



50 Years and Beyond

MALAYSIAN PLASTICS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

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Mould standards are standardized elements manufactured in large series in a modular system.

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(right) and committee member Mr. Teo Yu Thian
(right) and committee member Mr. Teo MPMA and
(second from right) brief the guest on MPMA and
(second from right) brief the guest on MPMA and





50 Years and Beyond

MALAYSIAN PLASTICS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

Sponsored by



(formerly known as Lee Huat Plastics Industries Sdn Bhd)

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Malaysian Plastics Manufacturers Association (MPMA)

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MESSAGE FROM

Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia

It is my great pleasure to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Malaysian Plastics Manufacturers Association (MPMA) on its 50^{th} Anniversary.

Since its inception, MPMA has been playing an important role in contributing towards the development of the Malaysian plastics industry. A number of programmes was undertaken to constantly develop the capacity and capability of industry players, while MPMA continues to serve as a bridge between its members and the Government through its close collaboration with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA), Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) and SME Corp and other government authorities.

The plastics industry had overcome various challenges and obstacles to become what it is today: a major sub-sector within the Malaysian manufacturing industry with total annual sales of RM27.32 billion, of which RM13.12 billion are from exports. The industry is also providing jobs for more than 80,000 people.

The world is rapidly changing. Today we are talking about Industry 4.0, which revolves around the concept of automation and smart manufacturing. Against the backdrop of this challenging landscape, I urge MPMA and the plastics industry to always keep abreast with the latest technological development to stay above the competitive curve.

I must attribute the success of MPMA to all its Honorary Presidents, past Presidents and Committee Members as well as supportive members. The road ahead will be challenging, yet inherent in these challenges are opportunities for renewal and transformation. It is my hope that we could produce more world class plastics industry players.

Once again, congratulations to the MPMA on this special milestone. I look forward to many more years of strong collaboration and business opportunities.



DATO' SRI MUSTAPA MOHAMED *Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia*



MESSAGE FROM

Datuk Lim Kok Boon President, MPMA

2017 marks an important milestone for a leading trade association in the country – 50 years of challenges and glories. From a very humble beginning, our past leaders have laid a strong foundation for MPMA to grow and progress. We fully appreciate the tireless efforts from members of the Central Committee and the Branches who have devoted much time and resources to MPMA. With the strong support from the members of the industry, MPMA's leaders have come together to address issues collectively and formulate strategies for the way forward.

Today, MPMA is recognised by the regional plastics industry to be an active and progressive trade association.

We are celebrating 50 remarkable years of an infant industry transforming into a multi-billion ringgit sector producing well diversified products, playing a key role in the manufacturing supply chain and earning huge export revenue from high quality, competitively priced plastic products.

Our journey ahead is still full of challenges such as globalisation, human resource development, technological advancement as well as sustainability issues.

Nevertheless, we are very optimistic that plastics will continue to be "the material" for many years to come. Today, plastics is the "workhorse material" of the modern economy. In fact, with new technological development like nano-material, advanced engineering, eco-friendly materials and advanced processing methods, the future growth of the plastics industry is limitless.

I hope that our future leaders will continue to embrace the "MPMA Spirit" to spearhead the industry's future growth. It is very important that all MPMA members continue to work as a team and have regular consultations with stakeholders to develop policies for the best interest of the industry.

I thank MPMA Honorary President, Mr Callum Chen for his generous contribution of RM100,000 towards the publication of this coffee table book and the 50th Anniversary Video. I must also especially salute the late Mr Wee Hong Im, who was working to complete the book right to his last days.

To conclude, I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation to all for their assistance in making our Golden Jubilee Celebration a success.

Thank you.



DATUK LIM KOK BOON *MPMA President*



MESSAGE FROM

Mr Callum Chen Honorary President, MPMA

In 1978, when my late brother, Mr Tony Chen Kwok Ming, asked me to take over from him as a Central Committee (CC) Member of MPMA, I was rejuctant.

Back then, most trade associations were rather clannish and their activities centred on social networking, dinners and drinks.

To keep my brother happy, I attended my first MPMA CC meeting to observe the proceedings and listen to the discussions and interactions.

