Annual Review 2010
The BPF employs **17 SPECIALIST STAFF** and engages a number of consultants to meet the needs of the membership.

**ABOUT THE BRITISH PLASTICS FEDERATION**

Established in 1933 the British Plastics Federation is the most powerful voice in the UK plastics industry and is composed of over 400 direct members and 1,600 affiliates across the plastics industry supply chain. Membership includes polymer producers and suppliers, additive manufacturers, plastics processors, recyclers, services providers, end users and machinery manufacturers.

The BPF promotes the interests of its Members principally through its four Market Sector Groups and its many common-interest Business Groups. The BPF Central Expert Committees address industry wide concerns including Environment, Fire, Product Safety and Industrial Health & Safety.

**THE PLASTICS PROCESSING INDUSTRY IN THE UK**

- **Material Processed**: 4.6 million tonnes
- **Plastics materials produced**: 2.5 million tonnes
- **Processor sales turnover**: £13.1 billion
- **Value of exports**: £4.6 billion
- **Plastics Products exported**: 25%
- **People employed**: 185,000
- **Number of primary processors**: 3,000
- **Companies in the plastics industry**: 7,430
- **Plastics industry turnover**: £19 billion

The BPF **COUNCIL OF MEMBERS** supervises the Federation’s activity, and is made up of 25 senior-level representatives elected from the membership.

**10 KEY MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

1. **Stronger Together**
   The BPF offers members the unique opportunity to share experience and resolve industry issues through unified action. Furthermore members can participate in exclusive member-only networking events including seminars, meet the buyers events, group meetings and the Annual Dinner.

2. **Lobbying and Representation**
   Members of the Federation influence the UK plastics industry strategic direction at all levels from overall policy to standards making as The BPF is one of the largest and most effective lobbying bodies in the European manufacturing sector.

3. **A Global Network**
   The BPF is at the centre of the global plastics community, leading British participation at international trade shows, developing links with sister organisations around the globe and playing a pivotal role in influencing EU policy makers.

4. **Plastics Market Intelligence**
   Members can gain instant access to detailed plastics market intelligence including polymer pricing, international trade data, lists of global agents & distributors, over 500 papers delivered at BPF seminars and contact lists of the global plastics press. All this is available 24 hours a day through the password protected ‘Members Only’ area of BPF Online.

5. **Legislative Guidance and Technical Materials Advice**
   All members received regular updates on all legislative issues covering the plastics industry, reducing the need for organisations to hire specialist consultants. All members also receive access to 17 in-house experts giving companies on the spot advice on technical issues relating to all aspects of the industry.
The BPF remains “NOT FOR PROFIT” and all income is ultimately directed to support the UK Plastics sector’s aims and objectives.

6 Fortnightly Newsletter
A fortnightly newsletter keeps members up to date with legislation, technology, process developments and industry news.

7 Business Promotion
Membership of the BPF offers companies an enhanced shop window for their products and services, dramatically improved traffic to their website as well as sales leads delivered direct to their desktops.

8 BPF Buyers’ Guides
Known in the industry as the ‘blue bibles’, the collection of BPF Buyers’ Guides have for the last 30 years helped companies source reputable suppliers from across the plastics industry. The BPF has distributed 10,000 Guides via trade shows, seminars and web downloads since the launch in 2009. www.bpfbuyersguides.co.uk

9 Free Legal Counsel
Instant access to a team of lawyers giving free legal advice on issues such as Tax, VAT, PAYE, Payroll, Employment and Personnel, Health and Safety and Commercial Legal.

10 Member Discounts
Substantial savings including a 50% discount on the fees for the Climate Change Agreement, 20% in the BPF Plastics Bookshop, reduced cost at BPF Seminars and international Trade Shows, Business Support Network Member discount offers and along specially negotiated discounts on 100’s of products and services.
As I come to the end of my two-year term as President, I am struck by how much change has occurred since May 2009. We have gone from recession to recovery; from a false economy propelled by consumer demand stimulated by borrowing, huge growth in public sector expenditure and reckless lending by Banks, to a realistic economy determined both to cut back the public sector debt of £150 billion which costs us £120 million a day in interest, and to endeavour to rebalance itself by stimulating the development of UK manufacturing.

Thirteen years of Labour Government came to an end to be replaced by a Conservative-Liberal Democrat Coalition Government. Only thirteen days after the election, the Coalition Government published a detailed 60-page policy document showing a remarkable degree of agreement.

Certainly the UK plastics industry is seeing recovery, shown quite clearly by our authoritative Business Conditions six monthly surveys. It is particularly pleasing to see the growth in plastics exports, especially when the UK had a huge trade deficit in goods of £97.2bn in 2010, up from £82.4bn in 2009.

In 2010 I joined the BPF team taking plastics companies to Plastics & Rubber Vietnam in Ho Chi Minh City in March and the PlastEurasia Show in Istanbul, Turkey, in December, while in January 2011 I squeezed in a trip with them to the Plastivision Show in Mumbai, India. With UK Trade and Investment’s support our team professionally recruits for, and manages, the British pavilions at these shows. There was a British pavilion at the Chinaplas show in Shanghai in April, but none of us from the BPF were able to get there thanks to the Icelandic volcanic ash! Nevertheless, it is interesting to note that we were the only European delegation present in Vietnam and India, while in Turkey only our Spanish colleagues managed to join us.

In October BPF staff welcomed a Vietnamese delegation to our offices and we met a Chinese Chemicals and Plastics inward mission at the Department of Business. At the Plastivision Show in Mumbai we held a seminar on Sustainable Plastic Processing attended by 60 people, and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the All India Plastics Manufacturers’ Association. I do feel the BPF’s deep contacts with the plastics industries in important growth economies such as China, India and Vietnam is unmatched by any other European plastics association and creates unique opportunities for our member companies. After all, the pound has depreciated 23% against a basket of currencies since the end of 2007, and we surely should be able to exploit this.

In January 2010 for the second time the BPF Council met inside the Bank of England, and Bank and Department of Business officials joined us to hear directly from members what the business trends for plastics were like.

The Car Scrappage scheme which we supported ended in February. The UK’s GDP declined by 3.2% in 2009 whereas China’s increased by 10.7%. We have much to do working with the new Government to re-balance the economy to develop more manufacturing. This means encouraging more innovation and capital investment with improved tax credits and capital allowances. We welcome the new Government’s lowering of Corporation tax.

The Energy Regulator OFGEM published a report saying there is a risk of power cuts from 2016. Perhaps a sign of things to come was the first Gas Balancing alerts since 2006 during last January’s heavy snow – a hundred companies in the North West had to stop production. Our members need to factor this into their planning, and consider generators, for example. The BPF has spoken and written to the Energy Minister and the Economic Secretary to the Treasury on this matter.

New initiative to reduce Plastics Industry injuries
I have long been concerned that the accident rate in the Plastics industry was far too high. In 2008/9 we indeed suffered a fatality, whilst 1,158 of our people were injured. Accidents at this rate are simply unacceptable.

Along with the Health and Safety Executive, other associations, and Trade Unions, we launched SIMPL – Safety in Manufacturing Plastics in October 2010. As a start, this initiative will run from 2011 to 2014, and the BPF has created an action plan to help our members achieve long-term improvements in the health and...
safety of their workforces. A new accident reporting format is being established and each company is invited to sign a SIMPL pledge to demonstrate commitment. The BPF has a long history of leadership on health and safety, having produced with the HSE basic codes of practice for machinery safeguarding. Lynn Edwards, the Chairman of our BPF Health and Safety Committee, deserves a lot of credit for leading the SIMPL initiative. And this takes me nicely on to commend the work of all our BPF Business Groups and Committees.

BPF Business Groups and Committees
I chaired a meeting of the BPF Groups and Committees’ Chairmen in November and was most impressed by their many successes and initiatives from which we can all learn. These Chairmen, working with our staff, ensure that key issues and opportunities within their sector are professionally dealt with, whether they be technical or marketing. They deserve our praise for giving up their time for the good of our industry.

My old friend and colleague Alex Hay of Arkema retired from his role as Chairman of the Vinyls Groups after a distinguished ten years. The Group and the BPF held a special luncheon in his honour during which a suitable presentation was made. I am delighted to report that the Recycling Council, an affiliate of ours, decided to join us and come into the BPF from 1st January 2011 as the BPF Recycling Group. This brings some thirty recycling companies into membership and will greatly strengthen the Federation’s expertise on all recycling matters. This expertise will be accessible to all our members and will help with BPF policy-making.

The 77th Annual Dinner
Our Annual Dinner was very well attended, with numbers up 30% on the previous year. Dr Kevin Jones was our guest speaker with some deliciously mischievous insights into the National Health Service. I am grateful to Inenco for their generous sponsorship of this dinner. I presented this year’s Horners/BPF Plastic Design and Innovation runner’s up certificate to Linpac Environmental and was most impressed by their many successes and initiatives from which we can all learn. These Chairmen, working with our staff, ensure that key issues and opportunities within their sector are professionally dealt with, whether they be technical or marketing. They deserve our praise for giving up their time for the good of our industry.

Meanwhile, however, our Construction Groups are having a difficult time, with a moribund housing market and public sector cut backs causing a drop in this crucial sector’s building work. To try to help, the BPF is sponsoring ten Royal Institute of British Architects lectures at Schools of Architecture in 2011. At each, a BPF speaker will show to these future specifiers what is possible with plastics.

Moreover, the BPF made two particularly good decisions some years ago – the purchase of the freehold of our modern premises in Bath Place, and the buying-out of our final salary pension scheme liabilities. This has ensured a firm financial base from which to operate for many decades ahead, and I do applaud the relevant Presidents, Councils and indeed DGs who took those brave decisions at the time.

Now, as I prepare to stand down as President of your Federation, I shall allow myself a moment of self-indulgence in mentioning the following:

First of all, my successor as President of the BPF, Philip Watkins. Philip is an extremely gifted man, a talented Managing Director, and a very capable future President. I leave the Federation in extremely safe hands.

Secondly, Arkema and all its predecessors right back to British Ceca. This Group has given me an exciting career of more than 30 years, and has been generous enough to sponsor my BPF presidency even though I have retired from all Arkema executive roles.

Finally, and most importantly of all, I would like to mention a name that, sadly, only a few of you will now know, and that is one Maurice Victor Girard, affectionately known to his staff as “G”. A brilliant French chemical engineer, G effectively formed British Ceca and ran it so successfully for many years before returning to Paris at an extremely senior level in the Ceca Group. G employed me into the Ceca Group in 1976, and, without doubt, he taught me 90% of all that I ever learned in business. He did not talk about “leading men”; he simply did it. G passed away about ten years ago, but I am quite sure that since his arrival, Heaven has been much better run…

With my warmest personal regards to you all.
It is good to see, as Paul our President has written, clear signs of recovery in the Plastics Industry after a very difficult recession. Nevertheless our Council decided that for a third year there should be no BPF membership subscription increase for 2011, to assist the recovery.

A New Government

For years before the May General Election the BPF on its own or through our membership of the Enterprise Forum was discussing policy with Conservative shadow ministers. In fact the BPF met our Prime Minister David Cameron twice whilst he was leader of the Opposition. It is a curious coincidence that in 1933 when the BPF was founded our country also had a Coalition Government with Ramsay MacDonald as Prime Minister.

The new Coalition Government had an Emergency Budget in June in which it made £17bn of Government cutbacks but there were also plans which we welcomed to reduce our uncompetitive rate of Corporation Tax from 28% to 24% over four years. The BPF led Seven Association allies wrote to the Chancellor to influence his Comprehensive Spending Review in October. We supported urgent action to reduce public sector spending.

We welcomed the planned reduction in unnecessary regulation and responded to the consultation on this. We welcomed the 75,000 new apprenticeships and the ring fencing from cuts of the £4.6bn research budget.

