



SOCIETY OF PLASTICS ENGINEERS

BLOW MOLDING DIVISION

Fall 2006 Issue

ABC 2006

For over a day and a half, the Blow Molding Industry descended on the MSU Education Center in Troy, Michigan to attend its annual technical showcase known as the ABC 2006. This event has become the premier industry venue for all segments of the blow molding industry from resin supplier to end-user.

This year's conference also included a distinguished list of attendees and keynote speakers. Highlighting day one was the Keynote Speaker, Greg Dean, Vice President, Plastipak detailing how the packaging market and brand owner relationship are changing and what is needed to meet those changes. Harold Fuller, Patent Attorney with Woodcock Washburn LLP, gave the audience an enlightened overview of the intellectual property activity affecting the blow molding industry.



The conference featured speakers who covered industry segments in both packaging and industrial applications. From resin developments to machinery innovations to automation, design and safety, no topic was missed. Attendees expressed great satisfaction on the scope and details they were exposed to during the conference. SPE International was well represented by Len Czuba who discussed with attendees the society's goals and objectives. All attendees were also given the opportunity to tour a local mold manufacturer.



The SPE Blow Molding Division's annual awards were presented at a dinner, which highlighted the student scholarships and student design winners. A special segment of the evening was dedicated to the Division's Lifetime Achievement Award winner, Martin Stark, Bekum USA. (See page 8)

For more information on this conference and presentation go the Division's web site at:

www.blowmoldingdivision.org.



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ABC 2007
Surendra Agarwal
Lew Ferguson

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SPE
Blow Molding
Division**

Chairperson's Message

I write this column as an imposter. I am not the chair at this time but actually the past chair. The reason is that our new Chairman, Jon Meckley, is flying around Europe somewhere and I am helping him out. Jon you owe me one!

We also wish to thank Dave Holliman for his support over the last many years and most recently serving as Chairman for the last year. Dave will be leaving the Board due to a change in his job responsibilities and he will be sorely missed. Good Luck Dave!

Many of you may have attended our Annual Blow Molding Conferences. Attendance has been growing and from the reviews, this annual conference is becoming the one last vestige of technical interaction open to anyone interested in technology.

Our most recent conference which was held in Troy, Michigan on October 11-12th was no exception. There is a separate article in the newsletter and a few of the presentations from the conference. You will be able to find more information on our web site in the next few weeks.

We have tried to make our web site active and be a source of information. For those of you who have accessed www.blowmoldingdivision.org, you have been able to access information from past Blow Molding Conferences, details on the programs the division offers and articles on Blow Molding technologies and techniques. We expect to add more information and hopefully a broad based FAQ section.

As an investment in the future, we also have sponsored specific educational scholarships to those attending training at college level and employees of companies actively working in the industry. The University scholarships have provided students an opportunity to ensure they complete their education and hopefully become a member of Blow Molding industry. The workplace scholarships

(relatively new) have given several industry employees needed training in a variety of technical areas. We have even added a new program that will allow educational facilities to ask for funding for Blow Molding related activities.

Remember, our main objective is to serve our industry and provide information to that industry. Use our resources, they are here to help you and your company perform at higher levels of efficiency. If you need help, contact us. If you can suggest additional programs for us to provide, let us know. Just remember... we are here to serve you!

Ron Puvak - Past Chairperson



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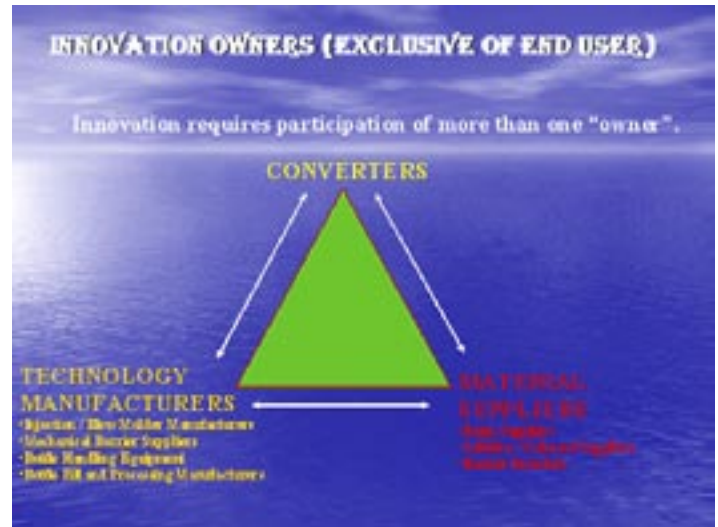
Keynote Speakers Message