It was at this meeting that I met the then MPMA President, the late Mr KC Tan of Lam Seng Plastics again, together with the late Mr Wee Hong Im of Chong Wah Plastics, Mr Johnny Yong of Yong Kam Fook Plastics, Dato' Liew Sew Yee of Thong Fook Plastics, Mr Lee Hong Cheong, Mr Thye Hong Kuen, Mr CT Chan and many other interesting friends.

I enjoyed that first CC meeting very much because I found that the CC members were very united and committed towards promoting the plastics industry in Malaysia. Ideas were put forth and debated openly.

Those were very exciting and active years. At 24 years old, I became the youngest active CC member of MPMA. The rest, as they say, is history.

In 1980, I joined the MPMA delegation to four ASEAN countries and Hong Kong to promote the formation of the ASEAN Federation of Plastics Industry (AFPI).

It provided me with the much needed exposure and experience. Those were also very important formative years for me and I gained a lot of insights which built my character and core values.

I would like to put on record my sincere appreciation to all my big brothers for guiding me and giving me these opportunities.

Being young, brash and aggressive, there were times when I offended others without realising it, and I would like to apologise to those of you whom I might have offended. The late Mr Wee Hong Im gave me the

nickname "Fo Chieh Tau" (the train's front carriage) because I was always pushing ahead.

Looking back, 39 years later, I have no regrets and I am very happy that I was able to play my own small part towards the growth and development of MPMA.

Under the able leadership of Datuk Lim Kok Boon as well as all the past presidents, CC Members and Branch Chairmen, and supported by our capable Secretariat, MPMA is not only recognised as a proactive, progressive and responsible trade association in Malaysia, but also regionally and internationally.

It is important that MPMA's leaders' and members' hard work and commitment in advancing the plastics industry over the past 50 years be recognised and remembered. Therefore, my company, LH Plus Sdn Bhd (formerly known as Lee Huat Plastics Industries Sdn Bhd) is sponsoring this Golden Jubilee coffee table book – "50 Years and Beyond" - as we believe it is important to document MPMA's history.

By doing this, we hope the younger generation will learn how far the plastics industry has come, as well as MPMA's proactive role as advocate for its members.

I would also like to pay tribute to my late father Chen Kow Fatt for having the vision to start Lee Huat Company after the Japanese Occupation; he began by making bicycle stands with a capital of \$7.50.

I am also fortunate to have had a fantastic brother and great teacher in the late Tony Chen.

In conclusion, I would like to wish MPMA "Happy 50^{th} Anniversary, and many more 50 years to come".



