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On Thursday, March 13, Southern California SPE celebrated Education Night at Cerritos College. I was lucky enough to co-host this event along with Terry Price, the Program Chairman of the Plastic Courses at Cerritos College. Students from Cerritos College along with Ontario High School attended the event. Once again, the event celebrated the winners of the top essays on "The Wonders of Plastic".

Mrs. Guadalupe Rowley is the instructor of AP Environmental Science at Ontario High School. This year we had 4 winners. Each received a certificate commemorating the award along with a nice check. 1st place received \$500, 2nd place received \$250, and 3rd place received \$100. This year we had co-authors write the 3rd place essay. In addition to the students checks, the respective school, received a matching check as well. Since the 1st – 3rd place winners were from Ontario High School, Mrs. Guadalupe Rowley received a check for Ontario High School Science Club, in the amount of \$850.

I had a chance to speak with each of the winners. The 1st place winner was Katherine Hernandez. She is a senior, who plays softball. She loves the outdoors, hiking and fishing. She is the oldest child in her family and is very Science minded. The 2nd place winner was Ricardo Olea. He is a junior, and is involved in the following programs; Bright Prospect, Mentoring middle school and elementary school students, National Honor Society, and the California Scholarship Federation. Our first co-author Desiree Padilla, is a junior. She is involved in the following activities; Bright Prospect, Dream Team (which is involved with the handicap), and National Honor Society. Desiree is interested in a career in Criminal Law. Our other 3rd place co-author is Yvette Sanchez. She is a junior and involved in Bright Prospect, and Dream Team (which is involved with the handicap). Yvette is also interested in a career in Criminal Law.

I gave a presentation on the multitude of opportunities in the Plastic Industry. Terry Price also gave a presentation on the Plastic's program at Cerritos College. Terry then gave a tour of his lab along with two of his top students. The kids were exposed to the world of plastics that only most professionals in the industry are aware of. The parents of the students were very proud of their kids.

Katherine Hernandez's essay will now move on to National where she will compete with essay's from all of the SPE sections in the US.

Richard Hays
Southern California SPE Section President
Horn Company, Plastic Industry Manager.

President's Message

I look forward to seeing many of our members and soon to be members at the next SoCal SPE event. The event will be a Plant Tour at Pelican Products. The event will be on April 17th. Many of you have had a chance to win a flash light at our annual Western Plastics Trade Fair held every August. Some have even been lucky enough to win a protective case from Pelican. Now is your chance to actually see where these products are designed and manufactured.

Rick Hays, SoCal Section President
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Recycling of Rigid Plastics Rose To One Billion Pounds in 2012

By PlasticsToday Staff
Published: March 11th, 2014



The recycling of rigid plastics excluding bottles rose to nearly 1.02 billion pounds in 2012, an increase of 10 percent over 2011 and triple the amount recycled in 2007 when the industry first began tracking rigid plastics recycling.

The "[2012 National Report on Postconsumer Non-Bottle Rigid Plastic Recycling](#)" attributes the 82 million-pound increase to the growth in the collection of plastics beyond bottles in municipalities across the U.S.

"Tripling the recycling rate for rigid plastics in just six years is an amazing accomplishment," said Steve Alexander, executive director of the Association of Postconsumer Plastics Recyclers (APR). "In a short

period of time, rigids have become the fastest growing category of plastics recycling, and we're excited about the future."

Approximately 57 percent of the rigid plastics collected was processed in the U.S. and Canada with the remainder exported, primarily to China. Recycling statistics in 2012 were not affected by China's "Green Fence" policy, which began in February 2013.

Polypropylene and polyethylene plastics comprise the largest portion (72 percent) of postconsumer rigid plastics collected in the United States with polypropylene constituting 38 percent of all rigid plastics recycled and high-density polyethylene constituting 34 percent. According to the report, polypropylene and polyethylene generally have the highest market value in both domestic and export markets because they are relatively easy to process and have a wide range of manufacturing uses.

"We are thrilled to see this kind of growth in rigid plastics recycling," said Steve Russell, vice president of plastics for the American Chemistry Council. "The increasing popularity of large bins and access to single-stream collection programs are making it easy for consumers to recycle their used plastics. We look forward to continuing to work with APR and other stakeholders in the ongoing effort to recycle and recover more plastics."

Primary domestic end uses for recycled rigid plastics include crates, buckets, pipe, auto parts, and lawn and garden products. Consumer products such as cutting boards, food storage containers and other types of kitchenware are becoming popular end uses, as are toothbrushes and razors. A small portion of recycled rigid plastics is used in composite materials for products such as outdoor lumber, pallets and railroad ties.

This is the sixth annual report on rigid plastics recycling conducted by Moore Recycling Associates and commissioned by the American Chemistry Council's Plastics Division.

The report - and the survey on which it is based - defines non-bottle rigid plastics to include two major categories: containers (packaging and non-packaging) and bulky items. Containers include items such as blister packs, cups, tubs, trays, clamshells, caps and lids. Bulky rigids include items such as carts, crates, buckets, toys and lawn furniture.

A separate report, also conducted by Moore Recycling Associates, has determined that over 60 percent of Americans have local access to a recycling program that collects rigid plastics. Plastics for plastic bottles and flexible plastic wraps and bags, also known as "film," are collected through the same survey and each category is reported separately.

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3D-printed plastic splint saves baby's life

By PlasticsToday Staff
Published: May 24th, 2013

3D bioprinting recently made a dramatic move from the world of science fiction and researcher's fantasy to the real world of saving a baby's life at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI).