I was interviewed on BBC Radio Five on the business’s views of the CSR announcement.

We have had opportunities to meet new Ministers such as Lord Henley on recycling and energy recovery, Mark Prisk MP at BIS, Charles Hendry MP at DECC and Justine Greening MP at the Treasury. The BPF’s own MP Meg Hillier has become Labour’s Shadow spokesman on Energy and Climate Change.

Packaging and the Waste Review

During the year there was much discussion with the Government on increased plastic packaging recycling. We and our Plastics Europe and PAFA colleagues in the Plastics 2020 Challenge were always clear that only 50% recycling could be achieved by 2020 and even that would be an effort.

However, the former Environment Secretary Hilary Benn preferred an unachievable target of 56.9%. In late February he called a workshop on the barriers to increased plastic packaging recycling and he accepted our proposal that an Advisory Committee of Packaging Task Force be set up to give expert consideration. We have two of our BPF company members on the Task Force.

With the Government due to publish its Waste Review in May 2011 we with our partners in the 2020 Challenge helped to set up in September Energy from Waste UK a coalition to promote the benefits of Energy from Waste composed of: respected institutions such as the Institutes of Mechanical Engineers and Civil Engineers, the Universities of Northampton and Imperial College; Academics; Waste management companies and of course the Plastics industry. We will tackle the myths and misinformation peddled to the media and public with hard facts on how our unrecyclable waste can provide much needed local community heat and power.

The BPF have had an excellent EFW brief on our website for years and we had always hoped the Government or the waste management sector would promote the benefits – now we will do it.

Sustainable Manufacturing in Plastics

A big theme for the BPF this year was promoting our Industry’s achievements worldwide in Sustainable Plastics Processing. At the Kunststoffe Show in Düsseldorf fifty people attended our Sustainable Manufacturing Forum and each were given a free copy of our book ‘Sustainable Manufacturing a Guide for the Plastics Industry’.

Our two British pavilions at the ‘K’ Show were very busy. The exhibition had 222,000 visitors in all.

In late February we sponsored a Daily Telegraph’s Manufacturing supplement ‘Manufacturing: the future’, and the Guardian supplement ‘The World of Plastics’ featuring a foreword by our President and articles by Plastics Challenge 2020 and an interview with Philip Law.

We have been consulted extensively by the new Government on how more manufacturing can be developed in the UK, to reduce our reliance on the discredited financial sector. Plastics is rightly regarded by the Government as ‘advanced manufacturing’. We have fed in many ideas.

Plastics and Litter

Throughout the year there was negative media coverage of plastics in the sea or on beaches. Often it was connected to the ‘Pacific gyre’ about which there is no hard information.

The BPF continued to urge members to sign up to our Operation Clean Sweep – plastic pellet loss prevention scheme. This is strongly supported by Surfers against Sewage and the Marine Conservation Society with whom we had several meetings. We joined their Beachwatch clean up and survey in the West country and Scotland in mid September.

Peter Davis
Director-General

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020 7457 5000
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pdavis@bpf.co.uk
The BPF along with many European Plastics associations sponsored a Ghent University study on ingestion of micro plastics by lugworms and mussels on the French, Belgian and Dutch coasts. The results should be available in November 2011. I am pleased to report that the Marine Conservation Society agreed to be on the Steering Group.

Under the leadership of the European Union of Plastics Converters we made a major marine litter project proposal in September to the European Commission’s Life Plus programme. There would be nine programmes and the BPF would lead rolling out Operation Clean Sweep in every European country.

Philip Law and I were interviewed about marine litter by Dr Alice Roberts in BBC Radio 4’s ‘Inside out’ programme in October and the same month I gave a presentation to an audience of 400 in the Royal Geographical Society’s ‘Plastic Pollution in the Oceans’ debate.

Since 1997 the BPF has been a member of Keep Britain Tidy and its forerunners. I was invited by Keep Britain Tidy and DEFRA to join a Litter Challenge Group to devise a new litter prevention campaign and logo for England. Companies such as McDonalds, Wrigleys, Imperial Tobacco and also local authorities were on this Group. We quickly selected ‘Love where you live’ as the logo and strapline to replace the elderly ‘Tidyman’ symbol. This was launched to acclaim at the National Litter Convention on 16th December with DEFRA Minister Lord Henley and TV personality Kirstie Allsopp as the key speakers. I spoke and gave pledges on behalf of the plastics industry relating to marine litter. Thirty seven other pledges were made.

Key Alliances for the BPF

Early in the year I was elected Chairman of the Alliance of Industry Associations (AIA) which embraces trade associations involved in chemical use and manufacture covering the plastics, rubber, adhesives, sealants, paint, cosmetics, fragrances and colorants.

The great value of AIA membership illustrates how, despite the BPF being a large industry organisation in its own right it leverages more influence by being a member with others of several alliances.

The Packaging sector has far too many associations so the BPF’s membership of the Incpen Trade Association Group and the Packaging Federation is vital to focus media and lobbying work.

For construction products we are members of the Construction Products Association, of which I am currently the Vice Chairman. We are also members of the Engineering and Machinery Alliance (EAMA) to represent our machinery and equipment interests. With eight other major UK manufacturing associations we are members of the Manufacturing Alliance which looks at strategic issues and Government policy.

Lastly, of course, there is our own Seven Associations alliance where we lobby the Chancellor on Budget and autumn statement policies with our colleagues in PAFA, BRPPA, BCF, SPRA, NIPA and GTMA.

Staff and Building

For the benefit of members our staff ran a full range of seminars during the year. Those for REACH, Recycling and Bio plastics were particularly popular.

Sarah Plant was promoted to Senior Industrial Executive and Tim Marsden to Senior Projects Executive and we welcomed the following new staff to the BPF - Rita Ogole, Jonathan Bloom, Kim Hawksworth and Clare Hughes.

We replaced the leaking boiler in Unit 5 and installed new audio visual equipment in our meeting rooms.

I would like to thank all BPF staff for their hard work in 2010 and also thanks to our members who serve on our Council, Groups and Committees and lead our work.

A special thank you goes also to our marvellous President, Paul Jukes, for the last two years. His support and wise advice has been much appreciated.

Peter Davis OBE, FRSA
Majors progress was registered in all three areas – issues management, business development, and communications. Thirty-nine companies joined the British Plastics Federation in 2010, maintaining the momentum of the previous year. Most Business Groups benefitted from this new influx but several were ascribed to the creation of a new Federation business group for Industrial Plastics Fabricating and Welding, and the advent of a new sector for our expanded Federation business group for Industrial Plastics Fabricating and Welding, and the advent of a new sector for our expanded plastics materials in particular the design freedom they permit and their role in sustainable construction.

Business development, of course, springs from innovation and during the year the BPF maintained a growing portfolio of third-party funded research (usually EU funded) and development projects in which it acted alongside industrial and institutional partners as communicators and disseminators of the output. We have now joined in over 10 projects ranging from energy efficiency initiatives such as EUPlast voltage to product innovations such as Polycond, an exploration of conductive polymers. In each the BPF shares the ownership of the intellectual property on members’ behalf.

Reputational issues were to the fore when the safety of Bisphenol A was defended by the BPF in the light of attacks in the media, by extreme NGOs and some misguided overseas Government institutions. Dialogue with the UK Food Standards Agency resulted in continuing support by UK Government, although clouds darkened overseas.

Waste management issues were a top focus of BPF attention. There was a review of government packaging policy which for our industry turned on the recycling rates for 2020. The industry-wide programme, the Plastics 2020 Challenge, had committed to achieving a recycling rate of 50% whilst government wanted 56.9%. Government finally accepted the industry’s suggestion that recommendations on carrying plastics packaging recycling to higher levels should be addressed by a specific plastics work stream, attached to DEFRA’s Advisory Committee on Packaging and with strong industry representation.

The marine litter issue, pushed to the fore on television and through the popular press, increased the risk of reputational damage to the Plastics Industry. The BPF responded through the promotion of Operation Clean Sweep, an industry-wide programme to prevent plastic pellet loss and by preparing with other European Plastics Association partners, an application for a project grant under the EU LIFE Scheme on Clean Seas.

Across the board energy efficiency was a major theme as the BPF endeavoured to provide guidance to member firms on the best routes to meeting the efficiencies targeted in the BPF’s Climate Change Agreement. We were able to use the expertise of Dr Robin Kent of Tangram Consulting who animated BPF Energy Seminars and was commissioned by us to write a book summarising his expertise, process by process, entitled ‘Energy Savings’ for Plastics Processors, a free copy of which was given to every BPF member firm as an extremely useful practitioners’ manual.

Following the accession of the Coalition government we anxiously awaited news of any potential changes to the system of Climate Change Agreements and lobbied the new regime on the value of trade association led Agreements which bring Levy rebates to be invested in energy savings projects in companies.

The importance of Health and Safety to the plastics processing Industry was recognized in the BPF’s participation in the industry-wide SIMPL project, a strategy to improve health and safety in the UK plastics industry. It was launched in our offices on October 14th and member firms were asked to be signatories committing to achieving targeted reductions in accidents to meet the all-manufacturing average.

Overseas business development played a strong role in the BPF’s programme to compensate for the restricted opportunities in the home market and to take advantage of the weakness of Sterling. We were fortunate in securing dwindling funding from UK Trade and Investment to support BPF co-ordinated...
UK pavilions at Plastics and Rubber Vietnam in Ho Chi Minh City in March, Chinaplas in Shanghai in April, Plastpol in Kielce in Poland in May, the Kunststoffe Fair in Dusseldorf in October and Plast Eurasia in Instanbul in December. The trade fair in Vietnam was an entirely new venture for the BPF and as a frontier market we made our mark as an early national participant. The BPF President, Paul Jukes signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Vietnamese Plastics Association on our behalf.

The BPF’s reputation as a pace setter amongst trade associations involved in exporting projects soared following its early adoption of UKTI’s promotion of the Sustainable Manufacturing theme as a platform for approaching emerging markets. At the K Fair, the BPF launched its seminal book, ‘Sustainable Manufacturing: A Guide for the Plastics industry’, essentially a guide to UK sources of expertise in this field. It formed a basis of a seminar at the fair which was attended by over 50 delegates. ‘Sustainable Manufacturing’ has been adopted as a theme by UKTI’s Advanced Engineering sector and the BPF was the first industry association to show how this could be materialised into a specific project.

The BPF again played a leading role in our European Associations. Peter Davis continued as a member of the EuPC Steering Committee and Philip Law served a further year as Chairman of its Communications Committee. The BPF also participated in the European Plastics Pipe organisation (TEPPFA), the European Window Profiles Association (EPPA), and the European organisation for Expanded Polystyrene products (EUMEPS). The BPF Recycling Council continued as a member of the European Plastics Recyclers Association. The BPF also maintained its support for the European plastics manufacturing organisation, EUROMAP, in which Philip Law is also responsible for communications.

For more information on any of the diary events contact Doreen Greenaway of the BPF Events Team on 020 7457 5047 or email dgreenaway@bpf.co.uk

### DIARY DATES

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PF Online is now the world’s largest information portal for the plastics industry and allows the BPF to harness sales leads for member firms and to promote the industry as a whole. BPF Online attracts over 110,000 page views and over 30,000 unique visitors a month and allows the BPF to engage directly with the public and industry at large through interactive forums and various social media channels. The website also provides the Federation with another revenue stream as the BPF uses it to offer members highly cost effective advertisement opportunities.

The website is heavily used not only by key decision makers within industry and high level decision makers in government but also university students and school children who are crucial to the sustainability of the industry.

The website was originally launched in 1997 and is constantly updated and improved. It is updated on a daily basis by a dedicated team at the BPF and supported by around 10 executives who input directly into the website.

