RMD News

The Rotational Molding Division of SPE Newsletter

3rd Quarter 2014 Volume 14 Issue 3

ARM and RMD Promote "Roto Made Local" at IDSA Exchange Conference

Photos pg. 4

Welcome to the New GVL Poly facility in Hesston, Kansas.

Article pg. 9

Also in this issue:

VISIT US ON OUR WEBSITE
WWW.SPE-ROTOMOLDING.ORG

Chairman's Message

Rob Donaldson

Hello fellow RMD Members.
Welcome back to the newsletter after what felt like a very nice summer. I hope you all had excellent vacations and your business has been (and continues to be) prosperous. We are so fortunate to be a part of such a prosperous and robust market. As an industry our openness and willingness to work with each other as well as others outside our scope is unmatched.

The 2014 TOPCON held in June was successful in bringing over 200 rotational molding concentric molders, suppliers and consultants together for a couple days of technical and marketing discussions, as well as awards for deserving SPE RMD members. We also received a first-hand view of additive manufacturing (3D Printing on a semi commercial scale) when we toured America Makes in Ohio. Our parts design competition came to its apex and the winners were announced for 2014 also. Thank you to those that attended the 2014 TOPCON it was due to your participation. Those that were there were able to take advantage of the networking opportunities that the event provided. The RMD board has decided that we will hold TOPCON events every second year from now on with the intent of increasing the number of molders reached by each event.

I want to congratulate all the winners of the 2014 Design Competition and wish them all the best for the next steps with their designs. There were many commercial and academic winners and the complete list is on our website at http://www.spe-rotomolding.org/ . Of course I would also like to congratulate Fred Shockey and his team for doing such a great job of assembling the designs and procuring excellent judges to score the designs.

The SPE RMD website can now be accessed through the SPE website. If you go to the homepage www.4spe.org and select "Rotomolding" it will take you to our site. There will be changes in the future that will begin seamlessly incorporating more of the Head Office look for a more integrated site. This has been a long road for Bruce Muller and Melissa Inman, but they are exceeding all expectations.

In the spirit of working together with others to help the industry as a whole, the SPE RMD board also voted and passed the use of funds to jointly attend the Industrial Designers Society Association Conference in Austin Texas with the Association of Rotational Molders (ARM). The goal of doing this was to promoting Rotational Molding as a conversion of choice for the designers. A pamphlet was created and the tag line "Roto Made Local" was used. Tom Innis was the SPE RMD representative in our booth that included many great pictures and examples of great molding. Thank you to those that donated and to Tom for representing us so well.

Our election was held in early July and I would like to welcome Denis Rodrique (Technical Chair), Melissa Inman (Website Chair) and Gary McQuay (Chair Elect) to the board. I would also like to thank Celine Bellehumeur, Robert Lux, Mark Woolston and Michael Gehrig for their service to the RMD board and wish them nothing but the best in the future. Congratulations to all on jobs well done!

Remember what makes Rotational Molding great and what draws us all together. Please learn, share, overcome and live life. The RMD is here to foster these ideals and educate those that will learn.

Yours in Rotomolding,

Rob Donaldson
RMD Chair

Newsletter Comments/Questions? Contact:

Sponsorship: Bruce Muller at plasticsc@aol.com or call (772) 781-6699

Editor: Mike Gehrig mjg@gapolymers.com or call 609-483-1013

Asst. Editor: Dr. Peter Mooney PlasRes@aol.com or call (336) 998-8004

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INDUSTRY NEWS

Total introducing bio-based resins for U.S. rotomolding industry

By Bill Bregar
PLASTICS News SENIOR STAFF REPORTER

CLEVELAND — French integrated oil and gas giant Total SA is entering the North American rotational molding market for polyethylene, and is introducing bio-polymers for the sector, a company official said at a Society of Plastics Engineers conference.

Total Petrochemicals & Refining USA Inc. began making rotomolding PE in pellet and powder form in December, produced in its factory in Bayport, Texas. Total supplies two grades of the metallocene PE for rotational molding.