CALLUM CHEN

Honorary President, MPMA

The Beginnings

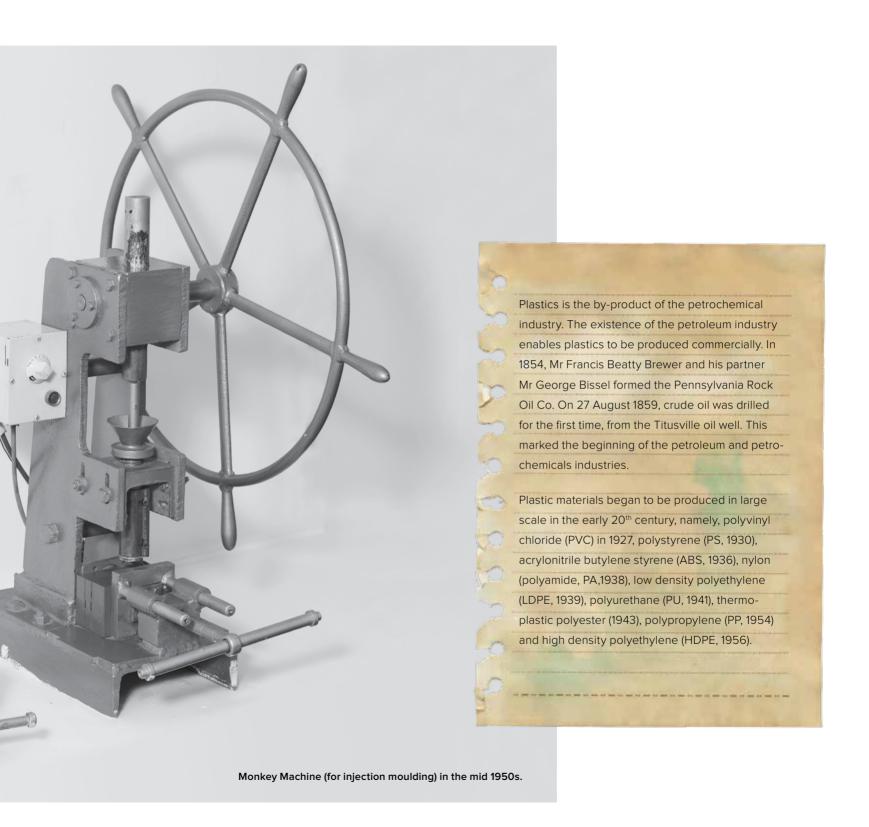
Do you know that

The Malaysian plastics industry started in the late 1940s.

Yong Kam Fook Plastics, based in Kuala Lumpur, was the first plastics factory in Malaysia. It started by making bicycle parts and jewellery boxes. Later on, Yong Kam Fook Plastics ventured into household wares.

Lee Huat Plastics was the second plastics factory to open. It was established by the late Mr Chen Kow Fatt in 1947 making bicycle stands from scrap metal. Lee Huat Plastics went into producing plastic bicycle lights in the mid 1950s and subsequently manufactured drawer knobs for the furniture industry.





Mr Johnny Yong

MPMA PRESIDENT (1986-1990)



Mr Johnny Yong was actively involved in the plastics industry for 23 years, and active in MPMA till he migrated overseas 28 years ago.

"It seems like a blink of an eye, but 50 years have gone by and the Malaysian Plastics Manufacturers Association has come a long way. 50 years have gone by since its inauguration with countless achievements behind it. Thanks to all past and present Committee Members, members, suppliers and sponsors for their dedication, hard work and support.

"Through these 50 years, MPMA has resolved and attended to various issues faced by the plastics industry through dialogues with various government ministries, as well as local and foreign raw material and machinery manufacturers," said Mr Yong.

He recalled that MPMA had organised visits to trade shows in Europe, USA and Japan for members to be aware of the latest development in technology, materials, equipment and machinery. There were also trade missions to China to visit manufacturers and the local state government department for a better understanding of their plastics industry and investment policies.



From left: Mr Johnny Yong, the late Mr Wee Hong Im, Mr Callum Chen, Dato' Liew Sew Yee and Mr Lee Hong Cheong during a visit to Europe.





"We have gone from renting our office space to owning our own building. Branches have been set up in Ipoh, Penang and Johor Bahru.

"Many meetings were held with our counterparts before the formation of the ASEAN Federation of Plastic Industries (AFPI).

"All these efforts have resulted in closer collaborations within the Malaysian plastics industry as a whole. I wish you all at MPMA a Happy 50th Anniversary," said Mr Yong.



Milestones

1960S AND 1970S - THE HUMBLE BEGINNINGS





Members gathered for dinner on 16 April 1967, the injection moulding group (top), film extrusion group (below).

1965

Banding Together

On 3 October, the late Mr Yong Kam Fook chaired a meeting in Kuala Lumpur to moot the formation of the plastics trade association. A pro-tem committee was formed.

1967

The Formation of the Malayan Plastics Association

The Malayan Plastics Association was officially registered with the Registrar of Societies on 10 January.

1969

Early Missions

The Malayan Plastics Association's first AGM was held on 2 May. The newly elected President, Mr Thomas Wong announced that his focus were on recruiting members, establishing government liaisons, and developing and expanding into foreign markets.



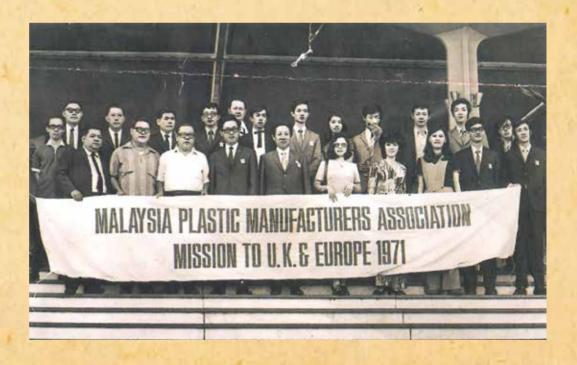
Renamed to MPMA

The association was renamed Malaysian Plastic Manufacturers' Association (MPMA) on 3 June. The present name – Malaysian Plastics Manufacturers Association was adopted in 1991.