Visitor numbers to the website keep going from strength to strength, with the overall web traffic increasing by over 30% from 2009 to 2010. The site also attracts a truly international audience with nearly half of all web traffic coming from outside of the UK. In 2010 plans were put in place for the launch of a specific Chinese language section to the site, which will go live in 2011.

**SustainableManufacturing.co.uk launch**

In October 2010 at the ‘K’ Fair in Germany the British Plastics Federation launched a new micro site – Sustainablemanufacturing.co.uk – which coincided with the launch of the book ‘Sustainable Manufacturing: A Guide for the Plastics’ and the conference ‘Sustainable Manufacturing: A Forum for the Plastics Industry’. The micro site now consists of over 50 pages, giving tips and advice on how companies in the plastics industry can become more sustainable. Topics include reducing energy usage, increasing the use of recyclate and improved material selection.

The Guide and website will be re-launched in 2011 with a Chinese section, thereby promoting members of the Federation (who have the exclusive right to submit articles) to a wider audience.
Throughout 2010 the BPF worked hard to get in place distribution agreements with the key publishers in the plastics industry. By the end of 2010 the BPF had secured the rights to distribute books for 12 publishers including some of the world’s best known names such as Elsevier, Hanser, Taylor and Francis, Wiley, and Springer. In total the BPF has the rights to distribute over 1,200 plastics related books and 100’s of industry specific reports. The website will be launched Q2 2011 and will also be used to sell BPF Seminars and Conference online.

Twitter and Social Media
The BPF continues to disseminate its messages to a wider audience as possible, in order to help to achieve this, the BPF started ‘Tweeting’ in 2009 and as of 31 December 2010 had achieved over 1,000 followers. The BPF will continue to develop its social media strategy throughout 2011 and further develop its YouTube channel which has already recorded over 6,000 views.

Development of BPF Bookshop
Throughout 2010 the BPF worked hard to get in place distribution agreements with the key publishers in the plastics industry. By the end of 2010 the BPF had secured the rights to distribute books for 12 publishers including some of the world’s best known names such as Elsevier, Hanser, Taylor and Francis, Wiley, and Springer. In total the BPF has the rights to distribute over 1,200 plastics related books and 100’s of industry specific reports. The website will be launched Q2 2011 and will also be used to sell BPF Seminars and Conference online.

**World overview of BPF site usage**

- **UK**: 52%
- **Asia**: 18%
- **North America**: 10%
- **Rest of the World**: 20%
BPF AND THE MEDIA

As part of the BPF’s ongoing media strategy we issued a variety of press releases and press comments – a total of 42 press releases were distributed to a carefully targeted media audience which in turn generated huge news coverage.

We were also able to promote the interests of our member firms by promoting their internal activity as well as specific BPF-related news such as events, internal events and relevant developments in the industry. The communication of internal news was further captured by the production of the BPF’s by-weekly newsletter produced exclusively for our members. A total of 24 newsletters were produced.

As a voice of the industry demand for the expertise of the BPF spokespeople was high. A media highlight for the BPF was the BBC Radio 4 programme interview Costing the Earth: Fake Plastic Sea featuring an interview with BPF Director-General, Peter Davis and Public and Industrial Affairs Director, Philip Law. The BPF spokesmen were able to speak up for the plastics industry by highlighting its activities around pellet loss prevention and further reinforce and strengthen industry’s position.

Once again the BPF seized the opportunity to be proactive and sponsored the ‘World of Plastics’ a plastic industry supplement in The Guardian. The fifteen page supplement – through a varied range of editorial pieces – illustrated some of the exciting innovations in plastics in the UK and highlighted plastics a vital part of everyday life. This presented a valuable opportunity to place plastics under the spotlight and showcase the industry’s role and the position of plastics in the development of the world through a range of topics.

The Guardian’s ABC1 majority readership has enabled to BPF to reach a niche audience and capture our main target audience.

The BPF continued to build relations with media with a focus on trade press. As the ears and voice of the plastics industry, the development and management of relationships with media is at the core of our activity. We continued to work with influential trade titles such as Plastics and Rubber Weekly and PRS were proud supporters of The Plastic Industry Awards yet again where several BPF member firms featured in award categories.

Through its interaction with a range of media the BPF was able to provide comment on a diversity of issues affecting the plastics industry and promote and protect the industry. The BPF’s spokespeople were called upon to respond to a spate of current affairs issues, government policy and regulation and latest events in a reactive and proactive capacity.

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BPF slams ‘false’ BPA media claims

BPF AND THE MEDIA

Europe: a BPA timeline

September 2009: The European Commission has an assessment of a study in the Journal of the American Medical Association that suggests a link between levels of endogenous BPA to increase occurrence of various medical conditions, including ‘alcoholism’.

October 2009: The EFSHSA (EFSA) has issued a statement which concludes that the evidence is not sufficient to establish a causal link between BPA and cancer.

March 2010: The Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) has concluded that evidence does not support any negative health effects from exposure to BPA.

May 2010: The EFSHSA has reiterated its previous statement that evidence does not support any negative health effects from exposure to BPA.

The problem with the
The BPF was approached by BPRJ to provide a monthly news column titled *News From the Frontline*. BPF Director-General, Peter Davis, reported on industry developments and focused on pressing issues every month. Areas covered in the editorial piece included Sustainability, Health and Safety and the industry, industry contribution to the Olympics 2012 and a range of other topics.

*News From the Frontline* piece featured on the BPRJ website every month as well as the homepage of the BPF’s own website.
In 2010, the BPF for the first time took part in the Plastics & Rubber Vietnam exhibition where the Federation coordinated a British Pavilion featuring the following exhibitors (supported by UK Trade & Investment grants):
- Boston Matthews
- British Plastics Federation
- NDC Infrared Engineering Ltd
- Simba Plastics Ltd
- Zotefoams Plc

The following companies took part in the Catalogue show, with their brochures being distributed from the BPF stand:
- Add-X Biotech AB
- Biomaster / Addmaster (UK) Ltd
- BNL (UK) Ltd
- Meech Static Control

Paul Jukes, the BPF President and Ho Duc Lam, Director General of Rang Dong and Vice Chairman of the Vietnam Plastics Association (VPA), signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the 18th March 2010, during the P&R Vietnam exhibition. Apart from exhibiting at the trade show, the Federation and some of the UK exhibitors have visited two factories based in Ho Chi Minh city, gaining a better understanding of the market needs and opportunities for the British exporters.

The next Plastics & Rubber Vietnam will take place on the 29 Feb - 2 Mar 2012.

“Our objective in participating in this show was to strengthen our drive into the emerging and developing Viet Nam market, and we were very pleased with the results in terms of meeting some of our customers, our existing industry contacts and meeting new potential customers. The show was for us, a good success.”

GARETH JOSEPH
Business Director, AsiaPacific, NDC Infrared Engineering, Inc.
At Chinaplas, the largest plastics and rubber trade show in Asia, the BPF organised a British Pavilion featuring 10 companies. The UK exhibitors received a support from UK Trade & Investment of £1,400 each towards their stand cost.

They were:
- The Aerogen Company Ltd
- Ashe Converting Equipment
- British Plastics Federation
- Chemical Week
- MSA Engineering Systems Ltd
- Meech Static Eliminators Ltd
- Nextool (UK) Ltd
- Rapra Ltd
- Simba Plastics Ltd
- Zotefoams Plc

The feedback received from the UK exhibitors after the show has been excellent: “The quantity and quality of the enquiries exceeded our expectations. Sign us up for next year!” Amanda Davies, The Aerogen Company Ltd.

As part of the Chinaplas experience, the BPF and Rapra Ltd organised an outward Mission to China. Some of the Mission participants managed to fly to China and take part in the half day Seminar and evening reception held on the 20th April 2010 and organised by the BPF. The next edition of the show will take place in Gangzhou between 17th and 20th May 2011.
On the sixth day of the show, 1st November, the BPF put together a Sustainable Manufacturing Forum which was an official launch of the Campaign featuring a website: www.sustainablemanufacturing.co.uk and a book called “Sustainable Manufacturing. A Guide for the Plastics Industry”. The Forum featured three sessions: Session 1 focused on Recycling, Session 2 focused on Energy Reduction, Session 3 focused on Biobased and Degradable plastics. The speakers included Philip Law from British Plastics Federation; Paul Calver from UK Trade & Investment; Dr. Mathew Thornton from Materials KTN; Keith Freegard from Axion Plastics Recycling; Kevin Ross from Impact Solutions; David Morton from Applied Market Information (AMI).
The British Plastics Federation has again coordinated a British Pavilion at the largest plastics and rubber trade fair in Turkey, PlastEurasia. The event attracted over 1000 exhibitors from 42 countries and visitors from 60 countries, making Plast Eurasia one of the largest plastics trade fairs in the world. The fair is held in Istanbul over four days and covers 9 halls of the Pagev exhibition centre.

The following companies formed the UK Pavilion in 2010:
- Applied Market Information Ltd
- British Plastics Federation
- IDT Systems Ltd
- Listgrove Ltd
- Middle Eastern Plastics Magazine (MEP)

The Forum attracted over 70 delegates who attended various sessions throughout the day. Also, each delegate received a copy of the Sustainable Manufacturing Guide, put together by the BPF and including 25 Articles written by the industry experts and including the BPF Members’ matrices with contact details. Since the launch of the Guide, all articles are available to view on the www.sustainablemanufacturing.com website. The Guide is going to be expanded by additional Articles and is hoped to be translated to foreign languages to promote the UK plastics expertise.

The next edition of the show will be held in Istanbul between 27th and 30th October 2011.

“NIFES, Fred Pratt from CCS Technology, Andrew Barclay from Wells Plastics, who is the Chairman of BPF Biobased and Degradable Group and Dr. John Williams from National Non-Food Crops Centre. The Forum attracted over 70 delegates who attended various sessions throughout the day. Also, each delegate received a copy of the Sustainable Manufacturing Guide, put together by the BPF and including 25 Articles written by the industry experts and including the BPF Members’ matrices with contact details. Since the launch of the Guide, all articles are available to view on the www.sustainablemanufacturing.com website. The Guide is going to be expanded by additional Articles and is hoped to be translated to foreign languages to promote the UK plastics expertise.”

**GARY JONES**
Managing Director
MSA Engineering Systems Ltd

“…It’s one of the most important shows for us.”

**PETER WOODD**
CEO, IDT Systems Ltd

“…This is now the second event that we have attended with the BPF team. Not only does it take a lot of work from exhibiting in export markets but the time consuming administration is handled by a professional team but also IDT Systems was positioned to take advantage of the sales opportunities. IDT Systems Ltd is supplying 3D surface decoration technology to the plastics industry. In the 4 days (at PlastEurasia) we had 187 enquiries, appointed a distribution/sales partner and have quoted for Euro 220,000 at the event. Turkey is a very interesting market and as an emerging EU member, it is our belief will be a powerful manufacturing base within the EU community.”

- NDC Infrared Engineering Ltd
- Trans XL International Ltd
- Also, a BPF member, Pipe Coil Technology exhibited their brochures from the Federation stand.

According to AMI’s report on Turkey, in 2009 3.5m tonnes of plastics were processed in Turkey placing the country in the top tier of European convertors after Germany, Italy and France. The Turkish plastics industry is one of the youngest and most rapidly developing industries in the country, hence it offers a great deal of opportunities for British exporters.

The next edition of the show will be held in Istanbul between 27th and 30th October 2011.
BPF BUSINESS GROUPS

RAW MATERIALS DIVISION

Polymer Producers Group
Providing a source of information and support for nearly all Business Groups and activities, the Polymer Producers Group works actively to promote the Federation as an alliance of companies from all aspects of the plastics supply chain.

As their interests in plastics are so substantial, crossing every application and issue, members of the Polymer Producers Group are involved in almost every element of BPF activity including strong participation within the Federation’s Central Committees.