Total SA has produced the rotomolding resin in Europe for several years, both in PE and polypropylene, but this marks the introduction in North America, said Eric Maziers, rotomolding technologies technical manager for Total Petrochemicals.

To make the bio-resins, Maziers said Total is combining biopolymers, made from polylactic acid from its PLA plant in Belgium, with metallocene-based polyolefins. PLA is made through a fermentation process.

"It's surprising to visit a plant if you've spent your career in the petrochemicals industry — it's totally different," he said in a presentation June 3 at the SPE Rotational Molding Division's TopCon 2014 in Cleveland.

Total developed a technology to recycle products, such as carpeting, and convert them into lactic acid, used to make PLA, he said.

PLA has won applications for packaging, where processors and food producers tout that the material is made from renewable resources. But there are other untapped markets, Maziers said.

"Today PLA is used for packaging mainly. Is there a chance for rotomolding? We believe yes," he told conference attendees.

But Maziers said that, for rotomolding, just being "green" is not enough — the biomaterials have to bring some property advantages, too.

And he said the material does just that. He outlined research that shows the PLA is easy to process, making transparent parts using amorphous PLA or opaque ones using crystallized PLA.

Pure PLA can be rotationally molded, and exhibits no shrinkage — which is not necessarily a good thing since it makes it tough to remove parts from the mold, Maziers said. The PLA/metallocene PE alloy solves that, while still reducing shrink.

"It's very, very high gloss, and it is very easy to paint," he said.

The new material is called Bio-TP Seal. By molding parts with foam sandwiched between two skins, you can make parts that recover the original shape after compression. "Skin/Foam-skin, it has a lot of potential to give good structural properties," Maziers said.

Ted Nugent, a rotomolding consultant in Reading, Pa., said Bio-TP Seal improves stiffness, and reduces shrinkage and warpage, and better temperature resistance.

Nugent said the very good surface finish is a major advance. He predicted new applications will come in parts with a large surface area that need warpage control, such as kayaks and surfboards.

Also, Nugent said the biomaterial will help products than take a beating — like floor cleaning equipment and trash cans — look good over the long term.

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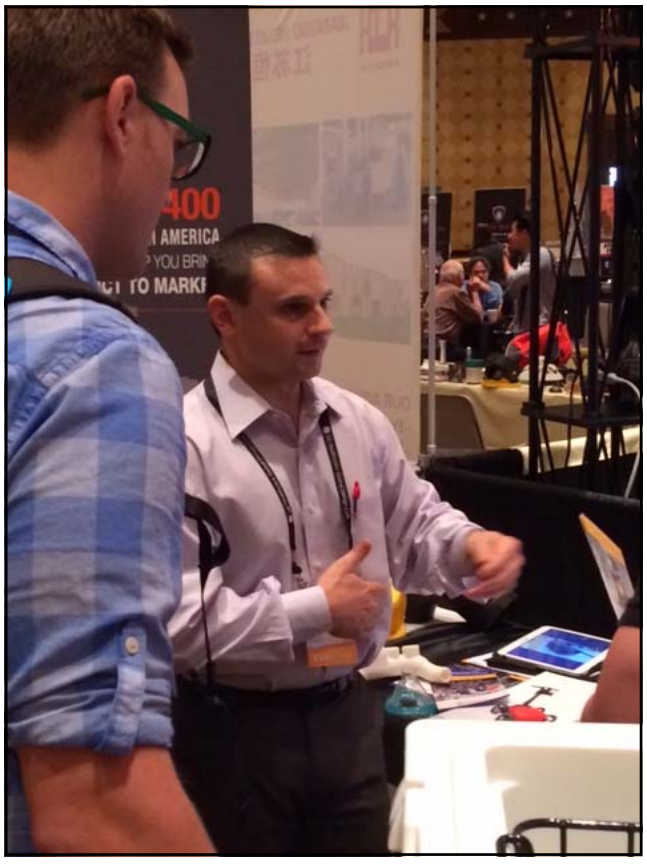
ROTATIONAL MOLDING DIVISION OF SPE

Save the Date!
the exchange
IIDSA International Conference & Education Symposium
Austin, Aug. 13 – 16, 2014



RMD People in the News

EXCELLENCE IN MENTORING AWARD

During the 2014 ANTEC Awards Luncheon, SPE President, Jon Ratzlaff, surprised our Glenn Beall with the Society's EXCELLENCE IN MENTORING AWARD. This award recognizes a member's many years of advising, supporting, and encouraging less-experienced members as they pursue their and the Society's goals.

