



January 2011

Dear Colleague:

Accompanying this letter are your registration and hotel reservation materials as well as preliminary program information for **IPANA's 9th Annual Meeting** to be held March 13 – 15, 2011, at the San Antonio Marriott Riverwalk Hotel, San Antonio, Texas. The hotel is located in the heart of downtown on the banks of the San Antonio River and the city's famous Riverwalk – an area of restaurants and shops along this famous attraction. San Antonio, located in south-central Texas is the seventh-largest city in the country and the second-largest city in the Lone Star state.

Included in the brochure below is a preliminary schedule of events, general information about the locale as well as guidance on dress for Annual Meeting events and travel to the San Antonio Marriott Riverwalk from the airport. Annual Meeting registration forms comprise separate documents accompanying this brochure. Please note the **deadline for making hotel reservations (February 18)** as well as that for early-bird conference registration (**February 15**). Print out these information sheets and forms now and keep them handy for ready reference.

Please note there are two Marriott hotels in downtown San Antonio. IPANA's event is at the Marriott Riverwalk at 889 East Market Street, not to be confused with the San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter on Bowie Street! As its name suggests, the Marriott Riverwalk is located along the San Antonio River that meanders through downtown and its acclaimed [Riverwalk](#) – next to the Alamo, the signature attraction in the city. To learn more about San Antonio itself, visit the city's [Official Web Site](#). By the time we gather in San Antonio, the famous Texas bluebells will be in full bloom. Mid-March in this city generally means fine weather. So, the opportunity to stroll along the river or ride one of the ubiquitous flat boats that ply the narrow waterway should not be missed

While the New Year has brought sweeping change to the U.S. House of Representatives, the effects of the November election on the Federal regulatory arena is hard to gauge. The Secretary of Transportation recently approved a reorganization of the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety (OHMS) in the Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) that appears to focus greater resources on enforcement. Certainly, the bulk of new hires at OHMSA have been geared toward field operations, including enforcement, despite the ongoing backlog at headquarters related to Special Permits and Approvals and the evident absence of significant incidents involving hazardous materials shipments in transport that would dictate greater scrutiny of the industrial packaging industry and fillers.

At their separate meetings, IPANA's independent affiliates --- the International Fibre Drum Institute, the Plastic Drum Institute, the Rigid Intermediate Bulk Container Association, and the Steel Shipping Container Institute – will focus on approaches for dealing with this continuing emphasis on enforcement, particularly related to PHMSA activities driven by evolving policies that rely on a narrow reading of its regulatory authority.

Also, at a plenary session opening the Annual Meeting, speakers will focus on future trends in industrial packaging and what issues are driving their choices. Participants also will have the opportunity to network with industry colleagues and suppliers at our Welcome Reception on Sunday, March 13, and the Networking Reception on Monday, March 14.

This will be a two-day event focusing on opportunities and challenges associated with our nascent economic recovery as well as the challenges presented by what is expected to be continuing close PHMSA scrutiny of packaging manufacturers and their customers. Plan to be with us in San Antonio!

See you there!

Sincerely,

John M. Inaud
Executive Director

Attachments



9th ANNUAL MEETING

featuring
Steel Shipping Container Institute Annual Meeting
Plastic Drum Institute Meeting
Rigid Intermediate Bulk Container Assn. Meeting
International Fibre Drum Institute Meeting



March 13 – 15, 2011
San Antonio Marriott Riverwalk Hotel
San Antonio, Texas

Meeting Information and Registration Materials

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM OF EVENTS

(Subject to change)

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2011

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	IPANA Board of Directors' Meeting
1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	SSCI Board of Directors' Meeting
2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	IPANA Registration/Information Desk
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Welcome Reception

Dinner on your own

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2011

7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	IPANA Registration/Information Desk
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Opening Plenary Session
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Break
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon	PDI/RIBCA Joint Working Session
	SSCI General Membership Meeting
	Annual Golf Outing/Independent Work Period
1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	IPANA Registration/Information Desk
3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	IPANA Registration/Information Desk
5:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.	IFDI Membership Meeting
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Networking Reception

Dinner on your own

TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2011

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	IPANA Registration/Information Desk
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	IPANA Associates Meeting (<i>Associates Only</i>)
9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	PDI/RIBCA Joint Meeting (continued)
	SSCI Technical Projects Committee Meeting
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Break
11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Networking Luncheon
1:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	PDI/RIBCA Joint Working Session (continued)
	SSCI Technical Projects Committee Meeting (continued)
4:30 p.m.	Annual Meeting Concludes

Note: Hot beverages and soft drinks provided in all meeting rooms during sessions.