During 2010, the Group maintained its focus on:
- Keeping abreast of the numerous legislative developments affecting plastics in all applications
- Responding to and having an awareness of the environmental issues of plastics
- Promoting plastics in general

Polymer Distributors and Compounders Group

CHAIR Mike Boswell, Plastribution
Representing a large share of the total UK polymer distribution market, the Distributors and Compounders Group has firmly established itself as the leading voice of this crucial sector.

During 2010 the Group has been actively involved in:
- Monitoring the current market situation and assessing its effects on Group Members
- Managing rising costs, including energy and regulation, and their impact on business and the supply chain
- Identifying the Group’s market share of polymer products (UK & IRL) and benchmarking critical costs in transport, warehousing and logistics
- Development of the Group’s ‘Buyers Guide’ and Group webpage
- Keeping abreast of changes that may affect the sector and managing credit risks

The Group’s Credit Forum (Est. 2006 and hosted by Experian) continues to run successfully, providing a confidential platform for open and honest discussions.

The Group continues to engage with interested stakeholders outside of the plastics industry. In 2010 speakers from equipment suppliers and financial services organisations were invited to attend Group meetings.

Looking forward to 2011 the Group hopes to maintain its position as the key forum on polymer distribution and compounding in the UK by focussing on addressing and resolving the critical issues affecting the polymer distribution and compounding sector.

BPF GROUP STRUCTURE

Over the years the BPF Group structure continues to evolve as new groups are added to the ‘BPF Family’ and others are merged. As of 31 December 2010 the BPF consisted of 18 membership groups, with 2010 seeing the addition of the new ‘Industrial Plastics Fabrication and Welding’ (IPWAF) Group.

At the start of 2011 (4th January 2011) the BPF are looking forward to welcoming the BPF Recycling Council into full membership. The group which is made up of nearly 40 recyclers will become the ‘BPF Recycling Group’ and will become the single, authoritative voice for the UK plastics recycling industry.
Additive Suppliers Group

**CHAIR Jim Jeffries, Chemson**
As the only national plastics additives grouping in Europe, the BPF’s Additives Suppliers Group acts a key forum for discussion on the many issues affecting this sector. The Group, now comprising over 25 member companies plays and active role in almost every element of BPF activity as their interests in plastics are so substantial, crossing every application and issue.

A major focus for the Group in 2010 has been managing the issues brought about by legislative changes, particularly with regards to REACH and EU food contact legislation.

Other achievements include:
- Managing and enhancing the reputation of chemicals and additives through promotion of their role in plastics processing
- Development of Group ‘Buyers Guide’ and Group webpage to promote its Members at UK and international plastics exhibitions
- Participation in BPF and other appropriate seminars within the plastics industry
- A review of the publication ‘Additives make Plastic’ is currently under way with the intention of releasing an updated online edition during 2011.

Bio-Based and Degradable Plastics Group

**CHAIR Andrew Barclay, Wells Plastics**
As one of the newest BPF Business Groups (est. 2009), a key element of activity during 2010 has been in developing Membership to establish an authoritative forum upon which to create a voice for this developing sector. As a condition of membership, Members must agree to and adhere by the Group’s Mission Statement and Code of Conduct.

In 2010, the Group has focussed on:
- Responding to increasing governmental, media, public and industrial interest
- Encouraging responsible marketing of bio-based and degradable plastics
- Waste management and the realities of bio-based and degradable plastics in the recycling / waste stream
- Legislative changes in both UK and EU including the recently updated Green Claims Code
- Building on the success of previous events, the Bio-based and Degradable Plastics Group hosted a highly successful seminar in 2010 focussing on current and future developments in this field. As a now annual event the Group hopes to carry this success into 2011.

Looking ahead to 2011 the Group will be looking at the development of sector specific guidance on ‘Green Claims’ and further expansion of its Membership base.

Masterbatch and Technical Compounds Group

**CHAIR Greg Hammond, Gabriel-Chemie Group**
For its 14 members, the key aim of this Group is to be the UK voice of the masterbatch and compounders in the plastics industry. During 2010, the key objectives for the Masterbatch and Technical Compounds Group were:
- Continuing the development of the Groups ‘Buyers Guide’ and Group webpage
- Keeping abreast of cost and business pressures associated with the ongoing development of European chemicals legislation
- Maintaining relationships with key stakeholders outside of the industry
- Establishing links with other national bodies representing the masterbatch industry outside the UK

In response to calls for advice from customers the Group developed position statements on REACH and Nanotechnology which are available online.

In 2011, the Group hopes to further develop relationships with downstream users, particularly designers, through the development of a ‘Guide to Masterbatch’ and by hosting a seminar on colour and additives. The Group is keen to emphasis their role in the ‘British’ plastics industry, promoting their capabilities both here at home and abroad.

“The British Masterbatch industry is at the forefront of colour and additive technology within the plastics world”

**GREG HAMMOND**
Gabriel-Chemie Group
Vinyls Group

CHAIR: Roger Mottram, INEOS ChlorVinyls

2010 brought with it a new Chairman for the BPF’s Vinyls Group, Roger Mottram of INEOS ChlorVinyls, a founder member of this Group and now its 5th Chair.

The Vinyls Group continues to support the implementation of the Vinyl 2010 Commitment which concludes this year and looks forward to ushering in the programme for the next ten years to be released mid-2011. Under the auspices of Vinyl2010 the ‘Recovinyl’ scheme in the UK has been a major success going from strength to strength during 2010. Through co-ordination from the Vinyls Group there are now over 30 active recyclers registered under the scheme collecting window and cellular profile, pipe, cable and flooring waste.

In April 2010, the Group launched a major promotional campaign highlighting the beneficial role PVC can play in modern life. As part of this initiative a series of posters were developed for display not only in offices and workplaces but also on vehicles. Development of further poster designs is ongoing.

Further engagement with the architectural community was achieved through sponsorship, in conjunction with IOM3, of the Royal Institute of Architecture (RIBA) Presidents Medals Awards. The aim of this initiative is to engage with the architecture community (specifically students) and improve their knowledge base on the potential of PVC in the built environment.

The Group’s now annual seminar was held on 10th November in 2010. This seminar differed from previous years allowing delegates to ‘shape the future of the PVC industry’ by engaging directly in the decision making process behind the PVC Industry’s Voluntary Commitment to Sustainable Development.

Looking forward to 2011, the Group will continue its programme of monitoring, promoting and enhancing the perception of PVC in public affairs circles, media and amongst key stakeholders.

Other future plans include:
- Promotion of the benefits and applications of PVC during the London 2012 Olympics
- Developing further relations with Civil Servants through briefing seminars
- Developing further relations with Local Authorities and Retailers
- Improving links with the architectural community through continued co-operation with the Royal Institute of Architects.

“PVC has a great future in the UK. Its contribution to the low carbon economy of the future will be second to none”

ROGER MOTTRAM
INEOS ChlorVinyls
Polyurethane Flexible Foam Group (FFG)

CHAIR: Ian Leicester – Carpenter Ltd
Throughout 2010 FFG has continued to promote and represent the interests of the UK flexible foam industry at National and European levels.

Main Aims in 2010
1. To identify the latest health, safety and environmental issues and to determine what actions are required to ensure that the UK polyurethane flexible foam industry meets the requirements of such legislation or market demand.
2. To ensure that the UK polyurethane flexible foam industry is fully represented both on the Board and Technical Working Groups of EUROPUR (European Association of Flexible Polyurethane Foam Blocks Manufacturers).
3. To liaise independently, or via the British Plastics Federation, with UK Government, especially the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills (BIS), the Health & Safety Executive, and the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) on relevant matters.
4. To participate in the relevant BSI, CEN and ISO standard committees to ensure that the interests of the UK polyurethane flexible foam industry are represented.

2010 Activities

Standards
FFG has continued to supply experts to UK and European technical committees in the revision of existing, and the construction of new BS, CEN and ISO standards.

UK
- An updated version of the pamphlet titled “Flexible Polyurethane Foams….Safe Storage and Use” has been published.
- A BPF Position Statement with respect to Polyurethane Foam and Mattresses has been made available for use by Members.
- FFG has strongly participated in the BIS review of the Furniture & Furnishings Fire Safety Regulations.
- FFG has also participated in the study, launched by DEFRA at the University of Surrey that surveys the best ways of meeting flammability regulations for consumer items.
- Production of an industry standard for the testing of viscoelastic foams.
- Networking with organisations with similar interests e.g. rigid foamers (BRUFMA) the Isocyanates Producers Sector Network (IPSN) of the Chemical Industries Association and the British Furniture Confederation (BFC) has taken place.
- Has continued to maintain close contact with the REACH Legislation at National and European (via EUROPUR and CEFIC’s REACHCentrum) levels in order that the polyurethane flexible foam industry will fully comply with the Regulations whilst minimising any financial downside.

Europe
- FFG and its members have continued to play a leading role in several EUROPUR (European Association of Flexible Foam Block Manufacturers) research programmes.
- FFR members have continued to support the CertiPUR label which has been accepted by the industry as a good guide to the HSE characteristics of polyurethane flexible foam. Discussions are ongoing with Oeko-Tex in order to promote CertiPUR in association with Oeko-Tex as a combined label.
- IKEA has now accepted the CertiPUR label as an alternative specification of acceptance to their own specification although some limited provisos have been added. UK members are able to continue to use TCPP as a flame retardant in their foams for supply to IKEA.

Converters’ Section
- Mr Peter Needham retired after twenty years as Chairman of the Group. Members thanked him for all his hard work and service to the Industry and wished him a long and healthy retirement. Mr Ray Beckwith of Comfortex Ltd was then elected as the new Chairman.
- 2010 saw a large increase in the membership of the Group and it is hoped that this will continue in 2011.
BPF BUSINESS GROUPS

Plastics and Rubber Equipment

BPF Equipment Group, which represents machinery and ancillary equipment manufacturers, in 2010 the group continued to expand and is now made up of 21 members. The latest members to join the group include: Engel UK Ltd, Summit Systems Ltd and Krauss Maffei (UK) Ltd. Most of the Equipment Group members met at the world largest plastics trade fair called K, held in Dusseldorf between 27th October and 3rd November 2010, where they exhibited as part of the British Group of with their individual stands. The Equipment Group Buyers Guide listing all members with contact details, which has been distributed from the BPF stands at all international trade shows and events has received a lot of interest from the foreign buyers. Also, the machinery manufacturers interested in export issues benefit from the information available on the Exporters Toolbox section of the BPF website, listing business leads from the foreign exhibitions, details to agents and distributors plus various market data.

The Moulders and Specialist Processors Group

The BPF Moulding and Specialist Processors Group provide a framework for the representation and promotion of BPF Members drawn from the injection moulding, the specialist processing and technical blow moulding sector of the plastics industry.

The group works to provide a springboard for collaborative initiatives that support the evolution of the UK Moulding Industry and steer new business to member companies.

During 2010, the Group produced a downloadable Buyers Guide to promote the Group and its members at UK and international plastics exhibitions, which is available via the BPF website.

The Group also held a Moulders Group Forum. The Forum focused on the issues of polymer availability and current economic trends. The Forum provided a valuable update for members and also for the BPF to keep abreast of current issues. The Moulders Forum will be repeated in 2011.
Rotational Moulding Group

**Chair** Martin Spencer, Rototek

The BPF Rotational Moulding Group represents and promotes the interests of all those involved in the rotational moulding process including small and large sized moulders, material suppliers, machinery manufacturers, ancillary equipment suppliers and service providers.

The major focus for the Group in 2010 concerned the promotion of the rotational moulding process and its advantages to designers and downstream users. This resulted in the Group hosting a seminar at PDM on May 19th titled ‘Design innovation in Rotational Moulding’. The seminar presented a case for the versatile nature of the Rotational Moulding process to its diverse group of attendees.

