



A Letter from the President

The year 2009 has been a very hard year for all of industry due to the affects of the GFC and this has shown up in the results of some of the functions we have tried to run.

But even with the GFC we have run a number of dinner meetings, a very successful charity golf day, a new training course and the presentation dinner for the polymer graduation students.

- Our Golf day was another great success with approx 100 starters and \$12,500 raised for the charity. Please note in your calendars Friday 7th May 2010 for the next golf day.
- The Polymer Graduation Presentation night was run with an attendance of approx 95. The certificates were presented by Duncan Gay MP, Leader of the NSW National Party & Shadow Minister for Industry. These certificates were for the students that successfully completed Cert IV, Cert III, Cert II and those that completed Cert I through the RPL & EWT project. Also presented were individual awards for outstanding achievement. Congratulations to all the successful students.
- We have introduced a new course for our Moulding Your Careers series which is titled of Understanding Technical Data Sheets. The first presentation of this course was on 12th November 2009. This was fully booked and the second presentation will be run early next year
- We have updated the web site to reflect PIMA’s current situation. Please have a look at it and give us some feedback.

PIMA represented our industry on the Work Cover Plastic Industry Stake Holders Group, Manufacturing Skills Australia Process Manufacturing Industry Training Advisory Committee, and attended workshops run by SWSI TAFE on the building of training outcomes in manufacturing. PIMA has also been asked to provide a representative to stand on the “Keep Australia Working Advisory Committee” to develop an employment strategy for the Canterbury-Bankstown & South Western Sydney employment priority area. This is all part of the direction that PIMA is heading and the services we give to our members and the industry as the lead representative for the plastic industries.

.....Continued page 2

Index

A Letter from the President	1	Global Trade and You	4
New Committee	2	Goodyear Concept Tyres	5
Important Diary Dates 2010	2	Occupational Health & Safety	6
WorkCover/Plastics Industry Stakeholders Group	3	Moulding Your Career Training	7
Movers and Shakers	3	Apprenticeships/Traineeships	7
		2009 CAD’s Cup	8

As requested at Ausplas we did investigate and set up the staging of the 2 original Moulding Your Careers courses in Melbourne as well as a golf day but these had to be canceled due to the lack of support which was related to the GFC. We now have all the data and resources in place so these can be put into action as needed.

I would like to thank all the board members for their support and help in running PIMA and its functions. I would like to personally thank Ralph Cable for all the work he does as he is the major driver of PIMA and their functions.

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

On behalf of PIMA I would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas season and a successful 2010.

Keith Monaghan

New Committee off and Running

Following the AGM on October 21 your new PIMA committee is comprised of:

President	Keith Monaghan
Vice President, OH&S and Quality	Peter Mandavy
Secretary/Treasurer	Ralph Cable
Newsletter	Jim Patterson
Training	Steven Dawkins
	Ian Dowling
Skills Shortage	Dennis Wawn
	Peter Mandavy
Membership	Craig Cook
	Graham Aston
	Kevin Hannon
Standards/WorkCover	Pat Primmer
General Committee	Isaac Yeshouroun

Important Diary Dates for 2010

PIMA Dinner Seminar	Wednesday	17/02/10
Plastics Pioneers Lunch	Thursday	25/02/10
Introduction to Plastics Seminar	Thursday	04/03/10
Technical Data Sheets Seminar	Thursday	22/04/10
PIMA Charity Golf Day	Friday	07/05/10
Supervisors Training Seminar	Thursday	20/05/10
Plastic Pioneers Lunch	Thursday	27/05/10
PIMA/TAFE Graduation Dinner	Thursday	17/06/10
PIMA Dinner Seminar	Wednesday	21/07/10
Plastics Pioneers Lunch	Thursday	26/08/10
PIMA Dinner Seminar	Wednesday	13/10/10
Plastics Pioneers Lunch	Thursday	25/11/10

PIMA

PO BOX 324, Lidcombe.
NSW. 2141

Ph: 0419 603 332

Fax: (02) 9387 6924

Website: www.pima.asn.au

Email: pima@pima.asn.au

Workcover Plastic Industry Stakeholder Group

In 2008, WorkCover NSW, as part of its established strategy of assisting industry through programs focussing on information exchange, prevention, financial incentives, standard setting and other OHS capacity building mechanisms, invited expressions of interest from plastic manufacturers in NSW to form a Plastics Industry Stakeholder Group to jointly identify safety issues within our workplaces and come up with ways to address these. The intention was for the Group, in partnership with WorkCover NSW, to then disseminate its findings and other WorkCover safety messages to the rest of the plastics industry. A group of about a dozen manufacturers and industry association representatives joined up and met for the first time in late 2008.