Glenn Beall

Glenn is a long-time member, a Past Chairman and one of the Founders of SPE's Rotational Molding Division. Over the years he has mentored many newly elected members of our Board of Directors.

In accepting the award Glenn cited the long-lasting influence of George Ryan, an early mentor who advised him to join SPE, to attend the monthly Section meetings, and to get involved. Glenn said he did those things because George said to and that is the way things were done in those days.

He went on to say that it was never mentioned again, but George had to have been aware of the great opportunity he was providing. His recommendation made it possible for a young engineer buried deep inside a large corporation to break out and get to know and learn from, first the local SPE and the Chicago plastics industry, and later the National SPE and the whole national plastics industry.

Glenn believes that one recommendation had a profound effect on his career and quality of life.

Got a comment?

rmd@rotomolding.net

847-549-9970

Submit your news story or technical article to the RMD Newsletter !

The submission deadline for the next edition is August 1st.

SPE

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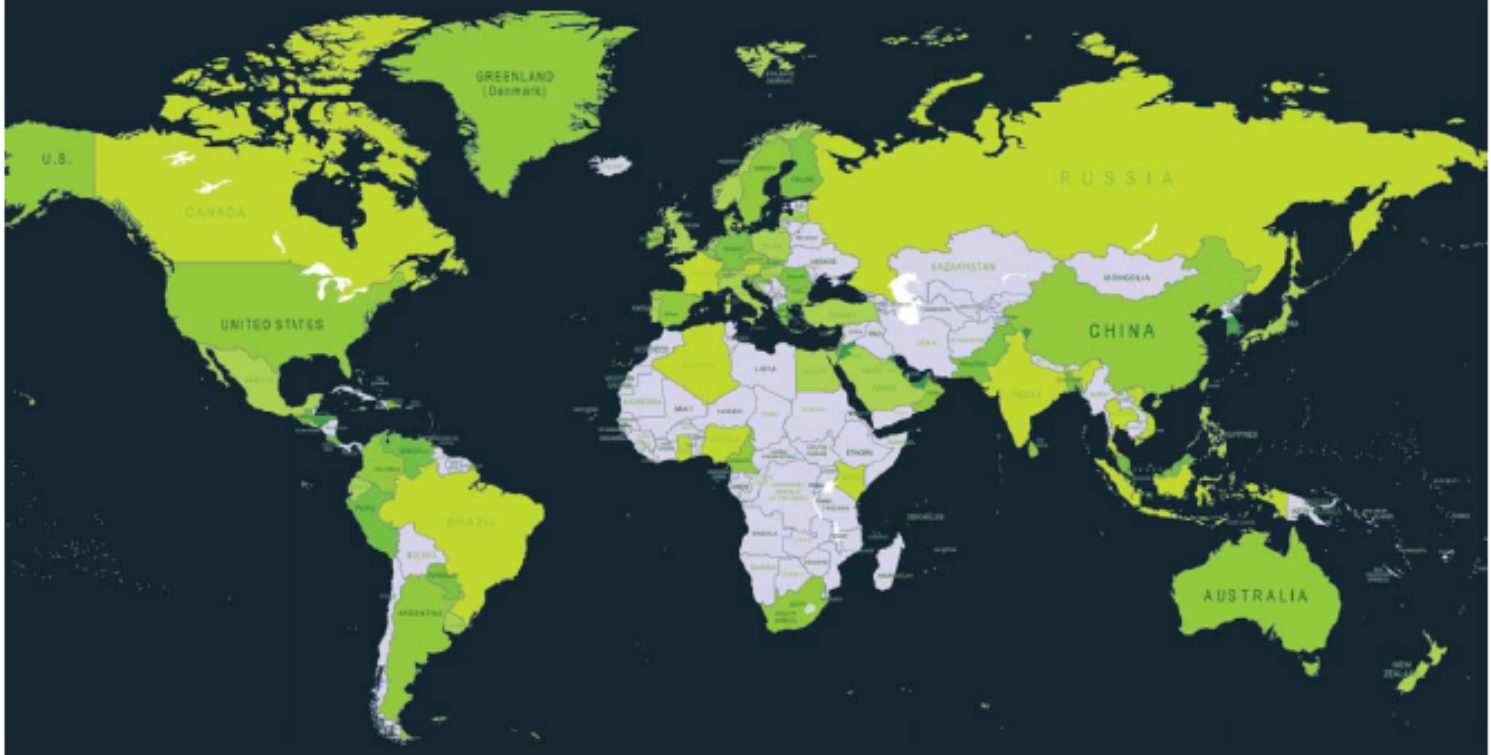