The event, which brought together a coterie of attendees from multi-disciplinary backgrounds comprising of designers, moulders, tool makers and students acted as a forum for discussion and information sharing around key developments in Rotational Moulding Innovation.

The Group will host its second Design Innovation in Rotational Moulding seminar at PDM on the 18th May 2011 following the success of last year’s event.

2011 will also see the Group carrying out the first UK rotational moulding benchmarking survey.

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BPF BUSINESS GROUPS

Packaging Group

In 2010 the BPF Packaging Group increased its membership very strongly to 36 members.

The BPF continued to roll out its Packaging Group evening forum, a meeting consisting of industry representatives followed by a dinner – these have been strongly attended. We had several guest speakers including Mark Caul of Marks & Spencer, Sonja Raja from Tesco and Mike Smith of CMAI.

Mark Smith spoke on polymer availability whilst the Tesco and Marks & Spencer representatives talked about their attitude to policy on Packaging and Sustainability and their requirements of customers.

The Group has supported the BPF’s participation in the Plastics 2020 Challenge which aims to eradicate used plastics from landfill by 2020. This is a joint programme between Plastics Europe, PAFA and the BPF. This introduced a format of web debates on topical issues as an opportunity to highlight the industry’s point of view. Other web debates took place on recycling, marine litter and bioplastics.

The Group was active in commenting on DEFRA’s Waste Review and participated in a round table discussion involving raw material producers, converters, government agencies, local government and waste management companies to address the subject of how plastics packaging recycling can be increased. The rigid plastics packaging representative on the DEFRA Advisory Committee on Packaging is James Crick from Nampak.

The BPF put forward strong views on the recycling targets for plastics packaging recycling in its response to DEFRA’s Consultation paper ‘Implementing the Packaging Strategy’ which proposed a target of 56.9% plastic packaging recycling by 2020. The BPF recommended that the government reduce the target to a ‘realistic’ and ‘achievable’ 50%.

The Group participated in the media debate on Bisphenol A and made input to the debate on the role of plastic bags and tracked raw material availability and prepared statements for its members to use on the issue. The Group maintained its membership of the Packaging Federation.

Composites

The BPF Composites Group is the focal point for the representation of the Composites Industry in the UK with membership including resin and additives suppliers, processors, machinery and equipment suppliers, and research based companies.

The Group works on behalf of its member companies and in careful co-ordination with the broader European Composites Industry.

In 2010 the European Union proposed anti-dumping duties of 46.3% on glass fibre originating in China. The Group lobbied hard against such measures as such duties would have had a significant negative effect on the UK industry. The Group successfully lobbied the European Union and it was announced in early 2011 that the Commission would impose duties of 13.8% a significant decrease from the original proposal.

Industrial Plastics Welding and Fabrication Group

The Industrial Plastics Welding and Fabrication (IPWAF) Group is the latest to be established by the BPF, formed in 2010 in response to the need of plastics welding and fabrication interest companies.

The IPWAF Group, including manufacturers, distributors, fabricators, stockists, equipment suppliers and contractors is inviting interested companies to join the group.
EPS Group

Chair David Emes

The EPS Group represents 80% of the expandable polystyrene manufacturing industry in the UK and works to provide authoritative, reliable information to companies and individuals seeking independent facts about the performance of the material.

During 2010 the Group’s core focus centred around two major projects, the setting up of the National Blown Bead Association (NBBA) and work on the comprehensive Enhanced Construction Details for EPS insulation in masonry build projects.

The NBBA represents the manufacturers and installers of blown EPS bead cavity wall insulation who are working to approved systems and standards. The NBBA standardises and benchmarks installation standards so that the performance of blown EPS bead insulation is consistent and reliable. The NBBA also aims to become the authoritative source for accurate and reliable technical data on the results of insulating with blown EPS bead in order to demonstrate that EPS has a clear technical advantage over alternative products.

The EPS Group have been working extensively in 2010 resulting in the Group creating comprehensive enhanced details for EPS insulation in masonry build. The details are endorsed by the Energy Saving Trust and the BRE. The details will be the most advanced formulations for grey EPS in the UK and will demonstrate how you can achieve the lowest Lambda values. The final enhanced construction details are due to be published in spring 2011.

2011 will see a shift in the Group’s focus from construction to packaging. The Group will be looking into promoting EPS packaging through the use of a positive PR campaign.
BPF BUSINESS GROUPS

Windows Group

Chair Martin Althorpe
Spectus
The BPF Windows Group represents the interests of all those involved in the PVC windows industry - these include raw material suppliers, additives suppliers, PVC windows suppliers, fabricators and installers. The Group’s mission is to promote the PVC-U window sector throughout the UK to both customers and suppliers alike.

The BPF Windows Group has taken steps to strengthen its structure as part of a strategic review of its activities. The Group has streamlined its operations by integrating its Marketing Committee with the Group Management Committee to create a single Group Management and Implementation Committee. The new Group’s Management and Implementation Committee will also be dedicating one of its four quarterly sessions to the Chief Executives of member firms to ensure that resources are adequate to support the agreed tasks. As a further organisational refinement, the Groups Windows and Doors Committee will be re-named ‘Technical Committee’ to reflect its function more correctly.

One of the key Group objectives is to stay abreast of legislation and regulations. On the 1st October 2010 new building regulations were introduced. In reaction to this the Group produced Declarations of Conformity. The Declarations demonstrate to customers that windows and doors manufactured by members of the BPF’s Windows Group are in conformity with the new building regulations. The Declarations can be purchased on the BPF Windows website.

The Group will be focused in 2011 on celebrating its 30th anniversary and continuing to build on its reputation and legacy.

Sheet and Coated Fabrics Group

Chair Dave Osbourne
Swish Building Products
The Group Represents the interests of manufacturers of plastic sheet and coated fabric products. The Group maintains strong links with the BPF Vinyls Group – the main platform for responding to flexible PVC issues. The Group is actively involved in:

- Promoting the plastic sheet and coated fabrics sector
- Keeping abreast of the numerous legislative developments and standards affecting plastics in all relevant applications
- Responding to and having an awareness of the environmental issues of plastics

Cellular Group

Chair Dave Osbourne
Swish Building Products
The Cellular PVC Group represents the interests of all those involved in the production of PVC-U roofline and cladding products.

At present the group is focused on the technical issues facing the industry and is active in influencing both British and European Standards and has close links with the likes of BSI and BBA, as well as with our European Trade Association counterparts.

The Group has made a significant contribution to the BPF’s ‘Plastics in construction: A Guide for Architects and Specifiers’ which was launched at Ecobuild on the 1st March 2011 and will be available to download from the BPF website later in the year.
2009 was the worst year for housing starts since records began. We hope that 2010 will be seen as the year of consolidation and for a slight improvement.

2010 also enjoyed wintry conditions. December was infamous for the temperature not going above 0 deg C. Earlier in the year we had undertaken a full review of our portfolio of standards for BSI, CEN and ISO to check/review for possible effects of climate change. Our review showed that our products were appropriate for the future climatic conditions.

We were concerned to receive complaints about guttering systems collapsing/falling off buildings during the extreme snow/frost conditions. When members checked the complaints, the products came through well, the main issue was that they had either not been installed correctly (the BS specifies fixing parameters for snow conditions) or in most cases that had failed, that the fixing screws had either pulled out of the fascia boards or that insufficient screws had been used to fix the system.

This again demonstrates the case for “approved” installers. We support the Chartered Institute for Plumbing and Heating in promoting the case for approved installers.

We will continue to review our products for the effect of changed conditions caused by climate change. Most of our products are manufactured to European Standards and as such by definition are designed to meet the extremes of climate from Finland to Greece.

Despite the reduced market, our share of the market continues to increase and new products continually extend the applications served by our product.

Heating and surface cooling systems are becoming the most efficient way to control the climate conditions for homes and offices. Members are offering complete solutions for installers. Low noise sanitation systems are becoming increasingly required for new developments.

The development of the unified specification for drains and sewers is still ongoing. We continue to challenge some aspects of the draft documents such that we can continue to offer cost effective solutions coupled with long life to the developers and water companies alike. We are vigorously challenging “gold plated” specifications and at the same time ensuring that the specified products will last for the next 100 years.

We continue to work on the European aspects of our business to ensure that we are not disadvantaged by “central demands”. We expect the CE Marking that was originally scheduled for 2003 will start to come into use in 2013 and we are continuing with our preparations to use this mark in the future.

In common with most other materials, plastic piping systems are facing raw material and energy price increases which have to be passed on to the customers/end users. The advantages of using plastic piping systems coupled with the long life cycle ensure that our systems remain very competitive and the material of choice for most users.

We work very closely with Peter Davis and his team on all of the regulatory aspects, particularly those on the Olympic development sites, to ensure that our materials/products are all used where appropriate.

As we said last year, when the market returns, members of the BPF Plastic Pipes Group will be ready to supply and “extend” the market.

The group is restructuring to meet new challenges and changing markets thus enabling the Group to better represent and promote its members’ interests. In order to continue to provide the service expected, Caroline Ayres (previously Standards and Technical Manager) has been appointed as Deputy Director and will work alongside Frank Jones, the current Director, until his retirement and beyond.
The BPF continues to develop its project portfolio to benefit the industry – and our membership base – by helping to create competitive advantage, whilst becoming more sustainable. Projects successfully launched this year include Rotofast, Nanoflex and UltraFibre. The BPF will continue to develop its project portfolio to help the UK plastics industry develop and to foster innovation in the plastics sector.

Whilst the European Commission’s 7th Framework Programme continues to provide the bulk of the BPF’s projects, we have also seen this year an increase in the number of projects from the European Lifelong Learning Programme, Leonardo. The BPF also continues to work with the Material’s Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN), which endeavors to provide a range initiatives to enable the exchange of knowledge, the stimulation of business innovation and ensure a closer working relationship between industry and academia.

Whilst a number of projects are still under negotiation for commencement in 2011, we have also seen the successful conclusion of the Ener-Plast project, which has helped develop the plastics industry’s knowledge and understanding of energy-efficient plastics processing.

Current projects include:-

**Energywise Plastics**

Energywise Plastics is developing an ‘e-learning platform’ and hard copy training manuals for those working in the plastic processing industry, to learn and understand how to manage and reduce their energy consumption. Energy efficiency - and understanding energy – is a key theme for our membership base, especially with the successful start-up of the BPF’s Climate Change Agreement (CCA). As well as producing an e-learning tool, the Energywise Plastics project will develop three manuals on energy saving & energy efficiency, aimed at different areas of your business: Practical Guide to Energy Management for Managers, Practical Guide to Energy Management for Processors and Practical Guide to Energy Management for Facilities and Utilities.

- Registration is free at [http://www.energywiseplastics.eu/](http://www.energywiseplastics.eu/)

The objective of this project is to prepare a long-term voluntary agreement for the European plastics converting industry - bringing together best practice from across Europe – and to promote energy-efficiency within the plastics sector.

It is anticipated that the long-term agreement, with clear energy efficiency targets contained within it, would not only considerably change behaviour within the plastics sector, but would also act as a precursor and model for voluntary agreements in other manufacturing industries.

This project will have a direct impact on the sector’s energy efficiency and will thus contribute to the EU’s objective of 20% in energy savings by the year 2020. The baseline year will either put in figure or delete

With many plastics processing sites already included in the BPF’s Climate Change Agreement (CCA), many UK companies have a head start in the field of energy efficiency and are actively demonstrating their commitment to changing behavior and reducing energy consumption.

- More information can be found at [http://www.euplastvoltage.eu/](http://www.euplastvoltage.eu/)

**iPolyCond**

Although conductive polymers are not new in terms of development, the iPolyCond project will transfer knowledge from the recently completed PolyCond project into a user-friendly series of training materials and resources. The training materials will increase plastics processors knowledge base and understanding of conductive plastics materials / conductive polymers and provide a genuine learning experience for our membership base.

