



May/June 2015

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Welcome

Hard to believe we are just a few weeks away until the PDM Show in Telford. Please stop by and say hello as we will be at stand B024.

Board changes are announced and we are excited and pleased to have our first plant tour given by Rutland Plastics, located in Oakham, on 15th September. We hope to see you there.

Please remember you can take advantage of special SPE member rates at all BPF seminars. Please see more details of all events below.

We continue to work with student chapters to promote the plastics industry and the importance of opportunities within the plastic sector. Please also remember to promote the Teachers Polymer Study Tours.

Finally a request for potential editors to update the classic Brydson's Plastic Materials reference book.

United Kingdom and Ireland Section Board of Directors 2014/2015

President:	Maryann Wilcox
Vice President:	Ken Braney
Secretary/Treasurer:	Stuart Patrick
Councilor:	Ken Braney
Technical Programming Chair:	Peter Cox
Membership Chair:	Peter Cox
Student Liaison:	Manjula Silva

Members also giving specialist support as required – Austin Coffey, Keith Barnes.

I would also like to welcome our newest co-opted board member, Andy McGarry- MD of CWP Cox Wokingham Plastics. After graduating with a degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from Aston University (Birmingham), Andrew joined Wokingham Plastics Ltd in 1995. Although not his specific vocation, he found that he enjoyed the challenges presented in



the manufacturing environment and was able to adapt his experience to identify engineering solutions to overcome production issues in a pressured environment. His dedication to optimising processes and exceeding customers'

expectations was quickly recognised and led to progression through departmental supervision, production management and ultimately board membership. He played an instrumental role in the merger with Cox Thermoforming to form one of the UK's leading vacuum forming companies.

His progression has provided the opportunity to pass on his skills and knowledge and to mentor others which he believes is the most important and rewarding aspect of his role. Following acquisition by Alycidon in 2012 he adopted the role of Operations Directors and was promoted to Managing Director in January 2015.

Andrew joined the European Thermoforming Division (ETD) board of the SPE in 2014 and is working with board members to promote innovative applications for plastics leading to industry growth within the manufacturing sector.

At the same time we say farewell to Richard Walton who has decided to retire from the Board. Richard plans to be at PDM where we can thank him in person for his services.

More volunteers are urgently sought by the Board to widen the pool of expertise and help with events.

Contact Maryann Wilcox maryann@silvergate.co.uk

Upcoming Seminars, Conferences and Exhibitions

Plastics in Automotive Applications - 4th June 2015

BPF House, 6 Bath Place, Rivington Street, London, EC2A 3JE

The 2015 British Plastics Federation 'Plastics in Automotive Applications' Seminar is your opportunity to listen to insightful presentations, to network with your peers and to update your skillsets. With presentations from companies including KPMG, Nissan and DuPont, this event will provide you with a detailed analysis of the latest trends in the UK Automotive sector. This seminar is also your chance to look to the future with presentations on autonomous vehicles and 3D Printed cars.

SPE Members register at the BPF Associate Member rate. Link www.bpf.co.uk/events/Plastics_in_Automotive_Applications.aspx

ARMO 2015 - 13th - 15th September 2015, Nottingham Conference Centre, Nottingham

ARMO 2015 will be the premium international Rotational Moulding Event in 2015, bringing together the entire industry in one venue to network, exchange ideas and to listen to insightful and important presentations. With trade exhibitions, social activities and a full seminar programme, ARMO 2015 is your chance to develop your skills, learn new ideas and develop your network. Link www.armo2015.com/

SPE European Thermoforming Division conference 10-11 March 2016 Sitges (Barcelona)

Call for Papers for the bi-annual conference allowing you to keep a finger on the pulse of evolutions in the Thermoforming world. In addition to the technical presentations, also on offer is the opportunity for companies to present their products and services by means of Tabletop displays.

Conference Highlights include Keynote presentations, Technical sessions on Thin and Heavy Gauge, Workshops, Exhibition, Networking events and Parts competition.

Contact Yetty Pauwels spe.etd@skynet.be Tel: +32 3 541 7755 Fax: +32 3 541 8425



PDM 2015 www.pdmevent.com/ returns to the Telford International Centre on **16 - 17 June 2015** and will be co-located with **Plastics Recycling Expo** and new for this year the **Plastics Packaging Show**.