GENERAL INFORMATION

THE SAN ANTONIO MARRIOTT RIVERWALK

Capture the warm heart and authentic culture of San Antonio with a stay at the Marriott San Antonio Riverwalk hotel. Located in the heart of downtown along the San Antonio River, the hotel's sweeping balcony views of the Riverwalk are sure to inspire. This 30-story hotel welcomes guests into a contemporary lobby with a touch of Texas flair: chili-red walls, dark-wood trim and wrought-iron accents. Indulge in your choice of a historical, cultural, or culinary experience with the rich flavors and intoxicating aromas along the Riverwalk, all just a few steps away right outside our doorsteps. Our downtown San Antonio Riverwalk hotel's location is across the street from the San Antonio Convention Center and just three blocks from the Alamo, combining gracious Marriott service and amenities, such as high speed Internet access with a comfortable, casual feel. Discover a leader amongst hotels on the San Antonio Riverwalk, and be rest assured that your visit will be one to remember.

Accommodations at the San Antonio Marriott Riverwalk for the IPANA Annual Meeting include single/double occupancy rooms at a rate of \$209 per night, with upgrades, as available, at \$239 per night, exclusive of taxes. To assure your preferred accommodations, make your reservations today following the instructions provided below. Even if you are unsure of your plans, make a reservation now. You can always cancel it later without penalty provided you do so before the deadline set by the Marriott in confirming your request. **The deadline to reserve a room at this rate is Friday, February 18, unless the IPANA block sells out before that date!**

RECOMMENDED DRESS FOR IPANA MEETING EVENTS

Business Meetings – The attire for the annual meeting is business casual. For example, a man may wear slacks and a golf shirt and a sport coat (should he prefer). A woman may wear slacks, skirt, or dress. **Absolutely no shorts and/or tees or swim wear at any business sessions.**

Sunday Welcome Reception – The Welcome Reception is the kickoff to our meeting. It will be held in the River Terrace Room, a charming venue with great views of the adjacent the Riverwalk. Suggested attire is a sport coat and slacks for men and cocktail dresses or slacks for women.

Monday Networking Reception – This event is planned for the Oak Tree Terrace, a beautiful, secluded location overlooking the Riverwalk, providing an excellent opportunity for networking among members and guests. Casual attire is appropriate for this event, unless your dinner plans dictate otherwise.

TRAVEL FROM SAN ANTONIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The San Antonio Marriott Riverwalk is located downtown about 12 miles from San Antonio International Airport (SAT). Airport Express is San Antonio International Airport's authorized and single shared-ride shuttle service. Shuttles depart from 7 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. daily to downtown hotels every 15 minutes. Passengers may purchase tickets at the airport's baggage claim area. Ticket rates are \$18.00 per person to downtown hotels or \$32.00 for a roundtrip ticket. Book online and receive an additional discount. Online rates are \$17.00 to downtown hotels and \$32.00 for a roundtrip ticket. [Make a reservation](#). Major Credit cards are accepted. For more information, visit [AIRPORT EXPRESS](#) or call 210-281-9900.

Taxi cabs are available at the lower level curbside, outside of baggage claim, at Terminal A & B. For assistance, please contact the Airport Ground Transportation Agent wearing an airport badge. Fares to San Antonio downtown areas are approximately \$20 to \$23 (U.S.) per taxicab. (Up to 4 may share a cab.)

**MARCH WEATHER in San Antonio:
Average high temperature: 75 degrees; average low: 50 degrees!**

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/satdt-san-antonio-marriott-riverwalk/>

Don't be left out!!!

**Make your reservations today for
IPANA's 9th Annual Meeting – March 13-15, 2011.**

The special IPANA sleeping room rate at The San Antonio Marriott Riverwalk is \$209 per night, single/double, with upgrades, as available, at \$239 per night resort view. In making reservations by telephone, inform the reservations agent that IPANA's Group Code is: **ipaipaa**.

**The deadline for reservations at the IPANA
guaranteed rate is: February 18, 2011.**

There are two ways to make your preferred reservations.

1. For on-line reservations:

* Ctrl. click [here](#) to reserve a room at the rate of \$209.

Fill in your arrival/departure dates, and click on the Special Rates & Awards symbol and enter IPANA's Group Code **ipaipaa** into the box where indicated,

or

2. Phone The San Antonio Marriott Riverwalk direct at 210-224-4555, or Marriott Reservations Worldwide at 800-228-9290, and use **Group Code ipaipaa**.

**Make your reservation today!
You can always cancel it later, if necessary!**