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GVL Poly Expansion

Founded in 1992 by Von Grotto, a Minnesota Farmer, GVL Poly introduced the "Original Farmer Designed" poly snouts for corn headers. Using rotational molding, Grotto developed the poly corn snouts and tested them on his farm near the company headquarters in Litchfield, Minnesota. The change from metal to polyethylene has forever changed corn harvest and made a significant impact on agricultural equipment manufacturing.

Today GVL Poly is a rapidly growing manufacturing company with Plants in Litchfield, Minnesota and Hesston, Kansas. With over 100,000 square feet of manufacturing space, 5 rotational molding machines, high-intensity color blending, engineering, 3-D design, and other services, the company has continued to make significant investment in equipment and technology.

GVL Poly's headquarters has grown over the years from 13,000 square feet, to over 51,000 square feet today. The facility has a dedicated research and development center with controlled access to maintain a strict code of confidentiality. In house mold building and maintenance reduces time to market for new product and down time for preventative maintenance. New tooling designs are born in a State-of-the-Science Engineering Center that is equipped with the latest in technology. GVL Poly's Engineering and Design team has dedicated use of the in-house Fortus®900 3-D Printer and a Faro® Arm with scanner. Solidworks® design software and Enterprise Product Data Management (EPDM) compliments a skilled team of Engineers and Design staff. The Litchfield facility has three rotational molding machines, color blending, assembly and fabrication, and a large warehouse for shipping and receiving. Rapid growth in an expanding geographical focus, the company decided to took a new approach to meeting the demands of a growing customer list.

In June of 2013, GVL Poly's management announced the company would construct a new 50,875 square foot facility in Hesston, Kansas. Having the opportunity to design a building from scratch, the team created a state-of-the-art rotational molding plant. Production began on April 15th, 2014 with the first shipment leaving the plant in early May. The additional manufacturing capacity and space for expansion, the Hesston Plant will play a major role in the growth plans for GVL Poly.

Growth objectives will require the company to invest in innovative solutions. Beginning in 2010, GVL partnered with North Dakota State University to develop biomass resin filler. A new partnership was also inked in 2013 with the Kansas Polymer Research Center and Pittsburg State University. This partnership focuses on the creation of a new resin blend for manufacturing EPA regulated plastic products. Development of these new products will help set GVL Poly apart from the competition and give the company a unique position in the rotational molding industry.

Specializing in products for Agriculture and Industrial markets has allowed the company and employees to be focused in their efforts. GVL's Management Team is currently working on customer development and identifying future sites for the next plant. For more information about GVL Poly, please visit the company website at www.gvlpoly.com.

Do you plan to change your email address? Make sure your email address is updated at

http://www.4spe.org/forms/changeaddress.php

and continue to get your copy of your newsletter!

For information on Conferences and more events, see the SPE website. You can find a thorough list of events worldwide for the plastics industry at: .http://www.4spe.org/training/eventcalendar.php

Industry News

Lakeland Mold Company changes name to Avantech

BRAINERD, MINN. — Lakeland Mold Company, a leading manufacturer of cast and CNC aluminum tooling for the global rotational molding industry, recently changed its name to Avantech.