The ABC 2006 was energized by its Keynote speaker, Greg Dean, Vice President of Market Development for Plastipak Packaging, Inc. headquartered in Plymouth, MI. Greg challenged the attendees to pay attention to the brand owner needs and explained how the industry needs to adapt to these needs. Greg's complete presentation will be available on the division's web site shortly. Here are few key slides from his address.

The World is Changing for Brand Owners

**consumer tastes are changing...
and so are their expectations**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aging Population Changing Family Structure Globalization/Ethnic Diversity Rise in 1-2 Person Households Rising Social Conscience Environmental Awareness Pressures on Discretionary Income Health and Wellness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good for Me, Good for You Experiential, Feel Good New, Fun, Exciting Connection with the Product Good for the Planet Easy to Use
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Innovation is the "Great Differentiator"

Building Solutions to Meet the Challenges Ahead

driving growth through innovation

- A brand owner's growth will come from technological innovations, creating great consumer experiences.
- Growth will also come from ideation driven by the second moment of truth - How the package feels to the consumer.

environmental considerations

Continue to be areas of focus with lawmakers and environmental groups.

Examples:

- Europe: Good / very good in some countries "New E.U." coming on...(slowly)
- U.S.: Collection rates for HDPE & PET flat past few years - even without (10) "deposit" states for PET
- Canada: Good progress in areas. In some cases "Producer Pays" driving gains.

Consumer prefers PCR use at parity pricing
Enviros & lawmakers generally give 'packaging' a "C" grade



FINAL THOUGHTS

consumers first, always!

- Packaging partners must enable the brand owner to consistently wow, thrill and delight the consumer.

Remember:

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Graham Machinery Group Continuing Education Grant Program

The Blow Molding Division of the Society of Plastics Engineers and Graham Machinery Group co-sponsor a program for continuing education of blow molding industry workers. By making financial resources available to Blow Molding Division member companies, this program will assist more people in obtaining continued education in blow molding and improve their job-related skills.

Up to \$500 per person is available to attend an SPE Blow Molding Conference, an SPE Seminar in Blow Molding, or other program applicable to blow molding.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. The employee must be a full-time employee of one of our member companies (having at least one current member of the SPE Blow Molding Division).
2. The employee's job function must be blow molding related.
3. The employee's academic training must not be higher than Associate Degree.
4. The employee must have company recommendation and support.
5. Costs exceeding \$500 will be the responsibility of the employee or employer.

How to enroll:

1. Submit a request to the Blow Molding Division at the following address:
Mark Heitker
Innovene Tech Center
1230 Battleground Road
LaPorte, TX 77571
Mark.Heitker@innovene.com
2. Include a letter of support from your company.
3. You will be notified of acceptance before the event that you wish to attend.

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Be easily fabricated	Faster machining rates than tool steels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower mold fabrication costs



For more information, contact us at 888-MoldMAX (888-665-3629) or visit www.MoldMAX.com.

Lifetime Achievement Award Winner for 2006

The Blow Molding division of the SPE has bestowed its highest honor to Martin Stark, President and Chief Operating Officer of Bekum America Corporation, for his lifelong contributions to the Blow Molding industry.

After completing his education at Handelsschule Business college, Dillingen, Germany he became an apprentice at Ködel & Böhm Maschinenfabrik, Lauingen, Germany. From here he worked at Robert Bosch Hausgeraete GmbH – Giengen, Germany and then came to the United States and was employed at Battenfeld Corp. of America – Skokie, Illinois where he advanced to become a Vice President-Operations.