The Group meets about three times a year with each meeting focusing on a topic that the industry representatives have put forward as representing a widespread area of risk in our industry. Typically, the meetings start with a presentation by a WorkCover specialist on the topic being addressed, followed by presentations from members of the Group who have met out of session to develop possible control strategies for the identified area of concern.

The issues considered in 2009 were:

- The manual handling of solid and liquid filled containers;
- Vulnerable workers and, the current area of research;
- Chemicals.

Prior to the last meeting, members of the Group were asked to nominate the three most dangerous chemicals stored and used in their workplaces and a list was compiled. Group members have now been individually allocated a number of chemicals from the list and tasked with developing practical solutions to reduce the hazards involved with the use and storage of these chemicals at our workplaces. The findings of the Group Members will be presented at the next meeting in March 2010.

I joined the group in early 2009 at its second meeting, representing Bestmould Plastics and PIMA. It has been refreshing to experience the proactive approach taken by WorkCover to address safety issues. They are genuinely seeking to partner with plastic manufacturers to improve safety in our workplaces.

Our experience so far has been positive. A WorkCover Inspector visited our factory when I first joined the group and had a walk around with us after a very productive meeting. We pointed out the safety initiatives that had been implemented and his comments were all positive. We have no doubt that the old days of aggressive, demanding, inflexible Inspectors has passed. The Inspector who visited us was consultative and understanding of the difficult position small business owners are in with limited finances, space and time.

The only downside with the Stakeholder Group is that we haven't been able to consistently have the same industry members attend all the meetings, but that is probably understandable given the pressures on businesses caused by the slowdown in manufacturing during 2008 and early 2009.

This is a worthwhile WorkCover initiative that we are keen to support and we look forward to giving PIMA members a short update at a dinner meeting in the near future.

Andre Baillon, Bestmould Plastics Pty Ltd

Movers And Shakers



SPI Makes Dramatic Shift in NPE History With Decision To Hold NPE2012 in Orlando, FLORIDA

As announced by William R. Cardeaux, President & CEO, SPINPE—The International Plastics Showcase—has a new home! I am pleased to announce that NPE will be moving to Orlando for 2012 and 2015. NPE2012 will be held at the [Orange County Convention Center](#) from April 1-5, and NPE2015 from March 22-26.

This was a decision made by the industry, for the industry. SPI member companies, steered by the SPI National Board and NPE Committees, conducted a thorough review and analysis of the two contending host venues—Chicago and Orlando.

Global Trade and You



In 2008 Australian imports related to the plastics industry exceeded 4 billion dollars. There are over 1300 tariff concessions that bring many raw materials and finished products into Australia duty free and on January 1, 2010 many duty rates will decrease as a result of planned phasing rates.

Australia already has free trade agreements (FTA) with the US, New Zealand, Thailand, Singapore and Chile and our system also favours many developing countries with lower duty rates. Jan 1, 2010 will see the start of the ASEAN FTA take effect with further low or zero duty rates for products from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei Darussalam, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam and New Zealand. Coupled with the US they play a significant part in trade. To top things off our exchange rates are currently providing cheaper imports.

All is not lost and Australian industry should be able to compete in niche markets locally and overseas if given the opportunity by local buyers, especially where imports are from countries that have similar life styles and similar manufacturing costs to those in Australia.

Understanding the import rules can help to equalise or bridge the gap between local and imported costs for competing products. Becoming actively involved in the process to also make your presence known are just two ways to start change.

Many of the tariff concessions have been in use for over 10 years so their evaluation against what you make or can make today is the first step to revoking concessions and bridging the gap by the duty rate, e.g. 5% duty increase on imported products that are made by you or that can be substituted with products you make can be significant in low margin or cash cow products. There is also the opportunity to utilise current concessions or apply for new ones for raw materials or machinery you import direct or indirectly or for finished products you do not make that can fit within your business model.

There are several things your industry organisation can do to assist members at a neutral member level. Liaising with the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service on issues related to current legislation that impact on your industry. Facilitating group meetings between members and government departments involved in imports and probably more important exports and the potential growth into new markets can help to fast track your road map and give you some insight into global trade risks and opportunity.

Stay tuned we hope to have Doug Tozer and a representative from Australian Customs, address members at our February 17 Dinner Seminar.

The World's First Goodyear Concept Tyres made with BioIsoprene™ Technology

SpecialChem - Dec 8, 2009

COPENHAGEN, Denmark -- The world's first concept demonstration tires made with BioIsoprene™ technology, a breakthrough alternative to replace a petrochemically produced ingredient in the manufacture of synthetic rubber with renewable biomass, made their debut in Copenhagen, Denmark. One tire will be on display at a lounge in the common departure area at the Copenhagen International Airport throughout December 21, while the other tire will make appearances at several special events during the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen (COP 15) through December. The tires made with BioIsoprene™ are the result of collaboration between Genencor, a division of Danisco, and Goodyear, one of the worlds largest and most innovative tire companies.