After 26 years in business, the company changed its name to better reflect its growing line of services and expanded vision as an innovative solutions provider for the rotational molding industry.

“We do more than make molds, and we want the world to know it,” said owner Tom Haglin, who purchased Lakeland Mold Company in 2012. “We want to be more to our customers than just a supplier of tools. We want to help our customers expand their business footprint globally and our new name reflects that.”

Avantech is a combination of two words, “avante,” which means moving forward in Spanish, and “tech” reflecting the company’s commitment to providing innovative solutions through cutting-edge technology.

Since Haglin purchased Lakeland Mold two years ago, the company has invested substantially in CNC machinery, enhancing the services and capabilities Lakeland Mold has been known for since 1988. “Our commitment to CNC has increased exponentially,” said Tom Innis, vice president of sales and marketing. “It’s a testament to leveraging technology and offering an expanded scope of value to our customers.”

From involvement at the beginning stages of product design to delivering highly engineered tools, Avantech’s solutions-focused approach has facilitated steady growth and establishment of customer partnerships throughout the industry.

“We start by analyzing the needs of our customers, and focus on optimizing results throughout the entire project,” said Innis. “We combine this approach with flexibility in our manufacturing operation to consistently meet the demands of a global marketplace.”

Based in Brainerd, Minnesota, Avantech, formerly Lakeland Mold Company, is a trusted manufacturer of quality tooling to rotomolders worldwide. Industries served include agriculture, healthcare, outdoor recreation, floor care, watersports, home furnishings, construction, materials handling and children’s toys. To learn more, visit the company’s website at avantech.com.

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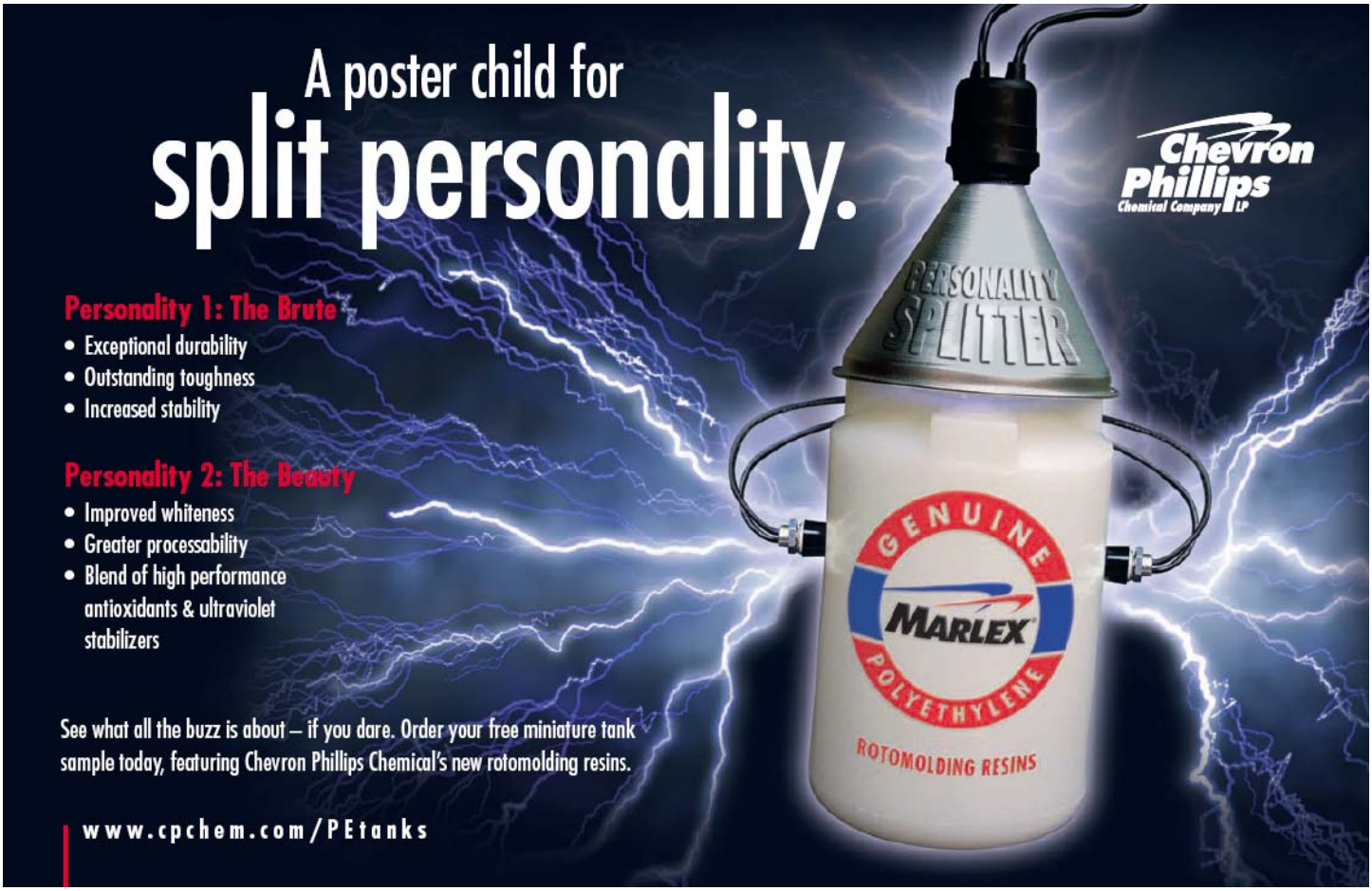
SPE ROTATIONAL MOLDING