The precursor to iPolyCond was the PolyCond project, which developed conductive plastics composites, providing cost effective and high added value...
solutions, achieved through developing innovative products for protection against the effects of Electromagnetic Interference (EMI) and Electrostatic Discharge (ESD).

Registration is free at http://www.ipolycond.org/ which also provides details on the PolyCond project.

This project is part-financed by European Commission's Leonardo Lifelong Learning Programme.

**Polymer REACH (P-REACH)**

The overall objective of Polymer REACH (P-REACH) project is to develop an e-learning platform and hard-copy training materials for the European polymer industry to learn and understand how to manage its obligations under the European legislation, REACH.

The project will use a 'blended learning' approach, offering interactive on-line modules and traditional 'paper-based' materials, thus enabling our members to engage in an interactive and practical learning experience.

As with Energywise Plastics and also iPolyCond, the BPF has played a major role in developing and authoring content for the hard-copy materials, as well as the e-learning based resources.

This project is part-financed by European Commission's Leonardo Lifelong Learning Programme.

Registration is free at: http://www.polymer-reach.eu/

**EURECOMP**

The EURECOMP project aims to develop and promote the solvolysis process as a suitable route for recycling and re-use of thermoset-based composite waste – both post-production waste and also from end of life products.

Achieving a cost-effective waste treatment will allow industrial end-users to fulfill environmental and waste disposal obligations. Composites is a key growth area for the plastics industry moving forward into the 21st century, with their wide ranging applications in advanced technologies, such as aerospace, with the new Boeing ‘Dreamliner’ containing a significant amount of composite material.

This project has been part-financed by the European Commission within the Seventh Framework Programme.

**LIGHTFOAM**

The Lightfoam project continues to go from strength to strength. Lightfoam’s full title is Novel Moulding Technology for the Production of Low Density Foams Based on Innovative Granule Technology.

The project is funded by the European Commission under the FP7 Research For Associations programme.

This novel technology will enable manufacturers using engineering grade thermoplastics to gain:

- Reduced weight of products (critical for Automotive and Aerospace applications).
- Reduction in raw material usage.
- Increased productivity.

The Lightfoam technology will consist of polymer granules infused with Nitrogen enabling use in Injection Moulding, Extrusion and Foamed Plaque manufacture.

**CAPSCRAP**

This innovative project aims to develop an in-line monitoring system which will reduce the scrap produced during injection moulding, extrusion and blow moulding by monitoring the melt with an infra red beam, before it is injected. Polymers considered include PET and engineering polymers such as PEEK and PPSU.

**ROTOFLEX**

This project is based upon an innovative development to improve cycle times and process efficiency whilst facilitating greater flexibility in product design and integrity for the SME-rotomoulding sector.
The objectives of Rotoflex are to advance the competitiveness of the European SME-rotational moulding sector through the:

- development of processes using the automatic feed system to make advanced composite products
- development of processes using the automatic feed system to make advanced multilayer products
- development of processes using the automatic feed system to deliver controlled internal mould pressurisation facilitating the use of engineering resins and sustainable resins for value added products

This project has been part funded by the European Commission within the Seventh Framework Programme.

Registration is free at: http://www.rotoflex-eu.org/

UltraFibre
Fibre reinforced polymers find wide commercial application in the aerospace, leisure, automotive, construction and sporting industries. There has been much interest in developing natural fibre reinforced polymers for a sustainable substitution of these synthetic, high-embodied energy materials to commercially exploit past research investment on the world market and for Europe to reap the sustainability benefits.

The UltraFibre project will address these restrictions in the supply chain by delivering:

- A scalable, economic, continuous, clean-fluidsonics technology to deliver tonnage quantities of high quality fibre, conferring:
  - reduced standard deviation in tensile test data by 30% of the fibres in comparison with conventional retting techniques, indicating improved fibre quality and consistency.
  - integration of a Soft Plasma fibre treatment process giving a 25% increase in mechanical properties compared with the untreated fibre.
  - commercial thermoplastic and thermosetting composites in targeted end-user applications.
  - Bio-composites with improved mechanical properties for new high-tech applications.

Registration is free at: http://ultrafibre.org/

Rotofast
The Rotofast project will focus on the rotational moulding industry and developing energy efficient systems, reduce cycle times, without becoming more expensive. During this 3 year project, the Consortium will apply two technologies never used before in rotational moulding – induction heating and the use of ionic liquids on internal cooling.

Rotofast is part-financed by the European Commission’s 7th Framework Programme.

Registration is free at: http://www.enerplast.eu/

Nanoflex
The Nanoflex project is a 3 year project, which will develop a universal flexible plastic pipe system, suitable for hot and cold water systems, including under floor heating, radiator heating and drinking water distribution. The project will also seek to develop a thermoplastic pipe without PEX, without bonding layers and without an integral aluminium layer, to allow 100% of the pipe scrap to be recycled.

Nanoflex is part-financed by the European Commission’s 7th Framework Programme.

COMPLETED PROJECTS IN 2010

ENER-Plast
The objective of ENER-Plast is to provide the European polymer and its associated industries with the information, resources and tools needed to reduce their carbon footprint and environmental impact.

The ENER-Plast tools and resources will lead a company through designing a product and purchasing equipment to manufacturing, whilst addressing the energy efficiency at each stage when developing new, or redesigning existing products or component parts. The project goes beyond energy management, enabling organisations to consider both their operations and revenue in the context of climate change.

Useful tools for companies continue to be developed, such as an ‘Energy Legislation Guide’, an ‘Energy Efficiency and the Mould and Tool Industry Best Practise Guide’ and later in 2010, a Carbon Calculator. As the project draws to a conclusion in 2010, keep a look out of the project website for all of the latest tools and developments.

The BPF has input into all of the project work packages, also presenting papers on the project at European trade shows and events, such as FAKUMA and Plast-Eurasia.

Registration is free at: http://www.enerplast.eu/
2010 saw the first full year of trading for BPF Energy Ltd formed to administer the Plastics Sector Climate Change Agreement (CCA) on behalf of the BPF and to promote good practice in energy efficiency, conservation and sustainability.

BPF Energy Limited was incorporated 26 June 2009, following which the Plastics Sector CCA was signed on 1 October 2009 between the BPF and the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC).

The 31 December 2009 was the cut-off for eligible sites to join the current CCA under the present scheme rules.

Plastics companies with eligible processes joining the CCA have qualified for a rebate on their Climate Change Levy (CCL) of up to 80% in return for committing to reduce relative energy consumption. This has provided the sites with some much valued financial resources to fund energy reduction and energy management projects.

Currently there are 261 sites in the BPF CCA.

The operation of the CCA is administered for the company through two principal service agreements with the BPF and Inenco Energy Consultants. No staff or fixed assets are employed by the company although its affairs are supervised by a BPF Energy Steering Group comprising BPF Council members.

During the period of review, in addition to successfully processing with DECC some 261 site applications to the scheme and meeting its reporting requirements, the company has sponsored various initiatives to promote energy management, conservation and sustainability.

Two energy management seminars were held in 2010 and an accompanying guide produced to help plastics producers control energy in their operations. The company also sponsored a sustainability guide launched at a seminar held at the K2010 trade show, Düsseldorf, Germany.

In the first quarter of 2010 the company was engaged with DECC in the consultation on draft revised agreements and scheme (CCA) rules. Following the general election, the coalition government decided to abort that process and in the December held a stakeholder event on the reform of the CCA Scheme.

A major task at the end of the year was Milestone 5 (M5) target reporting to DECC. This took the form of detailed energy consumption and production by site as at 31 December 2010 compared to the base year 2006 to ascertain whether sites had achieved their target set out in the CCA agreement with DECC.

In the autumn, the Plastics Sector Emissions Trading Scheme was launched to assist in particular sites that were short of target and had to purchase carbon to reach it, under M5.

The company is pleased to report that all sites under M5 were reported on time to DECC and that following a successful audit of the sector no adverse comment was received.

Although we are waiting for official confirmation, the sector did reach its target and consequently all sites should be re-certified into the scheme for 2011.

Whilst the continuance of the scheme is understood for 2011, the future prospects remain less clear and will remain so until the pending CCA reform has been decided upon by DECC.

The company is structurally and financially viable and ready to support the CCA reform process.

The annual fees of the scheme for 2011 have been reduced from April to reflect the already announced reduction in CCL rebate to 65%.
The BPF’s Central Expert Committees provide scope for membership participation, exchange of industry experience and the formulation of common policy and action programmes relating to the subject focus of the forum. Representatives of BPF Member Companies with an interest area covered by any of these Committees are encouraged to become involved.

Product Safety Committee: REACH & Regulatory Issues

**CHAIR Chris Howick, INEOS ChlorVinyls**

The Product Safety Committee works to advise Members of the Federation of both existing and new regulations governing the use of plastics in articles.

The agenda of the Product Safety Committee focuses on the following key issues:
- REACH and associated chemical issues
- Plastics in food contact applications
- Plastics in medical applications
- Plastics in potable water applications
- Plastics in toy applications
- General product liability issues
- Crisis management and media scares

REACH is the most significant piece of legislation on chemicals that the world has seen. The Product Safety Committee continues to monitor its progress and the significant effect it has on the UK plastic industry. Such issues were highlighted and discussed during the latest REACH and the Plastics Processor seminar held in October 2010. Further information, guidance and support is available to all Members through the BPF’s online ‘REACH toolbox’.

2011 will see a new regulatory instrument – the Plastics Implementation Measure (PIM) – that will combine 12 existing regulations and directives and add new requirements for food contact plastics. This will prove a key discussion area for the Committee throughout the coming year.

Meetings of the Product Safety Committee are open to all BPF members with an interest in this area.

Fire Committee

**CHAIR Christine Lukas, DOW Chemicals**

Following a top down reorganisation in 2008, the Fire Committee is now working much more effectively to provide an essential forum for BPF Members, associated members and key stakeholders to focus on the contribution of plastics to fire prevention and fire safety.

The Committee’s Mission is:
- To ensure BPF Members views are adequately represented to regulators and specifiers both in the UK and EU
- To ensure UK and wider European developments in aspects of fire performance and regulation related to plastics
- To ensure test and classification development is reasonable in terms of focus, cost and complexity and need

During 2010, the Committee’s work programme included:
- European standardisation via CEN/TC 127 Fire Safety
- Revision of CPD to CPR (Construction Products Regulation)
- Support in response to high profile fire incidents

The Committee also hosted a seminar looking at the ‘Fire Safety of Plastics’ providing delegates with an introduction to this important subject. Due to its success and the positive feedback received, the Committee are considering future opportunities for a seminar covering different applications where fire safety is a key concern.

Industrial Health & Safety Committee

**CHAIR Lynn Edwards, Epwin Group**

The Industrial Health & Safety Committee is comprised of a network of key industry experts who closely monitor health and safety issues across the industry in order to provide bespoke advice and guidance to the Federation’s Membership.

The Committee meet regularly with meetings open to all BPF members with an interest in Industrial Health & Safety. Advice from the Committee is communicated to the wider membership through online resources and the BPF Members Newsletter.

The Committee has administered an annual accident survey for the past 14 years. Data for 2009 shows that manual handling, slips and trips and knife cuts are responsible for the majority of injuries in the plastics industry. Results for 2010 will be published in early 2011.

Working in close co-operation with the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) during 2010, the Committee has been instrumental in the development of the industry’s new health & safety initiative, SiMPL.
Environment

The BPF continues to encourage and support the development of a sustainable industry. Plastics make an immense contribution to environmental sustainability through their energy saving potential and intrinsic recyclability and energy recovery options.

The sustainability of waste-management and the nature and classification of waste are key topics of interest and the BPF continues to play an active role in the development of waste legislation, representing the Membership through Stakeholder Forums for both the WFD and waste in general.