"We are literally rolling out an important milestone in our collaboration with Goodyear on a breakthrough biochemical," says Tom Knutzen, CEO of Danisco. "BioIsoprene™ is an excellent example of Danisco's leadership in industrial biotechnology through our Genencor division. As we deliver enzymes to existing markets, we are also investing in future bio-innovations with extraordinary potential to address the world's most urgent business and environmental challenges."

"Goodyear's first concept tire manufactured with BioIsoprene™ shows the enormous progress we have made in using a bio-based alternative to the petroleum-derived raw material isoprene in our production process," says Jesse Roeck, Director, Global Materials Science at Goodyear. "The development of BioIsoprene™ could make Goodyear less dependent on oil-derived products. We share Genencor's vision of lessening industry impact on the environment by applying renewable raw materials in the supply chain."

Beyond tires, BioIsoprene™ offers vast potential in other applications, such as other rubber products and adhesives. The market for isoprene could reach up to 11 billion pounds per year by 2012. Genencor plans to bring the technology to pilot stage within two years, followed by commercial production.

"We're building advanced biorefineries of the future through strategic collaborations, such as our work with Goodyear and our joint venture DuPont Danisco Cellulosic Ethanol, as well as public-private partnerships," says Philippe Lavielle, Executive VP of Business Development for Genencor. "By joining forces with other industry leaders and leveraging our cutting edge biotech capabilities, we're able to accelerate development and deployment of breakthrough technologies like BioIsoprene™."

Schedule of events for the world's first Goodyear concept tires made from BioIsoprene™ technology in Copenhagen, Denmark:

- Through December 21, there will be a tire in the common departure area at The Copenhagen International Airport
- December 12-13, there will be a tire at the Bright Green exhibition in the Danisco booth
- December 17, a tire will be on display at the "Solutions of Industrial Biotechnology" Conference & Showcase, Confederation of Danish Industry (DI)

About Genencor

Genencor, a division of Danisco A/S, is a world leader in industrial biotechnology and a pioneer in enzyme innovation. Genencor improves process and product performance for a spectrum of industries, from biofuels and laundry detergents to animal nutrition and food. As part of a large global organization, Genencor has a manufacturing and distribution network that spans more than 40 countries. In collaboration with customers, technology leaders and other stakeholders, Genencor supplies competitive, biobased solutions. These innovations create value throughout the supply chain, from raw material to finished product. **Source:** Genencor

Occupational Health & Safety

Making nanomaterials safer

New research reports add significantly to the understanding of OHS risks of nanotechnology while providing a strong direction for further research, says Safe Work Australia Council chair Tom Phillips.

The reports on engineered nanomaterials are part of the Nanotechnology Occupational Health and Safety Program managed by Safe Work Australia for the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research. In the first report, RMIT University explored the effectiveness of workplace controls to prevent exposure to the nanomaterials.

It found current control and risk management methods can protect workers and that enclosed processes involving nanomaterials and correctly designed and installed extraction ventilation can both significantly reduce exposure. It also recommended a precautionary approach for handling nanomaterials.

In the second report, Toxikos Pty Ltd analysed scientific literature from 2006-2009 on the toxicity of several nanomaterials researched, manufactured or used in Australia. It found no conclusive evidence to suggest engineered nanomaterials had a unique toxicity but acknowledged there had not been sufficient toxicity tests for most materials.

But it showed nanoparticles tended to be more bio-reactive and potentially more toxic than larger particles of the same material and carbon nanotubes were potentially hazardous to health if inhaled in sufficient quantity. Mr Phillips said Safe Work Australia was liaising with other government agencies to undertake further work on the issues raised.

The National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme will formally assess carbon nanotubes for hazard classification to clarify how they could be regulated. The CSIRO will develop guidance for their safe handling and disposal, which Mr Phillips said would be a “useful resource for OHS managers”.

- SWA released three booklets that aim to create a national approach to improving safety in Australian stevedoring by providing guidance on the best OHS practices for the industry. The agency also published public submissions on Draft National Codes of Practice for the Labelling of Workplace Hazardous Chemicals and Preparation of Safety Data Sheets.

© Published by Crown Content Pty Ltd, Occupational Health & Safety Bulletin..

Local businesses, be OHS alert

Local businesses cannot afford to ignore OHS risks, says an organisational health and risk management provider. Jordan Telfer, manager of Konekt’s new Tuggerah branch, said his organisation saw many workers injured because of inadequate OHS procedures. “When it comes to complying with OHS legislation, the biggest risk of all for an organisation is to do nothing.

