



November 2013

PIMA NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the new look PIMA Newsletter and we hope this may generate further interest in the industry of manufacturing with plastics. We hope to provide not only useful information but also the opportunity to contact other members within our group to strengthen not only your business but the group as a whole.

We welcome your feedback and opinion on how the PIMA organisation can better service your needs and provide useful information, training, skills, solutions and networking. The last AGM meeting was held on Tuesday 10th September and three new committee members have now been elected. The committee is currently now 12 members from across the Plastics Industry.

Keith Monaghan (President), Ralph Cable (Secretary), Peter Mandavy, Grahame Aston, Craig Cook, Isaac Yeshouroun, , Stephen Dawkins, Gary Jennings, Dennis Wawn, Laszlo Magyar, Brett Egan and Andrew Turner.

Membership drive, we will welcome any new members or past members re-joining the cause. Visit our website at www.pima.asn.au for further information or contact us direct with an email to pima@pima.asn.au to obtain information on membership.

In future newsletters we would like to include an employee of the month with nominations from the membership. Also we are planning an informal interview with someone within the industry to answer some simple light hearted questions. If you believe there is someone in your organisation who is worthy of a nomination please feel free to send in a small photograph with their achievements to the PIMA email address. This may include a special project, cost savings, service to the industry, Innovation, New design or a milestone.

Also stay tuned as PIMA investigates how to improve the information flow to all our members. We are currently looking to improve and update the current website to enable all members to receive up to date information in a timely manner.

"The Doctor"

President's Report

For the year ending June 2013, we have suffered with the effects of a protracted election campaign and the instability of the world economy as well as the strong Australian dollar making business unpredictable for most companies. This has affected our membership base with some companies merging and others resigning from the association. Even with this we are still in a good financial position.

Again we have run a number of dinner meetings, a very successful charity golf day and the presentation dinner for the polymer graduation students.

- Our Golf day was another great success with approx. 102 starters for the golf and for the dinner and entertainment. We raised \$15,000 for the charity. Please note in your calendars Friday 2nd May 2014 for the next golf day.



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- The Polymer Graduation Presentation night was run, the certificates were presented by Ms. Terri Connellan from TAFE. These certificates were for the students that successfully completed Cert IV, Cert III and Cert II. Also presented were individual awards for outstanding achievement. We had a very interesting Key Note Speech given by Mr. Phil Read. I would like to congratulate all the students involved.
- We ran a number of our Mould Your Career series of one day courses this year with success.

PIMA represents our industry on the Manufacturing Skills Australia Process Manufacturing Industry Training Advisory Committee. This is all part of the direction that PIMA is taking as the lead representative for the plastic industries.

PIMA has been working with the NSW ITAB and a consultant in the development and implementation of a skills survey of our industry. The aim of this is to gain funding to develop and implement training courses in numeracy, literacy and technical skills.

I would like to thank all the members for their ongoing support. Without this support the association would cease to function.

Keith Monaghan
President

Special Article:

Injection Moulding Material Formulations to Reduce Cycle Times.

By Duromer Products Pty Ltd

The Australian manufacturer and supplier of thermoplastic compounds, Duromer Products Pty Ltd, is constantly working on improving materials to meet the needs not only of applications, but also to benefit injection moulders and their manufacturing process. Duromer's difference is their ability to understand their customer's challenges in today's technical and competitive market place.

With the world getting smaller, and injection moulders forced to compete in a global market against competitors from regions that have significantly lower labour costs, margins are being squeezed, making it more and more challenging for moulders to make a fair profit margin. Recognising this challenge, and realising that trying to reduce raw materials prices to help is unsustainable, Duromer are looking to more creative solutions.

Recently Duromer have been working on developing material formulations that help reduce cycle times for injection moulders. Even though they are still in the early stages of development, the signs are looking positive. The idea behind this development work is to make material formulations that result in faster cooling times in the mould, i.e. the molten plastic will setup quicker, allowing the finished part to be ejected from the mould earlier, resulting in shorter cycle times to help reduce moulding costs.

This feature obviously brings the greatest benefit to those parts where the cycle time is limited by cooling, such as components with thicker wall sections. Other benefits include allowing higher melt temperatures to provide better surface finishes, without sacrificing cycle time.

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Initial testing has been conducted on nylons and polypropylenes, with cycle time reductions measured in the order of 8-37%, this will vary depending on factors such as part geometry and individual material formulations.

Tests have been conducted to determine the effects on physical properties. Below are some initial comparative results.

- Tensile Strength – Tends to be similar compared to that of the base polymer used.
- Modulus – The stiffness increases when compared to the unfilled polymers.
- Density – This is reduced which helps to off-set raw material cost.
- Impact – Current testing has shown a moderate reduction, but with further development Duromer believe that this can be counteracted.
- Shrinkage – In most cases the difference in shrinkage is negligible.
- HDT increases
- Materials have improved scratch resistance
- Thermal properties – The insulation properties improve.

Depending on the base polymer and other fillers used, some of the characteristics will vary, but the signs are positive. Duromer is looking to take this development work to the next level by working side-by-side with clients to help bring benefits to them and the market.

To discuss your particular needs, or even if you just want to find out more about how this could benefit your business, please contact your local Duromer Products office. www.duromer.com

PIMA APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR

PIMA has again sponsored the Lidcombe College of TAFE, Student Graduation Ceremony, held at the Carnarvon Golf Club on the 25 June, 2013.

It was at this ceremony that Zach Lethbridge was announced as the 2012 PIMA “Apprentice of the Year”. Zach is employed by Deeps Engineering at Salamander Bay and travelled down to Lidcombe College each week to attend his training where he showed a desire and willingness to learn all aspects of his chosen trade. His results were outstanding and he impressed his teachers with his understanding of the material taught.

PIMA is committed to the ongoing training required by the industry and Zach joins a growing list of recipients of the “PIMA Apprentice of the Year” award which commenced in 2005. Below are the previous recipients of this award:

2011	James Drysdale
2010	Shanin Proctor
2009	Tarquin Bailey
2008	Nathan Zerafa
2007	Ross Dickinson
2006	Paul Kingsford
2005	Daniel Bradica



Pat Primmer Memorial Shield
Apprentice of the Year



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Up Coming PIMA Key Dates:

PIMA Dinner Meeting:

Key Speaker on
18th February 2014 6.00pm at Carnarvon Golf Club

PIMA Golf Day:

2nd May 2014 at Carnarvon Golf Club



PIMA and the Plastics Pioneers

PIMA continues to support the Plastics Pioneers and wishes to promote their functions.

Plastics Pioneers Luncheons

Thursday, 28th November 2013
The Rugby Club Rugby Place (off 31 Pitt St), Sydney.

Thursday, 27th February 2014
The Rugby Club Rugby Place (off 31 Pitt St), Sydney.

Thursday, 29th May 2014
The Rugby Club Rugby Place (off 31 Pitt St), Sydney.

Thursday, 28th August 2014
The Rugby Club Rugby Place (off 31 Pitt St), Sydney.



Ausplas

13 – 16 MAY 2014
Sydney Showground
Sydney Olympic Park