1971

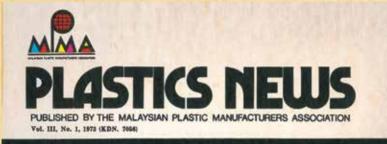
First Overseas Mission

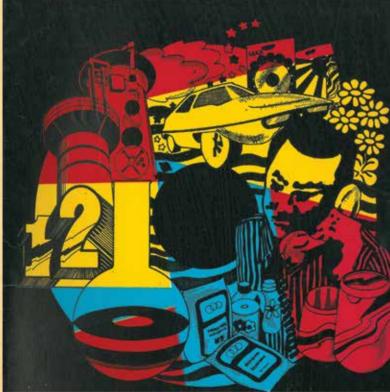
MPMA organised a trip to Germany for its members to visit the plastics exhibition, The "K Fair". The delegation also visited factories in Europe to gain knowledge on plastics technology and explore new markets.



First In-house Magazine

MPMA published its first in-house magazine, The Plastics News, which contained mainly technical and market information on the plastics industry in Malaysia and the region. It also had news on the latest processing technologies and MPMA's activities.





The cover page of the Plastics News published in 1972.



A Central Committee Meeting in the early days.



MPMA participated at the "Made in Malaysia Trade Fair" at Stadium Negara in 1972. MPMA's display stall won the second prize for the "Best Designed Stall".

1980S - EXPANDING OUR HORIZONS

1981

MPMA's Home

MPMA moved into its own premise at 37, Jalan 20/14, Paramount Garden in Petaling Jaya, on 27 February 1981. The plan to buy MPMA's own space was mooted in 1973 but deferred due to bad times. Eventually, a Building Fund Sub-Committee was set up in July 1980, whereby it raised RM300,000 for the project.

The building was officiated by the then Minister of Science, Technology and Environment, the late Tan Sri Ong Kee Hui on 26 July 1981 in conjunction with MPMA's 14th anniversary.





Officiating the MPMA new building in 1981.
From left: Dato' Liew Sew Yee, the late Tan Sri Ong Kee Hui, the then Minister of Science, Technology and Environment, the late Mr KC Tan and the late Mr Wee Hong Im.







Trip to ASEAN and Hong Kong

MPMA members went on a 10-day-trip to visit plastics manufacturers and associations in Jakarta, Singapore, Manila, Bangkok and Hong Kong.

The ASEAN-Hong Kong trip was to promote friendship, cooperation and close communication amongst ASEAN plastics manufacturers.

It also paved the way for the formation of the ASEAN Federation of Plastic Industries (AFPI).



From left: Ms Chong (Secretariat), Dato' Liew Sew Yee, Mr Johnny Yong, Mr Callum Chen and Mr Tan Kim Leng at the AFPI formation meeting in Manila, 1981.



Formation of AFPI

MPMA proposed the formation of the ASEAN Federation of Plastic Industries (AFPI) during a meeting in Jakarta in May 1981. The then MPMA President, the late Mr KC Tan, led discussions with Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Singapore.

AFPI was officially formed in Manila on 5 December 1981.

Initially, only Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines were members of AFPI. Thailand joined AFPI in 1986 and Singapore in 1991. Now, all ASEAN countries except Brunei are members of AFPI.



Northern Association

Plastics manufacturers from Penang and Kedah formed their own association - the Plastics Manufacturers Association of North Peninsular Malaysia and became an affiliate member of MPMA. It joined MPMA as the Northern Branch in December 1991.

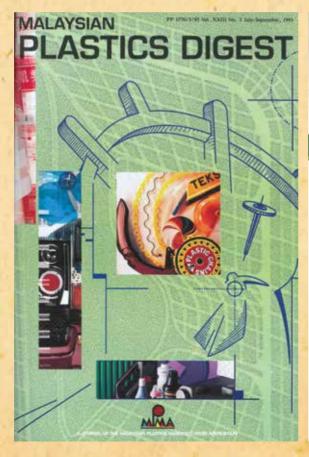
1986

Formation of MPMA Holdings

MPMA Holdings was formed in 1986, led by the late Mr Wee Hong Im, with the objective of pooling members' finances to enhance the industry's investment; to participate in investment projects in areas which are beyond the resources of its individual members and to earn better returns for them. MPMA Holdings' main activity was its involvement in the development of the Terengganu Plastics Industries Park in the late 1990s.