What can SPE Membership do for you?

Looking for a career change in the plastics industry? Go to

http://www.4spe.org/membercenter/careers/index.php

You will find advice on managing change, search for opportunities, even post your resume.

Society of Plastics Engineers
Division of Rotational Molding
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RMD News

Your Award Winning Newsletter - 2005, 2006 & 2007

Classified Advertising Opportunities

RMD Classified Ads provide an excellent opportunity for you to:

- ***Sell new and used rotational molding equipment and accessories.***
- ***Promote goods and services to the rotational molding industry.***
- ***Advertise for help wanted and positions wanted within the rotational molding industry.***

The **RMD Newsletter** is an award winning publication available to thousands of SPE members on the RMD website.

This quarterly publication is well read and received by international organizations and individuals involved in the rotational molding industry.

The RMD is now offering the opportunity for you to reach the global rotational molding markets by placing classified advertising in upcoming editions.

View the current and previous editions of the RMD Newsletter online at www.rotomolding.net

Nominal rates:

Business card ads only $100.00/issue, $350/year.

Classified ads for only $100.00 per column inch.

Positions Wanted, up to 75 words, free of charge to all SPE members!

Bonus web posting!
Business cards and classified ads wil be posted on the RMD website at no charge through the publication period of the RMD Newsletter.

Positions Wanted ads may be sent to:
mjg@gapolymers

For paid advertising contact:
Bruce Muller
772-781-6699
plasticsc@aol.com

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Application Information

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Home Phone:

(√) Preferred Mailing Address O Home O Business

Gender: O Male O Female

Birth Date: (mm/dd/yyyy)

Demographics

Job Function: *(choose only one)*
O Consulting
O Design
O Education
O General management
O Library
O Manufacturing
O Maketing/Sales
O Other
O Purchasing
O Quality Control
O R & D
O Self Employed
O Retired
O Student Tech Support
O Tech Support

Materials: *(choose all that apply)*
O Composites
O Film
O General Interests
O Nylon
O PET
O Foam/Thermoplastics
O Polyolefins
O Polystyrene
O TPEs
O Thermoset
O Vinyls
O No Interests

Process: *(choose all that apply)*
O Blow Molding
O Compression
O Compounding
O Engineering Properties
O Extrusion
O Fabrication
O Foam
O Injection Molding
O Mold Making
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O Rotational Molding
O Thermoforming
O General Interest
O No Interest

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Payment Information

New Member 1 year	New Member 2 Years *	Student Member
O US ($140.00)	O US ($253.00)	O US ($30.00)
O Euro** (€124.00)	O Euro** (€224.00)	O Euro** (€23.00)

My Primary Division is (Division names are below**): RMD (D42)**

Additional Divisions are available for a fee. Check below to select additional Divisions.