Supported by all the major associations, **PDM** is the only exhibition specifically aimed at the design and moulding aspects of the plastics industry. Now celebrating its 10th anniversary, the 2015 event promises to be the best yet with more exhibitors, more features, more conference sessions and a wealth of new business opportunities.

Visit us on stand at BO24 and come along particularly to the conference presentations from Maryann Wilcox and Keith Barnes who will be talking respectively about Innovations in Blow Moulding and the Growth in Plastics in Packaging on Day 2 in the Plastics Packaging Show Conference.

If you are involved in the industry, this is an event you cannot afford to miss.

RUTLAND PLASTICS PLANT TOUR – 15th SEPTEMBER at 4.00 PM

Call 07814213787 to book your tour.

Please join us as Rutland Plastics welcomes SPE Members to take a tour of their facility followed by a chance to network with fellow members.

Plastic injection moulder Rutland Plastics was founded in 1956. Originally the company manufactured its own range of plastic products from artificial flowers to children's toys. Cheap imports led to Rutland Plastics diversifying more into injection moulding for other companies including such things as nameplates and push-buttons for Ford.

Turnover exceeded £1 million for the first time in 1977 coinciding with the awarding of a British Gas contract for pipe fittings worth £1/2 million. In the 1980's the electrofusion process for pipe fittings was developed jointly with one of their customers. The latest variation is the buried lead approach for which Rutland Plastics has a patent. Demand for the custom moulding of large plastic products has led to investment in increasingly bigger moulding machines. The 1250 tonne machine was purchased in 1990 and a 1700 tonne machine was added in 2004. A further 1700T machine was introduced in 2011. Turnover is now in the region of £9 million and the company employs in excess of 100 people.

Expansion has continued on the same site and factory area now exceeds 66,000 square feet. Rutland Plastics is still a privately owned custom moulder of high quality bespoke products for a wide variety of industries.

Student Activities

We continue to work with the student chapter of Brunel University along with Imperial College to develop a combined student chapter. If you know of a university that may be interested in learning more about student chapters, please contact Manjula Silva.



SPE sponsorship of Polymer Study Tours 2015 – Free 4 day Residential CPD Course for Teachers

A reminder that, as a Gold Sponsor, SPE is helping in **Bringing the Curriculum to Life** for Science and Design & Technology teachers who will be attending at one of three universities across the UK. **So please spread the word to your teacher and/or educational contacts.**

Overall, the aim of the course is to provide sources of material, relevant to the National Curriculum, whilst allowing delegates the opportunity to enhance their knowledge of plastics and rubber technology. This is achieved through a mixture of lectures, discussions, practical laboratory sessions and industrial visits where modern plastics processing can be observed at work first hand. The course leaders and lecturers are a mixture of leading academics and industry professionals. The course also allows teachers to meet in an informal environment to exchange views on this cross curricula subject. The maximum number at any location is 20.

The actual cost per delegate to run the Tours is around £850 but this residential course is entirely **FREE** to teachers once they arrive at the venue due to the generous sponsorship of the Horners' Educational Trust (a City of London Livery Company), companies in the polymer industry, and organisations such as SPE involved in supporting education. A £50 booking deposit, which is refunded when attending the course, is required.

Each delegate will receive a Certificate of Attendance to enhance their CPD portfolio.

The dates for 2015 are as follows:

- Edinburgh Napier University 21 to 24 June
- London Metropolitan University 28 June to 01 July
- University of Manchester 05 to 08 July

Further Details and Application Form - Link www.iom3.org/polymer-study-tours
Alternatively contact Dr Diane Aston diane.aston@iom3.org Tel 01476 513882

Brydson's Plastics Materials reference book is being updated

Can you help with the updating of the two remaining chapters of the seventh edition of this classic reference work by J.A.Brydson which is currently being undertaken by Emeritus Professor Marianne Gilbert?

The book provides a comprehensive overview of commercially available plastics materials, bridging the gap between theory and practice and enabling scientists to understand the commercial implications of their work as well as providing technologists with a theoretical background.

If you feel that you can contribute with a fairly straightforward revision on either of the following plastic materials - **Aliphatic Polyamides and Cellulose based plastics** please contact Professor Gilbert M.Gilbert@lboro.ac.uk

Featured topics for future UK & Ireland Newsletters

Let us know what sort of topics you would like to have included in future newsletters.

Contact Stuart Patrick stuartpatri@gmail.com



United Kindom & Ireland Section Newsletter