1988

The Plastics News was divided into two quarterly magazines - The Malaysian Plastics Digest which was on technical and market information of the industry and Berita MPMA which focused on members' activities.





"Help ourselves to advance" Members were told

Members of MPMA were asked to help themselves to advance by Mr. Johnty Yong, the President, during the 8th Annual Dieser of the tic Manufacturers Association of North nautar Malaysia held on December 10, 1988 at Travel Ledge Hotel, Butterworth,

Mr. Johnny Yong and Mr. M. Tan, Public Relation Officer, attended the dinest on behalf of MPMA. Mr. Yong was invited to speak during the dinest. Below is the content of his speech.



President of the Plastic Manufacturers Association of North Peninsular Malaysia, Ladies & Gentlemen.

I am indeed hosoured to be invited to this Cer-Together-Olonser and be able to share work all of you the celebration of your 8th anniversary. The certain minimals between the Plastic Manufacturers Association of North Perimular Malaysia and the Malaysian Plastic Manufacturen' Association has been encouraging; however, I personally feel that this is not sofficient and can be strengthen and we should do it for the benefit of the Malaysian Plastics Industry.

The Plastic Industry is getting more histicated and challenging, changes in econoresic structure and technology development has taken place as the Malaysian industrialization advances. If we do not look after the Plastic Industry, our industry, who are we to look upon for assistance,

MPMA is doing our part, however we might over look certain specific problems and interest in certain areas, probably due to geographical separation or it may be localize grablem. For this reason, MPMA has now set up State Lision

1990S - STRONG GROWTH AMID TOUGH CHALLENGES

1990

Opening of New Branches

The MPMA Johor Branch was established in February 1990 and the Perak Branch in May 1990.

The Sabah Branch was established in 1992 and the Sarawak Branch in 1993.



Official Opening of Wisma Plastik, Northern Branch on 12 December 1993.



Official Opening of the Johor Branch new building on 24 August 1996.



Official Opening of the Perak Branch new building on 2 November 1996.





Asia Plastics Forum (APF)

The Asia Plastics Forum (APF) was formed in 1991 and currently comprises 12 member countries - Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

APF was established to share and exchange information on the plastics industry and the country's economy in the Asian region, consider any issues related to the plastics industry and assist members in providing inputs for solutions as well as to foster close business co-operation among the plastics manufacturers (processors) in the Asian region.

Over the past years, APF has been concentrating on environmental issues affecting the plastics industry, reflecting on the current global situations where the 3Rs and litter issues are amongst those intensely debated by countries.

Mr Callum Chen has been the Secretary-General of APF since 2000 and MPMA is the Secretariat for APF.



The first APF held in Osaka, Japan on November 1991.



25th APF 2016 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Mr Callum Chen presenting a token to the Host Chairman, Mr Jashim Uddin.



25th APF 2016 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.



Delegates at the 24th APF 2015 in Gujarat, India.

Silver Jubilee Celebrations

MPMA celebrated its 25th Anniversary with events such as the first exhibition on plastic products in Malaysia, the Techno Plas '92, the 2nd Asia Plastics Forum and the ASEAN Federation of Plastic Industries Council Meeting.









One of the environment awareness activities at school, organised by the Plastics Waste Management Task Force.

Plastics Waste Management Task Force

As a responsible trade association, MPMA recognised that it had to take the initiative to identify ways to manage plastic waste in the country. Hence, in July 1992, MPMA formed the Plastics Waste Management Task Force (PWMTF) in collaboration with the Department of Environment to look into plastics waste management in Malaysia.

The MPMA PWMTF had collaborated with Coopers & Lybrand Consulting Group, which conducted the Malaysian Plastics Waste Management Feasibility Study. The study is a result of MPMA's commitment to a strong plastics industry and a healthy environment. Since then, PWMTF has launched several environmental awareness programmes.