Other areas of focus include the appropriate roles of re-use, recycling and energy-from-waste and minimising the quantities of used materials and products going to landfill. This is demonstrated through the BPF’s leading role within the Plastics2020 Challenge, www.plastics2020challenge.com, committing the industry to a number of targets including doubling plastics packaging recycling by 2020, preventing plastics from going to landfill and increasing Energy from Waste capacity in the UK.

High levels of media attention where once again focussed on plastics in the marine environment during 2010. As part of the Operation Clean Sweep (OCS) programme, launched in the spring of 2009, the BPF hopes to get the commitment of every company, from top management to shop floor employees to use the OCS manual on prevention, containment and clean up of plastic materials to ensure no escape into the environment. For more information visit www.operationcleansweep.co.uk

Plastics recycling was once again a key event in the BPF seminar programme for 2010. Focussing on the current trends and key developments in plastics recycling, this year’s programme included carefully selected speakers from the plastics waste and recycling sector covering topics such as dealing with Mixed Plastics Waste.

At the end of 2010 it is anticipated that the BPF Recycling Council, formerly an affiliated member of the BPF, will be absorbed into the Federation to form the BPF’s Recycling Group in 2011. It is anticipated that this new Group will provide a forum for discussion on the key issues affecting the plastics recycling industry.

Safety in Manufacturing Plastics (SIMPL)

The SIMPL initiative was officially launched at BPF House on 14th October 2010.

Running over three years from 2011 to 2014, the SIMPL initiative brings together all parts of the industry to work as one in a bid to stimulate progress on accident and ill-health reduction. Objectives have been set for reductions in accidents and ill health in the Plastics Industry and companies that sign the SIMPL pledge are expected to meet strategic objectives for health and safety outlined within the BPF’s SIMPL Charter & Action Plan.

Companies committed to the SIMPL initiative benefit from information and support, easy to use guidance plus exclusive events and training seminars.

All Members of the Federation are encouraged to sign the pledge.

Further information can be found online at www.bpf.co.uk/simpl
The BPF has continued to support the Polymer activities within the Materials Knowledge Transfer Network (Materials KTN). The year saw the launch of the Materials KTN’s Innovation Column within the BPF’s Members Newsletter. The Column, which features articles on innovations and technology breakthroughs in the polymer industry on a monthly basis, is among the top 5 pages read by BPF members.

The Materials KTN was a co-sponsor of the BPF’s Sustainable Manufacturing Guide and have helped to promote the message of sustainability to the wider community. The Materials KTN and the BPF have held joint events together and the BPF has provided the Materials KTN with opportunities to meet and speak at BPF Working Group Chairs meetings and attendance at Council Meetings, which saw the BPF play host to the Chief Executive of the Technology Strategy Board (TSB), Iain Gray.

The KTNs are funded by the Government through the TSB who in 2008 published their Strategy, Connect and Catalyse, with the ambition of identifying powerful ideas, technologies and solutions from across the UK such that they are delivered into UK products and capabilities for UK businesses.

Much of the KTN’s work is in spreading knowledge, informing government policy on technology developments, spotting innovative opportunities and bringing people together to solve problems or make new advances. The Materials KTN reaches across diverse industries and communities, including design and R&D funding, from which a number of SMEs within the Polymer industry have drawn benefits.

According to Dr Robert Quarshie, the Director of the Materials KTN: “KTNs are stimulating innovation by: ● enabling interactions to happen that would never normally happen – more than 2.5 million new connections were made last year alone as a direct result of Knowledge Transfer Network Events.

● Saving the organisations that they work with time by providing them with information, contacts and insight – more than 15 million hours of industry time was saved last year as a result of information and insight provided by KTNs”

Dr Andrew Tinker, Chairman of the Polymer Sector Board of the Materials KTN, confirmed that “these interactions have a financial value to industry from saving them time, to creating an opportunity to engage with knowledge providers and product designers in a collaborative environment”.

The Polymer Sector team in the Materials KTN provide many benefits for our industry including:

● Information and news – free access to on-line services such as reports, newsletters, webinars/e-training, events diaries, e-conferencing and collaboration tools and general sector/application specific information.

● Funding opportunities – providing SPARK Awards and advice on Technology Strategy Board Collaborative R&D calls, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships and other sources of funding for innovation such as the EU Framework Programme.

● Technology roadmaps and strategy – pulling together the sectors’ views on the challenges and development needs and providing this to government and to the Technology Strategy Board to influence its future direction.
The BPF regards The Business Support Network to be a huge membership benefit. The group is made up of many specialised Commercial Companies that have been chosen by the BPF because of what they represent in the market and their beneficial services our members can make use of. These companies include Barclays Corporate, Willis Commercial Network, Listgrove all of which provide expert support and advice primarily to our members but also to the plastics industry as a whole for non-plastics related subjects such as recruitment, insurance, pensions, cost reduction to name a few.

The BPF also prides itself on having an Academic Organisations support system that is part of the BSN and offers key benefits. Universities such as London Metropolitan, Wolverhampton and Polymer IRC/University of Leeds are a selection of the academic organisations that can assist with employee development. This can be explored through testing polymer applications at one of the in house testing facilities that are available or with one of the many training courses available. Throughout 2010 the Business Support Network’s members continued to take an active interest in its seminars and forums across the country IOM3, Expense Reduction Analysts, Willis Commercial Network, London Metropolitan University, IOM3 and Greystone all presented at various seminars around the country, some even took the opportunity to exhibit at trade fairs under the BPF’s British Group pavilion. Expense Reduction Analysts is the latest addition to the Business Support Network having joined in 2010. They are already proving to be a valued asset to the network and have agreed to get involved on all levels to ensure a prosperous and beneficial partnership with both members and future clients.

BUSINESS SUPPORT NETWORK MEMBERS

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BUSINESS SUPPORT NETWORK
THE HORNERS’ AWARD

The 2010 Horners’ Award for Plastics Design and Innovation was presented to The ‘Easy Clean’ Beside Cabinet by Kinneir Dufort. The presentation was made by Lord Mayor Michael Bear on 7th October 2010 at the Horners Annual Banquet held at the Mansion House. The ‘Easy Maid’ by Kinneir Dufort, together with Bristol Maid, was selected as one of the winning teams in the Design Council and UK Department of Health’s ‘Design Bugs Out’ initiative.

The judging panel were greatly impressed by the overall design concept of the ‘Easy Clean’ which was manufactured from recyclable polyethylene and designed to assist in reducing unwanted healthcare associated infections. The design reduces the number of hard to reach corners and surfaces without cutting down patient storage. The rotationally moulded design helps to achieve better standards of hygiene in patient care whilst maximising space, security and flexibility in operation.

The design was enthusiastically reviewed by hospital staff, patients and press during a showcasing tour of leading UK hospitals during 2009 and has since gone on to win the Plastics Industry Industrial design award 2010.

The prestigious Horners Award, run jointly by the Worshipful Company of Horners and the British Plastics Federation, is now in its 65th year and as such is the oldest plastics award. The Award is presented annually for imaginative Design and Innovative contributions to the plastics industry.

The judges were also delighted to nominate the “NightOwl Retro Reflective Keep Left Bollard” system as runner-up and recipient of the BPF’s Highly Commended Certificate. LINPAC Environmental’s “NightOwl” is an all-plastic, recyclable, passively safe, self-righting bollard comprising a ‘bounce back’ base unit and replaceable rigid sign carrier. The BPF’s Highly Commended Certificate was presented to the winner at the BPF Annual Dinner, held at the Royal Lancaster Hotel on 14th October 2010.
**UK EVENTS**

**BPF Annual Dinner**
The BPF’s Annual Dinner is the longest established annual plastics event anywhere in the world and the Annual Dinner in 2010 proved to be one of the most attended and highly regarded dinners in recent memory. Members came out to support the event in huge numbers with a 30% increase on ticket sales from 2009, a sign many saw as demonstrating an improvement in the fortunes of the sector. In total over 350 people attended the dinner with nearly 30 tables being sold.

The dinner, kindly sponsored by BPF Energy and Inenco featured a highly humorous, impeccably well timed after dinner speech by Dr Kevin Jones about his life and times in the medical profession. The speech went down incredibly well with the audience, putting pressure on Giles Brandreth to live up to it in his speech at the BPF Annual Dinner 2011 taking place on the 12th October.

BPF President, Paul Jukes, gave a very well received, witty and rousing speech which amongst other things called for the industry to continue its commitment to recycling ‘used plastics’ in order to meet the targets set in the Plastics 2020 Challenge and reduce plastics going into landfill.

At the dinner the BPF launched the ‘BPF Gold Medal’ which is given to individuals for services to the British Plastics Federation and the plastics industry. The award was presented to a much deserving Brian Mann, a past BPF president and Managing Director at McKechnie Plastics components.

**The Plastics Industry Awards**
The BPF have been a long time supporter of the Plastics Industry Awards which took place on 1st October 2010 at the London Hilton, Park Lane. The ceremony was hosted by comedian Milton Jones and Sky Sports presenter Millie Clode. At the dinner long time BPF associate Dr. Robin Kent was presented with the ‘Personal Contribution Award’, a decision that was highly deserved and commended by all at the BPF.

There was also a substantial complement of BPF members amongst winners including ‘Supplier Partnership – Polymer Distributor’ won by Plastribution and The Ministry of Justice, ‘Supplier Partnership – Prime Machinery’ won by Engel and Polypipe and ‘Supplier Partnership – Polymer Producer’ won by DuPont and Miles Platts.

**Plastics Design and Moulding**
The BPF once again took a stand at the annual PDM fair in Telford which took place between 27-29 May 2010. The BPF stand promoted members of the Federation through the distribution of the BPF Buyers Guides and a number of sales leads were taken on the stand and later distributed to the members.

In addition the BPF ran a highly successful seminar on Rotational Moulding which set out to educate the design community about the products that can be produced using Rotational Moulding technology. The seminar organised by the BPF Rotational Moulding Group proved to be highly successful and sold out nearly a month before the seminar took place. Following the show the BPF was asked by Crain Communications (the organizers of the PDM show) to host another Rotational Moulding seminar at the next PDM show taking place at Excel, London on 18-19 May 2011.
BPF SEMINARS

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In 2010 the British Plastics Federation faced another challenging year in putting together cost-effective seminars on issues it considered to be of importance to the industry and its members.

10th MARCH
Manufacturing Efficiency for Plastics Processors
The Manufacturing Efficiency for Plastics Processors seminar was designed to help companies become more efficient, more sustainable and improve their bottom line. Main purpose of the seminar was to help companies by showing how their performance could be improved by addressing their cost profile, streamlining their operations, updating working practices and adopt leading edge technology.

29th APRIL
Energy Management for Plastics Processors
The British Plastics Federation was successful in establishing a Climate Change Agreement in October 2009 for the Plastics Sector. This seminar was organised to focus on giving companies taking part in the CCA the tools to reduce their energy bills, and an opportunity to hear the views of the UK’s leading experts on energy and energy management in the plastics industry.

2nd JUNE
The Future of Bio-based and Degradable Plastics: Markets and Applications
With increasing interest from the public, media and downstream users on the subject of bio-based and degradable plastics, presentations and case-studies from leading experts provided delegates with a true understanding of the current market situation and potential for growth whilst providing an appreciation of their true impact and potential use.

21st SEPTEMBER
Energy Management for Plastics Processors
As a result of the interest shown in the first Energy Management for Plastics Processors’ seminar, the British Plastics Federation felt compelled to organise another event on the same subject. Once again the seminar was well attended.

12th OCTOBER
Plastics Recycling: Key Developments
This one day seminar was aimed at all stakeholders with an interest in the plastics recycling sector and its products. The seminar explored the current trends in plastics recycling with a detailed examination of the opportunities available to boost plastics recycling in the UK.