Then in 1981 he accepted a position with Bekum America Corporation – Williamston, Michigan where served as Materials Manager, Vice President of Operations, Vice President-General Manager. He became President and Chief Operating Officer 1992 where he continues to lead the company today.

During his 37 years of service in the Plastics Industry, he has served as,

- Chairman of the SPI Machinery Division Blow Molding Section
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Society of the Plastics Industry
- Chairman of the first Michigan Plastics Summit Meeting at the Lansing Center with over 400 attendees, bringing together government, educators and industry
- Chairman of the Planning Committee of the Society of the Plastics Industry Machinery Division
- Chairman of the Society of the Plastics Industry Machinery Division
- Chairman of the Machinery Division Membership Committee.
- Chairman of the Blow Molding Section for the Committee on Equipment Statistics (CES) Executive Board.
- Member of SPI Committee on Equipment Statistics (CES)
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Society of the Plastics Industry
- Director of the SPI Midwest Section

His industry contributions include:

- Led Bekum America's development of H-155 line in North America. This line is now the workhorse of the industry.



Martin presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award by Gary Carr.

- Successfully introduced Bekum America's industrial line, leading to the first U.S. produced 6-layer plastic fuel tank producing tanks for the Chrysler mini van.
- Spearheaded the drive to integrate in-mold labeling into shuttle type blow molding machinery.
- Developed Michigan's best Apprenticeship Program.
- Established a scholarship program at Williamston High School wherein a graduating senior is awarded annually a stipend towards continuing education in either a manufacturing or plastics career.

He has been recognized as a Member of the Plastics Pioneers Association, in recognition of over 30 years of service in furthering the plastic industry. He was inducted into the Ferris State University Phoenix Society. As a supporter of Ferris State University Plastics Engineering Program, he was instrumental in placing, on consignment, a Bekum blow molding machine for use by Ferris State students for the advancement and development of plastics machinery knowledge.



Four Lifetime Achievement Award winners:



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Board of Director's Meeting

Minutes of the Board of Directors of the Blow Molding Division of SPE, Meeting held at MSU School of Management

□ Call to order at 1:20

- BOD Members present: Ron Puvak, Dave Holliman, Jonathan Meckley, Scott Steele, Bob Jackson, Lewis Ferguson, Mark Barger, Joe Altimari, Gary Carr, John Rathman, Winn Burrington, Mark Heitker, Bob Fitch, Daryle Damschroder, Benjamin Lopez, and Terry Glass
- BOD Members Excused: Surendera Agarwal
- Recognized Babli Kapur, Bob Slawska, Richard Nolan and Jeff Ward as visitors to the meeting
- Reading of Non-Disclosure/Non-Compete Statement
- Dave Holliman has resigned from the board
- A move was made to add Babli Kapur, Marta Janowitz, and Kyle Grodzinski to the board. Bob Jackson made the move and Ben Lopez seconded the motion.
- Scott Steele will assume Chair Elect.
- Ben Lopez will assume Secretary.

□ Treasurer's Report – John Rathman

- Audit committee will review financial records today.
- Tax Return will be completed by Nov 15th.
- Fiscal year report is finished.
- Joe Altimari made a motion to accept the report and Bob Jackson seconded the motion.
- Treasurer investigated alternate investment strategies for the grant fund.
- Executive committee will look at reinstituting the Finance Chair for investment strategies and budget.
- Operating Fund Budget
 - No changes
- Disbursement Fund Budget
 - No changes
- Grant Fund Budget
 - No changes

□ Councilor's Report – Mark Barger

- Topic of greatest interest was discussion

about ANTEC and future of that conference.