Malaysian Plastics Waste Management Feasibility Study Report.



Feasibility study on the establishment of a plastics training centre, a project supported by the Canadian Government in 1992.

The MPMA Plastics Technology Training Centre (MPMA-PTTC) Penang was set up in collaboration with the Penang Skills Development Centre (PSDC) and the Penang State Government, with support from MPMA members and machine suppliers.

Between 1993 and 2005, MPMA-PTTC trained more than 4,000 workers for the plastics industry on injection moulding and film extrusion technologies.

The success of MPMA-PTTC had also resulted in the establishment of training centres in MPMA Branches in Johor and Selangor in August 1995.





Dato' Liew Sew Yee exchanging the MoU with Dato' Boonler Somchit, Executive Director, PSDC (left), witnessed by Dr Kang Chin Seng, the then Exco Member, Penang State Government.

1994

On 6 January 1994, MPMA was accredited by Standards and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia (SIRIM) as a Standards Writing Organisation (SWO), the first accreditation given to a trade association in the country. This marked the commitment to drive the plastics industry towards quality and technology improvement to meet an increasingly competitive market.



MPMA President, Dato' Liew Sew Yee (right) and Director-General of SIRIM, Dato' Ahmad Tajuddin Ali (second from left) at the agreement signing ceremony on 6 January 1994, witnessed by the then Minister of Science, Technology and Environment, Dato' Law Hieng Ding.

CEREMONY B RAFIDAH AZIZ





The ASEAN Federation of Plastic Industries (AFPI), EUROPEAN Committee of Machinery Manufacturers for the Plastics and Rubber Industries (EUROMAP) and Messe Duesseldolf signing a tripartite agreement on March 1995 in Kuala Lumpur to organise ASEANPLAS plastics exhibition from 1996 onwards.

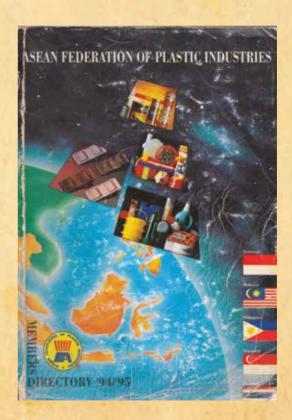
1995

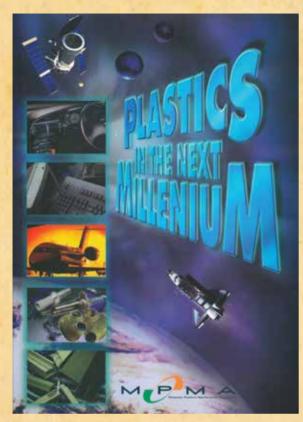
First ASEAN Plastics Fair

The first ASEAN Plastics Fair, ASEANPLAS '95, was held in March in Kuala Lumpur. Nearly 100 manufacturers and suppliers of plastics processing machinery and related equipment displayed their products, attracting about 9,000 visitors with approximately RM35million sales concluded.

The fair provided manufacturers access to the latest machineries and technology from Europe and the United States, which were known for their high output and consistence in quality.

The first AFPI Directory was successfully published by MPMA.







Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, the then Minister of International Trade and Industry, lauching MPMA's new logo on 27 August 1997, witnessed by Dato' Liew Sew Yee.



New Logo

MPMA's new logo was launched by the then Minister of International Trade and Industry, Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz at the 30th MPMA Anniversary Dinner.

In celebrating MPMA's 30th Anniversary, the special edition "Plastics in the Next Millennium" was published.



1999

Malaysian Plastics Design Centre

The Malaysian Plastics Design Centre (MPDC) was launched with the objective of inculcating a design culture among MPMA members.



2000S - ADVANCING IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

2000

First M-PLAS

The first M-PLAS Plastics fair was held in October in Kuala Lumpur. A total of 155 companies from 19 countries exhibited their latest products and technology including machinery, raw materials, auxiliaries, semi-finished products and technical parts.

The M-PLAS was the Malaysian chapter of the ASEANPLAS, which was held once every three years in Singapore. Such fairs help Malaysian plastics manufacturers expand their export market worldwide, particularly for shopping bags and stretch films.