“Local businesses need to make OHS an integral part of their business management to avoid compensation claims and potential fines. “They also benefit from creating a happier, healthier and more productive workforce because workers are working in a safer, injury-free workplace.”

Mr. Telfer outlined the keys to creating a safer workplace, with the first being an employer’s understanding of their responsibilities. “Every company is responsible for the safety of their workplace. It is important to understand the legal OHS requirements that affect each business. “These requirements need to be developed into a health and safety policy clearly outlining the business’ safety commitment.”

Mr Telfer stressed the need to consult workers. “It is vital to involve workers in any decisions that may affect their health and safety. It is important to regularly consult all groups of employees in all safety matters.”

He said companies must have clear systems for identifying hazards and assessing and controlling risks. “Having employees report hazards, conducting regular workplace inspections, analysing incident data and even using an internal auditor to inspect your workplace help you to identify risks.” Konekt branches offer services to local businesses to improve their OHS performance, with a key focus getting people back into the workforce after injuries.

© Published by Crown Content Pty Ltd, Occupational Health & Safety Bulletin..

Moulding Your Career Training Series

The **Moulding Your Career** series, which PIMA runs, comprises of three one day seminars and are titled **Introduction to Plastics, Supervisors Training** and **Understanding Technical Data Sheets**.

Introduction to Plastics: has been specifically designed as an introduction to the plastics industry and the processes they use and the products they manufacture. It will be especially beneficial to new entrants to the industry as well as to anyone wanting a more insightful knowledge of plastics materials and processes.

Supervisors Training: has been designed to inform the new or existing supervisor in the plastics industry of the rules, regulation and outcomes which they are expected to know and comply with.

Understanding Technical Data Sheets: This seminar is to help participants understand the information displayed on the data sheets that each polymer material comes with. The strength and processing capabilities of a material will be explained from a technical viewpoint and practical demonstrations will back up the theory.

The dates that these seminars will be run at Lidcombe College, TAFE NSW, in 2010 are:

Introduction to Plastics – 4 March

Understanding Technical Data Sheets – 22 April

Supervisors Training – 20 May

Apprenticeships/Traineeships

In past years PIMA has placed an advertisement in The Sydney Morning Herald asking for those looking for a career in the Plastics Industry to apply for an apprenticeship/traineeship. We have then endeavoured to find member companies to take on these applicants.

Unfortunately at the start of this year there were many good applicants but few companies willing to take the plunge due to the Global Financial Crises.

Undeterred, PIMA proposes to advertise again this year, but it would help if those companies who feel they are willing to take on apprentices/trainees in 2010 if they could let PIMA know so we can gauge how many applications to accept.

Dinner Seminars

PIMA dinner seminars are informative and a great chance to network with other members of the industry. We are currently putting together this year's topics so if you wish to present something of interest or would like to suggest a topic that you feel would be of interest to others please contact Ralph Cable at pima@pima.asn.au. Providing the latest information to the industry is one of PIMA's major aims, so help us help you.



2009 CAD's Cup

President of PIMA, Keith Monaghan is CAD 2009, with the CAD's Cup bestowed upon him at the Annual CAD's Cup luncheon, held this year at the NSW Sports Club.

This is the 59th presentation of The CAD's Cup. The original CAD's Cup was presented to Eddie Clouston by Laurie Farrer of the now defunct Australian Plastics Journal, following the Plastics Institute of Australia Golf Day at Katoomba in 1950. In continuation of this proud tradition, many of the surviving CAD's gathered at the 2009 luncheon to share highly distorted memories of events long past.

The official presentation was made by Stephen Dawkins (CAD 2008) who regaled the gathering of several of Keith's dastardly deeds during past years. All present agreed that this dishonour was thoroughly deserved. And Keith was so embarrassed by his immediate faux pas within moments of receiving The Cup that he generously (????) went to the Bar and shouted all present.

The lively discussion during and after the Luncheon provided Chairman Stephen Dawkins with an interesting challenge. To chair a CAD's Cup Luncheon is generally considered to be a potentially suitable training ground for some future Speaker of Parliament. Regrettably, whilst all of the problems of the World and the Plastics Industry in particular, were discussed at great length, no sensible solutions were discovered. Hence the meeting resolved (informally) to meet again in a similar location in a year's time to review and further discuss these problems.

The traditional post – lunch drinks at the Bar were enjoyed by the majority of CADs, followed by the usual gradual and poignant departure of individual CADs as the day drew to a reluctant close.



Attendees at the CAD's Cup Luncheon. New CAD Keith Monaghan, Front Row second from right.



New CAD Keith Monaghan studies his list of onerous duties.



New CAD Keith Monaghan drinks his acceptance of the role (note CAD Geoff Cook arranging for Keith's faux pas).