- Acknowledgement that the conference needs to be less academic and more commercially oriented.
- Looking to relax guidelines for paper submission. This is a very positive development.
- These new guidelines may allow us to seed future ANTEC TPC's with GOOD papers from prior year's ABC.
- ANTEC draws a different audience than our ABC.
- Students have a larger presence. ANTEC offers a way to stimulate their interest in the technology.
- People who are not primarily Blow Molders but interested in diversifying their technology base.
- Professors/Instructors who may be interested in establishing research or curriculum in the field.
- We should look at ANTEC as another vehicle to attract new members to the Division.
- Budget
 - Budget was approved unanimously.
 - Budget details on attached slides.
 - Specific items of note listed below and detailed on additional slides.
 - ANTEC revenue forecast down, but projected expenses down significantly as well.
 - SPE partnering with Plastics News for trade show portion of ANTEC.
 - Total redesign of Plastics Engineering Magazine, increased page count and more ad revenue. Note that PE is considered by ExCom as a member benefit, and they will never expect it to run in the black.
- ANTEC
 - Partnering with Plastics News for the Trade Show portion: Plastics Encounter @ ANTEC
 - Plastics Encounter is a regional trade show sponsored by Plastics News: 2,000 – 2,500 attendees, little overlap with ANTEC attendees.
 - Alleviates SPE of costs and administration of sales and show management
 - Boosts profitability, allows SPE to focus on conference program/production
 - Enhanced schedule makes event more

marketable – trade worthy

- **Plastics Engineering**
 - Complete editorial re-design and refocus
 - Combines Plastics Engineering and Plastics Engineering Europe
 - 2006 saw change in ad sales structure
 - Boost in distribution and editorial content should make publication more marketable
 - Page count increase from mid-50's to mid-70's and commensurate increase in ad revenue.
 - K-show event can provide modest boost to advertising

□ **TPC – Ron Puvak**

- **ABC 2006 Updates – Bob Jackson**
 - MSU Center, Troy, MI
 - Title: “Global Innovation in Blow Molding”
 - Wed/Thur, October 11th & 12th
 - For the first time ever, we have more papers than time slots
 - Break-outs for Packaging & Industrial
 - Ad in Plastics Engineering, Postcard mailing, e-mail blast
 - Goal: 300 paid attendees
- **ABC 2007 Updates - Surendra Agarwal/ Lew Ferguson**
 - Seagate Center, Toledo, OH
 - October 10, 11 - 2007
 - K-show Year
 - Call for Papers at ABC 2006
 - Preliminary announcement posted
- **ABC 2008 Updates - Lew Ferguson/ Dave Holiman**
 - October 10-12 – Confirm at Winter 2007 meeting.
 - Chevron-Phillips – John Rathman
 - Bartlesville, OK
 - Split expenses with CPC
- **ABC 2009 Updates**
 - OPEN/ Co-Chair Scott if in Toledo/ Jon Meckley/ Gary Carr if in Atlanta.
 - Conference in Toledo, OH or Atlanta, GA
 - Joint with Section?
 - October 10-12
 - NPE Year
- **ANTEC 2007, Cincinnati**
 - Jon Meckley/Surendra Agarwal
 - Cincinnati Convention Center
 - Millennium Cincinnati
 - HQ Hotel & BOD Meetings
 - Welcome Reception
 - Monday Night
 - Exhibition

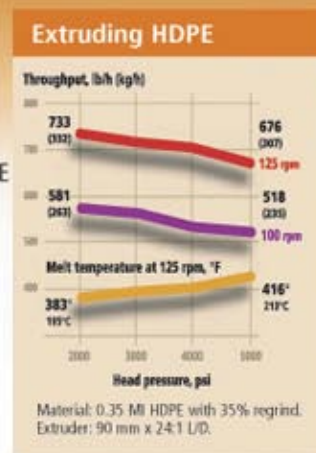
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- Plastics Encounter
- Thursday Sessions
 - Morning
- Abstracts
 - Not Needed
- Papers
 - Dec 4th
- ANTEC 2008, Milwaukee
 - Surendra Agarwal/ Bob Jackson
- ANTEC 2009, St. Antonio
 - Bob Jackson/Ron Puvak
- ANTEC 2010, Orlando
 - Open

❑ **Education – Mark Heitker**

- Matthew Gross has moved to Penn State .
 - Daniel Dempsey and Matt Loeffler at Penn State Erie will continue to receive the scholarships
- A \$5000 scholarship contribution has been received from ExxonMobil Technology. The Carrie Solin Fox Scholarship will be renamed the Carrie Solin Fox Scholarship Sponsored by ExxonMobil. This is expected to become an annual contribution.