Dato' Kerk Choo Ting, the then Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry and Mr Callum Chen, MPMA President at the M-PLAS 2000.

2001

MPMA Goes Online

MPMA's website. www.mpma.org.my, was launched to promote and provide information about the Malaysian plastics industry. It was also to drive MPMA members online and towards developing their own web presence.

The website is well placed in search engines to facilitate the sourcing of Malaysian plastics manufacturers.



MPMA promoting the "towards an e-plastics community" initiative.



Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, the then Minister of International Trade and Industry witnessed the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between MPMA and Worldwide Sourcing Online, providing online business-tobusiness service to members.

ISO Quality Management System Award

In its efforts to continuously improve its services to its members, the MPMA Secretariat implemented the ISO Quality Management System.

2006

Specialised Marketing Mission

MPMA, in collaboration with MATRADE, organised the Specialised Marketing Mission (SMM) on plastics to Argentina and Brazil. Seven MPMA member companies took part in the SMM. They attended business conferences and had meetings with the Brazil Plastics Industry Association and the Argentina Plastics Association. They also went on factory visits, trade shows and business meetings.

In the subsequent years, MPMA and MATRADE co-organised SMM to Vietnam (2007), South Africa (2009) and Germany (2010).



SMM to South America





SMM to South Africa



2010S - EMBRACING THE FUTURE



Mr Andy Routsis, President of A Routsis Associates, a US-based training centre, during a training session.

2011

Talent Development Programme

The Economic Planning Unit allocated a grant of RM3 million to MPMA to undertake MPMA's Talent Development Programme (MPMA-TDP) for the Malaysian plastics industry. The aim was to train 220 members, but 384 members had been trained by the end of the programme in 2015.

2013

Recognition of MPMA's Green Initiative

MPMA was honoured with the Malaysia Environment Week 2013 Special Acknowledgement Award as Leading Contributor towards Environmental Sustainability.





Technical Committee Members at the Standards Development Workshop.

2014

Standards Development Agency

In October 2014, MPMA was appointed by Standards Malaysia as a Standards Development Agency (SDA) to carry out the development of the Malaysian Plastics Industry Standards.

Collective Representation

MPMA joined about 60 other business chambers and trade associations to present their collective voice to the Government. This was the first time such a big grouping was formed.





Meeting with Ministers on minimum wage issues.



2016

Introduction of Industry 4.0 to Members

Industry 4.0 will revolutionise industrial production. It will help companies integrate, reshape strategies and improve manufacturing to remain competitive; and with the necessary government support, MPMA has been actively involved in getting members to embrace Industry 4.0.

2017

Golden Jubilee



MPMA commemorates its 50th anniversary by producing a coffee table book '50 Years and Beyond' that documents its history and contributions, to be launched at its Golden Jubilee Dinner celebration on 8 July 2017.

Dato' Liew Sew Yee

MPMA PRESIDENT (1990-1998) HONORARY PRESIDENT



Dato' Liew Sew Yee was MPMA President for four terms and steered the association through one of the plastics industry's most challenging times.

"The plastics industry in Malaysia was at the peak of its production in the 1990s and our industry was one of the most versatile in product range and quality. This was because we could import a wide range of resins that were available to us without import restrictions. This means we were able to source from any country that could give us the quality, quantity and price," recalled Dato' Liew.

But then in 1993, the Government decided that it would impose an import ban on PE and PP to protect the newly-set up local resin production industry. The plastics industry was in an uproar because the import ban would limit the range of resins available to Malaysian plastics manufacturers as local producers offered a limited range.

Dato' Liew said MPMA actively lobbied the Government to review the import ban. "We went through many sessions of dialogues with MITI's officials as well as the then Minister, Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, to mitigate the impact of implementing the ban.



"The final outcome we concluded with the Minister in 1995 was that MITI would issue automatic licensing to replace the AP for the raw resins that we had been importing from overseas (which were not produced locally), with acknowledged confirmation from local producers."

Dato' Liew attributed his successful tenures as President to his "cohesive team in the Central Committee, Branch Committee and members throughout the country."

Under his leadership, MPMA formulated its Vision and Mission Statements.

He also led MPMA on the setting up of the three "noble projects" that have contributed to the growth and well-being of the plastics industry.