O Additives & Color Europe (D45)
O Automotive (D31)
O Blow Molding (D30)
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O Composites (D39)
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O Electrical & Electronic (D24)
O Engineering Properties & Structure (D26)
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O Flexible Packaging (D44)
O Injection Molding (D23)
O Marketing and Management (D37)
O Medical Plastics (D36)
O Mold Making & Mold Design (D35)
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O Product Design & Development (D41)
O **Rotational Molding (D42)**
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O Thermoforming, European (D43)
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Checks must be drawn on US or Canadian banks in US or Canadian Funds.
Dues include a 1-year subscription to *Plastics Engineering* magazine–$38.00 value (non-deductible).
SPE membership is valid for twelve months from the month your application is processed.
*extra savings. **European membership dues include a program fee to support SPE's activities in Europe.

By signing below I agree to be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society and to promote the objectives of the Society I certify that the statements made in the application are correct and I authorize SPE and its affiliates to use my phone, fax, address and e-mall to contact me.

Signature Date

Recommended by member (optional) ID #

WWW-RMD

RMD Interim Financial Report

SPE's Rotational Molding Division
Interim Financial Report 2013-2014
July 1, 2013 to December 22, 2013

	Actual	Budget
Cash Balance: Beginning of Period	$61,391.45	
Cash Receipts in Period:		
SPE Rebate	$0.00	$0.00
Interest	$16.55	$0.00
Newsletter Ads/Sponsorships	$0.00	$0.00
Scholarships/Grants Fund	$10.00	$0.00
TopCon	$2,885.82	$0.00
Total Income in Period	$2,912.37	$0.00
Total Cash to be accounted for	$64,303.82	
Cash Disbursements in Period:		
Board Meetings (teleconference)	$0.00	$0.00
TopCon/Rotoplas	$0.00	$0.00
e-Newsletter Printing/Mailing	$0.00	$0.00
Awards (Student Papers)	$0.00	$0.00
Scholarships/Grants	$0.00	$0.00
ANTEC Expenses	$0.00	$0.00
BOD & ANTEC Speakers Awards	$0.00	$0.00
President and Past Presidents Awards	$0.00	$0.00
Membership Outreach	$0.00	$0.00
Website Hosting	$0.00	$0.00
Election, Ballot, Postage	$0.00	$0.00
SPE Product Design Comp.	$0.00	$0.00
Website Domain name (2013-2022)	$440.80	$0.00
Webinar	$0.00	$0.00
MISC (Bank Statement Paper Fees.)	$6.00	$0.00
Plastics News Advertisement	$3,600.00	$0.00
Total Disbursements in Period	$4.046.80	$0.00
Cash Balance End of Period	$60,257.02	

The Cash Balance is made up as follows:

Scholarships/Grants (savings acc.)	$2, 032.43
Checking Account	$317.70
Savings Account	$57,906.89
Total Cash Balance	**$60,257.02**

Respectfully submitted
By
Rex Kanu
Treasurer RMD

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Available for purchase on CD-ROM, they include presentations on more than 15 different plastics processes. Past e-Live™ Presentations are archived weekly. Go http://www.4spe.org/elearning/ for more information.

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Ask PiP is a question/answer forum for the plastics industry.

This free service has been completely redesigned for easier access, utilization and functionality. We've added many new features to save you time and allow easier navigation. Ask PiP will now accommodate everyone. You can contact others in your field, post your questions or supply answers. All for FREE.
http://www.askpip.org/

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The Rotational Molding Division would like to acknowledge and thank the following organizations that share their resources with the RMD by allowing and encouraging their employees to serve as members of the RMD Board of Directors.

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