- 2006 Student Design Competition: Joe Altimari
 - Erica Smith and Ray McKee from Penn State Erie won the contest.
- Graham Machinery Group Continuing Education Grant Program (Former Workplace Scholarship)
 - There are 4 applications for the grant.
- Blow Molding Division Grant Fund:
 - A request from Penn State Erie for preventative maintenance service work on their Bekum blow molding machine after being moved to a new lab building in summer 2006 has been received.
 - Application received and approved - \$1,500.
 - Pittsburg State Kansas has asked for \$4,000 for a replacement parison programmer from Hunker
- Support for Mid-Michigan Plastivan proposal 2006 approved.
- Best Student Paper Award at ANTEC 2006 was awarded to Ben McElhaney and Andrew Lesser.
- Daryl Damschroeder moved to accept the report and Dave Holliman seconded the move.

[Continued next page](#)

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❑ **Awards Report – Joe Altimari**

- Lifetime Achievement
 - Need Nominations
- Fellows Nominations
 - Dr Jabrin Saleh
- Honored Service Nominations
 - Ron Puvak and Bob Jackson
- Outstanding Board Member Service
 - Need Nominations

❑ **Marketing - Ron Puvak**

- Newsletter – Ron Puvak
 - Postcards mailing to check efficiency.
Not yet initiated
 - Next Newsletter – **November after ABC 2006.**
 - News Briefs – **one a month. Maria Russo contact.**
 - Focused columns could be generated.
 - PET SBM column – Scott Steele.
 - Column Extrusion blow – Gary Carr.
 - Industrial Blow Molding column – Ben Lopez.
 - Injection Blow Molding column – Ben Lopez.

➤ Membership – Lew Fergusson

- Primary - 581
- Secondary - 383
- Total - 964
- Lew will e-mail to new members - 6 months back.

➤ Sponsorships – Ron Puvak

- Major groups to market
 - Resin Suppliers
 - Mold Makers/Secondary Operations
 - Machinery Manufacturers
 - Endusers
- Will begin new cycle. Go back to old sponsors and others. –
- **Needs list of potential sponsors from BOD members – Send to Mary**
- Update Sponsorship materials to web site.

➤ Web Site – Babli Kapur

- New Chair appointed.
- Need to update site. Asked for photos.

➤ ABC 2007 Market programs

- Site location will be Seagate Center, Toledo, Ohio
- Call for papers at ABC 2006.
- Advertising quarterly....

[Continued next page](#)



Fremont Plastic Molds

Molds Fixtures Gages

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MOLDS-FIXTURES-GAGES.COM

- Look at topics – need to have them by the winter meeting.
- Added to CD from ABC 2006.
- Fee's: Regular registration: \$350.00 SPE member, \$475.00 for non-member 30 days prior. \$ 400.00 SPE member , \$525.00 for non-member at the door. 1 day fee \$250.00. Highlight SPE membership for higher conference fee.
- List the conference as two day with a highlight on the night before.
- ABC 2008 Market programs
 - Site location will be CPC, Bartlesville, OK
 - Call for papers at ABC 2007.
- ABC 2009 Market programs
 - Site location could be be Toledo, Ohio or Atlanta...
 - Call for papers at ABC 2008.
- Membership
 - Primary - 581
 - Secondary - 383
 - Total - 964

OLD BUSINESS:

- There was no Old Business

NEW BUSINESS:

- Winter Board Meeting will be held at Panama City.
 - Friday February 23rd
 - Jon Meckley will explore hotels.
- Pinnacle Award will be submitted this year.
 - Scott Steele and Jon Meckley
- Theme and increased attendance discussion is tabled until the winter meeting.
- Dave Holliman turned the leadership over to Jon Meckley at the end of the meeting

ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion to adjourn made by Mark Heitker. It was seconded by Dave Holliman.
- The Board accepted the Motion





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