THE UK PLASTICS INDUSTRY AND THE WORLD

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UK PLASTICS – WHAT WE NEED TO DO!

• improve international competitiveness
• greater orientation towards global opportunities
• better skilled workforce
• more upward migration into higher added value manufacturing
• increase political contact of individual firms
• create a step change in the industry’s public reputation
UK PLASTICS – THE PLATFORM

- UK Consumption c. 5 Million Tonnes
- UK Polymer Production c. 2.5 Million Tonnes
- 3,000 Processors
- 180,000 Employees
- £20 billion Sales Turnover
- £5 billion Exports
UK PLASTICS – THE FUNDAMENTALS

- 14th largest Oil and Gas producer globally
- 2nd largest Oil and Gas producer in the EU (behind Norway)
- Shale Gas potential: Pennines, Weald, Central Scotland
- Favourable geology for additive production
UK A LEADER IN PLASTICS

• UK invented commercial plastics industry in 1862

• UK discovered polyethylene in 1933

• UK – An early exploiter of stretch blow moulding of PET bottles in late 1970’s

• UK invented PEEK in 1978
UK PLASTICS – ITS GLOBAL REACH(1)

• BPF a platform for global business development

- Membership of European organisations:
  - EuPC and subsidiaries
  - EUROMAP: machinery and equipment
UK PLASTICS – ITS GLOBAL REACH(2)

BPF’s MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING WITH:

• Plastindia Foundation
• All India Plastics Manufacturers Association
• Chinese Plastics Processors Association
• Shanghai Plastics Association
• Vietnam Plastics Industry Association
• Turkish Plastics Federation
UK PLASTICS – ITS GLOBAL REACH(3)

- Co-ordination of CIPAD, the global plastics industry association

- Participation in 11 international innovation projects
WHERE ARE OUR STRENGTHS(1)?

- Specialist raw materials
  - additives
  - masterbatch
  - compounds
- Packaging
  - highly sophisticated supermarket retailing
- Technical moulding
  - automotive
- Specialist products – foamed plastics
WHERE ARE OUR STRENGTHS(2)?

• Rotational Moulding
  - more rotational moulders than any other EU state

• Recycling
  - vibrant sector - from PET bottles to PVC windows

• Ancillary Equipment
  - materials handling, testing, anti-static
WHERE ARE OUR STRENGTHS(3)?

- PVC sustainability thinking
  - a leader in VinylPlus

- Energy Management
  - Energy efficiency and Climate Change Agreement

- University Education
  - English language; historical prestige of English education
UK STRENGTHS - DESIGN

- Horners Award for Plastics – The Oldest Plastics Design Award in the World
- Horners Student Design Award
- Royal College of Arts
- St. Martins School of Art
- Design Council
- Design Museum
AN INFRASTRUCTURE WITH POTENTIAL(1)

- University Support
  - Polymer IRC – Bradford, Durham, Leeds
  - Loughborough
  - Belfast

- Professional Organisations
  - IOM3
    - Polymer Society
    - Packaging Society
    - British Composites Society
  - Society of Plastics Engineers
AN INFRASTRUCTURE WITH POTENTIAL(2)

• Technology Strategy Board

• Materials Knowledge Transfer Network

• Sector Skills Council – COGENT

• National Skills Academy for Process Industries
OVERSEAS TRADE FAIRS 2014/15

• CHINAPLAS
  Shanghai, China (23 – 26 Apr 2014)

• PLASTPOL
  Kielce, Poland (27 – 30 May 2014)

• PLASTIMAGEN
  Mexico City, Mexico (18 - 21 Nov 2014)

• PLASTEURASIA
  Istanbul, Turkey (4 – 7 Dec 2014)

• PLASTINDIA
  New Delhi, India (5 - 10 Feb 2015)
PUTTING UK PLASTICS INTO THE WORLD(2)

- UKT&I supported:
  - China, India, Russia, UAE, USA, Poland, Turkey, Mexico, Germany and Italy

- Typical composition: 10 – 12 companies
  - Meech, Boston Matthews, MSA Engineering Systems, Rapidflame, Aerogen Company, Zotefoams, Colormatrix, Farrel

- BPF branded site:
  - BPF Co-ordination
  - BPF/UK catalogue
  - Collect sales leads
UK PLASTICS – A GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

• BPF Organising ARMO 2015
  International Rotational Moulding Conference, Nottingham, 13\textsuperscript{th}-15\textsuperscript{th} September 2015

• PVC Conference, Brighton, triennially, 2014
A WORLD – BEATING PROPOSITION!