When Kaiba Gionfriddo's life was in danger due to difficulty breathing two faculty members at the University of Michigan applied for and received emergency clearance from the Food and Drug Administration to create and implant a tracheal splint made from polycaprolactone, one of many medical plastics that qualify as biomaterials.



The splint was sewn around Kaiba's airway to expand the bronchus and give it a skeleton to aid proper growth. In approximately three years, the splint will be reabsorbed by the body.

"It was amazing. As soon as the splint was put in, the lungs started going up and down for the first time and we knew he was going to be OK," said Glenn Green, M.D., associate professor of pediatric otolaryngology at the University of Michigan. He had been working on the bioprinting process with colleague Scott Hollister, professor of biomedical engineering and mechanical engineering and associate professor of surgery at the University of Michigan.

"The material we used is a nice choice for this. It takes about two to three years for the trachea to remodel and grow into a healthy state, and that's about how long this

material will take to dissolve into the body," says Hollister.

Green and Hollister were able to make the custom-designed, custom-fabricated device using high-resolution imaging and computer-aided design. The device was created directly from a CT scan of Kaiba's trachea/bronchus, integrating an image-based computer model with laser-based 3D printing to produce the splint.

"Quite a few doctors said he had a good chance of not leaving the hospital alive," says April Gionfriddo, about her now 20-month-old son, Kaiba. "At that point, we were desperate. Anything that would work, we would take it and run with it."

Severe tracheobronchomalacia is rare. About 1 in 2200 babies are born with tracheomalacia and most children grow out of it by age 2 or 3, although it often is misdiagnosed as asthma that doesn't respond to treatment.

New Supplier Alert

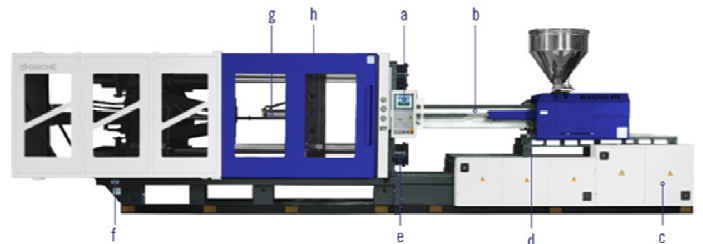
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The machines controller by KEBA AG is a leading manufacturer of computer controller systems. The KEBA controller was specifically developed in Austria for use in Borché injection molding machines. The controller has Online monitoring of machine controls and functions allows Borché to provide real-time technical support and service over the internet.

The machines were introduced at last year's Plastic West and again featured at this year's Plastic West. The machines have been met with great approval by North American Molders giving Borché a great inaugural year with brisk sales. Borché has opened a sales and service office and showroom at 3919 E Guasti RD. Ontario, California, they can supply hybrid injection molding machines from 66 tons to 6,600 tons from Guangzhou, China. Borché has been a major sponsor for many of our Southern California Section of SPE events this past year.

You are welcome to see machines under power at this facility.

For further information contact Skip Humphrey at 951-830-7010 or intl.plasticsequip@verizon.net



SoCal Plastics Manufacturers Events Calendar

Plant Tour of Pelican Products

April 19, 2014 - Jagerhaus Restaurant - Anaheim, California

Additives and Coloring Technology

May 22, 2014 - Jagerhaus Restaurant - Anaheim, California

32nd Annual Golf Tournament for Plastics Education

June 19, 2014 - Sierra La Verne Country Club - La Verne, California

Western Plastics Trade Fair - VI www.socalspe.org/WPTF

August 14, 2014 - Phoenix Club - Anaheim, California

For information on the events listed above contact:

Rick Hays 714-523-8050 or visit the Southern California Section Website www.socalspe.org

National Events

Organized by National SPE. Industry related conferences and seminars held throughout the United States.

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Antec 2014

April 28, 2014 - April 30, 2014

Rio All Suites Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV

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More information about the ANTEC 2014 is listed in the event details below

Overview:

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ANTEC®, produced by SPE, is the largest annual technical conference in the U.S. for the plastics industry, with 2,500 attendees, over 600 paper presentations and an NPE powered exhibitor floor.

Exhibitors:

About the Show

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The top five product categories of attendee interest: injection molding, extrusion, resins & compounds, testing & inspection, and chemicals & additives*

The top five industry segments in attendance: chemicals & plastics, automotive & transportation, medical, machinery & equipment, and film & sheet products*

95% of past exhibitors were satisfied with their exhibit floor experience and return on investment*

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* Data extracted from ANTEC 2012 statistics and/or surveys



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Every day the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) helps people and companies in the plastics industry succeed. How? By spreading knowledge, strengthening skills and promoting plastics. SPE is the only place where people from all parts of the industry can come together around important issues and technologies. SPE's contribution to the plastics industry for over 70 years has made a significant difference to the technologies and innovations the industry enjoys today. In the process, we've developed a 20,000-member network of leading engineers, scientists and other plastics professionals, including technicians, salespeople, marketers, retailers and representatives from tertiary industries.

There may be many networking opportunities at the ANTEC 2014. Find out more in the event details below.

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Electrical & Electronic - D24

Engineering Properties & Structure - D26

European Medical Polymers - D46

Extrusion - D22

Flexible Packaging - D44

Injection Molding - D23

Medical Plastics Technical Area of Interest - D36

Mold Making & Mold Design - D35

Plastics Environmental - D40

Polymer Analysis - D33

Polymer Modifiers & Additives - D38

Product Design & Development - D41

Rotational Molding - D42

Thermoforming - D25

European Thermoforming - D43

Thermoplastic Materials & Foams - D29

Thermoset - D28

Vinyl Plastics - D27



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