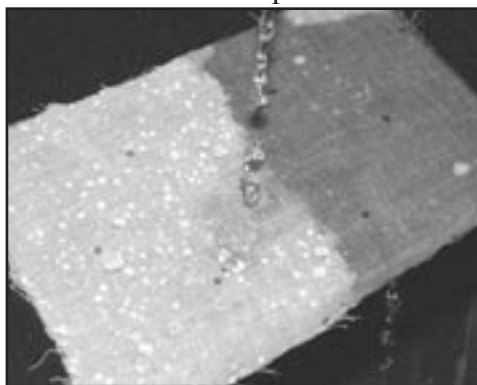
Nanotextiles: The Future Looks Very Small

By Jerry Dzugan

No, nanoclothing is not little tiny articles of clothing. Nanotechnology is a broad term that refers to material components that are so small they are molecular in size. It is the science of using molecules to give materials new abilities. In the next few years, nanotechnology may have a bigger impact on the clothing we wear and survivability while wearing it in adverse conditions.

Some nanotechnology is already in use today. For example, the small particle size and inherent antimicrobial properties of zinc oxide nanoparticles (Z-MITE™ is one brand name) are utilized in bacteria-resistant fabrics and surfaces. Nanomaterials have also appeared in the clothing indus-

try in Eddie Bauer® stain-resistant Nano-Text™ khakis and other clothing. Small whisker-like particles are used to coat the surface fibers of the fabric, creating a stain-repelling surface.



Nanotechnology can make the absorbent cotton shown on the right into the liquid-repelling fabric on the left.

Nano-Text™ a fabric innovation company providing textile enhancements to the apparel and interior furnishing markets, has developed a permanent anti-static treatment for synthetic fabrics. The treatment eliminates the static charge that attracts dirt, lint and hair to clothing and causes static shock. The

company also has a stain repel-and-release treatment and a moisture-wicking product custom-designed for wrinkle-free cotton garments. This

continued on page 5