19th OCTOBER
REACH and the Plastics Industry: New Developments Classification, Labelling and Packaging
Drawing on the knowledge of carefully assembled experts, this event was aimed at all stakeholders throughout the plastics supply chain providing a unique opportunity to raise questions and discuss the latest challenges ahead of forthcoming REACH and CLP deadlines.

18th NOVEMBER
The Fire Safety of Plastics: An Introduction
Delegates were provided with an introduction to the fire safety of plastics and the factors that need to be considered when making choices about products development or application at this one-day seminar.

1st DECEMBER
Trends in Plastics Packaging
Due to adverse weather condition this event was rescheduled to 17th February 2011.
MEMBERS AND AFFILIATES

Additives Suppliers
Addmaster (UK) Ltd
Americhem Europe
Astropol Ltd
Baerlocher UK Ltd
BASF
Bayer Plc
Chemson Ltd
Chemtura Manufacturing UK Ltd
Colloids Ltd
ColorMatrix Europe Ltd
Croda Chemicals Europe Ltd
Eastman Company UK Ltd
eChem Ltd
Exxon Mobil Chemical Ltd
Gabriel Chemie UK Ltd
Hubron (International) Ltd
IKA (UK) Ltd
Kronos Ltd
MINELCO Specialities Ltd
Mitsui & Co UK plc
Omya UK Ltd
RaKeM Ltd
Reagens UK Ltd
Rohm and Haas Europe
Wells Plastics Ltd
West & Senior Ltd

Cellular PVC-U
Deceuninck Ltd
Epwin Group Plc
Kestrel BCE Ltd
Lateum Building Products
LB Plastics Ltd

Composites
Forbes Technologies Ltd
Hygrade Industrial Plastics Ltd
Llewellyn Ryland Ltd
Motherwell Bridge Ltd
Plasticon UK
Solenit Composite Systems Ltd

Expanded Polystyrene (EPS)
Domestic & General Insulation Ltd
Hirsch Maschinenbau
Kay-Metzeler Ltd
Moulded Foams Ltd
Polimeri Europa
SCA Foam Products
Simplipac Ltd
Springvale EPS
Sundolitt Ltd
Vita Cellular Foams (UK) Ltd

Flexible Foam
Carpenter Ltd
 RECTICEL UK Ltd
Vita Cellular Foams UK Ltd

Flexible Foam Converters
Breasley Pillows Ltd
Comfortex Ltd
Dee Bee Foams
Duflex Ltd
Foams 4 Sports Ltd
GNG Foam Converters (Lancs) Ltd

Industrial Plastics Welding and Fabrication (IPWAF) Members
Abbey Distribution Ltd
Advanced Plastic Technology Ltd
Barkston Ltd
TWI Ltd
Masterbatch & Technical Compunds
A Schulmann Inc Ltd
Addmaster (UK) Ltd
Americhem Europe
Colloids Ltd
ColorMatrix Europe Ltd
ColourTone Masterbatch Ltd
Gabriel Chemie UK Ltd
Hubron (International) Ltd
Performance Masterbatches Ltd
Prisma Colour Ltd
Silvergate Plastics
Spectra Masterbatch Ltd
Wells Plastics Ltd

Bio-based & Degradable Plastics
A&O Filmpac Ltd
BASF
Colloids Ltd
EPI (Europe) Ltd
Novamont S.P.A
Omya UK Ltd
RaKeM Ltd
Reagens UK Ltd
Rohm and Haas Europe
Wells Plastics Ltd

Business Support Network
Barclays Bank Plc
Energyquote
Expense Reduction Analysts
Greystone Financial Services Ltd
Impact Solutions Ltd
IMSM Ltd
IOM3
Listgrove Ltd
London Metropolitan University
Loughborough University
Moneycorp Ltd
Nanoforce Technology Ltd
PERA Innovation Ltd
PICME Ltd
Polymer IRC/University of Leeds
Polymer Training & Innovation Centre
Travers Smith
Willis Commercial Network

Livedale Foam & Sundries
Platt & Hill Ltd
T KT Cosyfoam Ltd

Moulding
A K Industries Ltd
AAC Plastics Group Ltd
Aeroplasts (UK) Ltd
Agentdraw Ltd
Algram Group Ltd
Avalon Plastics Ltd
Bemis Ltd
Big Bear Plastic Products Ltd
Birkbys Plastics Ltd
BNL (UK) Ltd
Bolton Plastic Components Ltd
Broaomain Limited
Calsonic Kansai (UK)
Carclo Technical Plastics Ltd
Champion Mouldings Ltd
Cinram Operations UK Ltd
CJ Tools and Mouldings
Daniels Healthcare Ltd
Data Plastics Ltd
Denroy Plastics Ltd
Desch Plastpak Ltd
Dubois Ltd
Eaton Plantpak Ltd
Flambeau Europlast Ltd
# Members and Affiliates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Packaging</th>
<th>Plastics and Rubber Equipment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alla UK</td>
<td>Aqua Cooling Solutions Ltd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artenius PET Packaging</td>
<td>Buhler Sortex Ltd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Automated Packaging Systems</td>
<td>Cinpres Gas Injection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bericap (UK)</td>
<td>C R Clarke &amp; Co (UK) Ltd</td>
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<td>Blowplast</td>
<td>Engel UK Ltd</td>
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<td>Canyon Europe</td>
<td>Farrel Ltd</td>
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<td>Constar International (UK)</td>
<td>Formech International Ltd</td>
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<td>Cope Allman Jaycare</td>
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<td>Esterform Packaging</td>
<td>Hi Tech Automation Ltd</td>
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<td>F- L Plastics</td>
<td>Gough &amp; Co (Engineering) Ltd</td>
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<td>Global Closure Systems</td>
<td>Krauss Maffei (UK) Ltd</td>
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<td>Graham Packaging Plastics</td>
<td>Lloyd Instruments Ltd</td>
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<td>JF McKenna</td>
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<td>Jubb UK</td>
<td>Meech International</td>
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<td>LINPAC</td>
<td>MSA Engineering Systems Ltd</td>
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<td>Logoplaste UK</td>
<td>NDC Infrared Engineering Ltd</td>
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<td>Measom Freer</td>
<td>Plasweld Ltd</td>
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<td>M &amp; H Plastics</td>
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<td>Nampak Plastics Europe</td>
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<td>Ovotherm</td>
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<td>Philips Avent</td>
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<td>Xtrutech Ltd</td>
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<td>Plastic Bottle Supplies</td>
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<td>RPC Group</td>
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<td>Solo Cup Europe</td>
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<td>Superfos</td>
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<tr>
<th>Pipes</th>
<th>Polymer Distributors &amp; Compounders</th>
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<tr>
<td>AEI Compounds</td>
<td>4Plas Ltd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aliaxis UK</td>
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<td>Alphagary Ltd</td>
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<td>Durapipe UK</td>
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<td>Geberit Sales Ltd</td>
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<td>Hepworth Building Products</td>
<td>Hardie Polymers</td>
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<td>Hunter Plastics</td>
<td>Hellyar Plastics</td>
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<td>Hydro International</td>
<td>Nexeo Solutions</td>
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<td>John Guest Ltd</td>
<td>Perrite</td>
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<td>Marley Plumbing &amp; Drainage</td>
<td>Plastribution Ltd</td>
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<td>McAlpine and Co Ltd</td>
<td>Resinex UK Ltd</td>
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<td>Pipelife UK</td>
<td>Sumika Polymer Compounds (UK) Ltd</td>
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<td>Polypipe plc</td>
<td>Teknor Apex UK Ltd</td>
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<td>Rehau Ltd</td>
<td>Ultrapolymers Ltd</td>
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<td>Sustainable Drainage Systems Ltd</td>
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<td>Uponor Housing Solutions Ltd</td>
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<td>Wavin</td>
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<th>Polymer Producers</th>
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<td>Arkema</td>
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<td>Axion Recycling Ltd</td>
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<td>Basell Polyolefins UK Ltd</td>
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<td>Bayer Plc</td>
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<td>Berwin Group</td>
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<td>Chase Plastics Ltd</td>
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<td>DuPont (UK) Limited</td>
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<td>Eastman Company UK Ltd</td>
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<td>Express Recycling &amp; Plastics Ltd</td>
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ExxonMobil Chemical Ltd
INEOS Vinlys (UK) Ltd
JSP International Ltd
Lanex Ltd
Luxus Ltd
Plastic Technology Services Ltd
Simba Plastics Ltd
Solvay Polymers Ltd
Victrex plc
Vinnolit Ltd

Rotational Moulding
Amberol Ltd
Balmoral Group Ltd
Container Components Europe Ltd
Corilla Plastics
Crompton Moulding Ltd
Fitsco
ICO (UK) Ltd
J F C Manufacturing (Europe) Ltd
JSC Rotational Ltd
Kingspan Environmental Ltd
Kirckdale 2000
Linpac Alibert Ltd
Mailbox Mouldings International Ltd
Maus Mould Services Ltd
Micropol Ltd
Queen's University of Belfast
Rotational Mouldings Ltd
Rototek Ltd
Total Petrochemicals Uk Ltd
Ultra polymers Ltd

Sheet & Coated Fabrics
Altro Limited
Fenner Plc
Palram D P L Ltd
Polyflor Ltd
Tarkett-Marley Floors Limited
Wardle Storeys

Specialist Processors
Peerless Plastics & Coatings
Plasweld Ltd
Silkjet Plastics Ltd
Zotefoams Plc

Specialist Services
Obsidian Consulting
Ramsden Purchasing Ltd

Vinyls
Aliaxis UK
Altro Floors
Arkema Group
Baerlocher UK
Berwin Group
BIPEA
Chemson Ltd
Exxon Chemical
INEOS Vinlys UK
Polypipe plc
Renolit
Rohm & Haas
Solvay Polymers Ltd
UKRFA
Vinnolit Ltd
Wavin Ltd

Windows
Bowater Building Products Ltd
Bowater Windows Limited
Chemson Ltd
Deceuninck Ltd
Dorwin Ltd
Duraflex (Masco UK)
Epwin Group Plc
Eurocell
Foilit Ltd
LB Plastics Ltd
Lister Trade Frames Ltd
Mitsui & Co UK plc
Network Veka Plc
Plastex Ltd
Profile 22 Systems
Profine UK Ltd
Rehau Ltd
Renolit Cramlington Ltd
Rohm and Haas Europe
Schlegel UK
Siegenia-Aubi Ltd
Snowdonia (Windows & Doors) Ltd
Spectus Window Systems
Swish Window & Door Systems
WHS Halo

Affiliated Associations

Gauge and Toolmakers Association (GTMA)
Northern Ireland Polymers Association (NIPA)
Packaging and Films Association (PAFA)
Plastics Consultancy Network (PCN)
PlasticsEurope
Polymer Machinery Manufacturers’ and Distributors’ Association (PMMDA)
Scottish Plastics and Rubber Association (SPRA)
The BPF Recycling Council
The Council of the British Plastics Federation
As of 31 December 2010

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Arkema

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Arkema
Mike Boswell
Plastration Ltd
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Bayer Material Science

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Logoplaste

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Linpac Allibert
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Veka plc
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Micropol Ltd
Joseph Reeve
Data Plastics Ltd
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Epwin Group

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Philip Tyler Polymers Ltd

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PICME

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PA to Director General

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Patricia Begley
Pipes Group Secretary* (part-time)
Jonathan Bloom
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Alan Davey
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Peter Davis OBE
Director General
Dan Frake
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Justyna Jaworska
Business Development Executive
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Pipes Group Secretary* (part-time)
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Caterer (part-time)
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Senior Industrial Issues Executive
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David Emes
EPS and NBBA consultant*
Chris Stride
ICFA consultant*

* not based at BPF office, London