"The first project of Standards Writing aimed to upgrade technological competency and improve the quality of products through R&D efforts. MPMA was the first Standards Writing Organisation (SWO) appointed by SIRIM Berhad.

"The second project is establishing the Plastics Technology Training Centres at the various Branches to provide the necessary training to upgrade the technical skills of the industry.

"The third project is the National Plastics Waste Management Task Force which was formed to



address the country's plastics waste issue on a continuous and sustainable basis with due environmental care."

Dato' Liew who was also a founding member, was actively involved in the ASEAN Federation of Plastic Industries (AFPI). He was AFPI Chairman from 1992 to 1995.

"MPMA initiated the formation of ASEANPLAS along the concept of K Fair in Düsseldorf, the annual plastics exhibition with a view to rotating it among all ASEAN countries of plastic products and machinery as well as raw materials," said Dato' Liew

who began his career at his family's factory in Sungai Siput (U), Perak. Eventually the humble family factory became a modern plastics manufacturing business, specialising in plastic packaging materials and the other in engineering plastics catering to the electronic industries, both of which were eventually bought over by two German groups.

"My time at MPMA were exciting years for me. I was able to learn from the seniors and incumbents of the industry and that enabled me to provide a clear vision of how to carry out the business and to set a direction to grow our industry," said Dato' Liew.

Mr Callum Chen

MPMA PRESIDENT (1998-2004) HONORARY PRESIDENT



Mr Callum Chen was the youngest member when he joined MPMA's Central Committee at 24 in 1978. So, by the time he became MPMA President in 1998, he was deeply committed and vastly experienced in advocating for the plastics industry.

"It was a tough year when I took over in 1998; the economy was slowing down and costs were rising. Most of our members were SMEs and my challenge was to help them move to the next level of competency by embracing new technology, modern management systems and most importantly, changing the mindset of the bosses," recounted Mr Callum Chen who helmed MPMA for three terms.

Mr Callum Chen was also responsible for continuing and implementing three major MPMA projects started by his predecessor, Dato' Liew Sew Yee and CC members - the Plastics Technology and Training Centre (PTTC), the Standards Writing Organisation (SWO) and the Plastics Waste Management Task Force (PWMTF). During his term, Mr Callum Chen established the Malaysian Plastics Design Centre (MPDC).

He was also intent on helping MPMA members move to the next level of competency and encouraging them to embrace innovations.

"In the late 1990s, many of our members were very good at manufacturing and production but lack the skills in international marketing, product development and brand building.

"As founding Chairman of MPDC, I also initiated MPMA's collaboration with Unigraphics to help members migrate from OEM to ODM and finally, to OBM. We negotiated with Unigraphics to bring down



Lee Huat Plastics was founded by the late Mr Chen Kow Fatt (right) on 1 July 1947 and the late Mr Tony Chen Kwok Ming (left) took over as Managing Director on 13 May 1969.

the price of softwares, and then collaborated with SME Corp under MITI to sponsor 50 percent of the costs," said Mr Callum Chen.

After the success of this project, Mr Callum Chen and his team's next task was to help members migrate to the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. MPMA collaborated with Exact Asia and launched its Macola ERP system with support from the Ministry of Labour and Manpower under the then Minister Tan Sri Fong Chan Onn.

One of Mr Callum Chen's earliest experiences in MPMA was taking part in a delegation to ASEAN countries and Hong Kong to form the ASEAN Federation of Plastic Industries (AFPI) in 1980.

MPMA has always been an active and vocal member of AFPI. In 1991, the late Mr. Kenzo Nakagawa of West Japan Plastics Products Industrial Association formed the Asia Plastics Forum or APF. AFPI and other Asian countries were also invited to join APF.

Mr Callum Chen became the Secretary General of APF in 2000 till present. In that position, he was also invited to sit on the Steering Committee as one of the three Co-Chairmen representing the Asia-Pacific region on the Global Plastics Alliance initiated by the American Chemistry Council and Plastics Europe.

"Moving on, it is my hope, that, under the able leadership of Datuk Lim Kok Boon and his Team. MPMA will continue to adapt, change and transform into an even more dynamic trade association not just in Malaysia, but also, regionally as well as globally," said Mr Callum Chen.





From left to right: Mr Akekasit Chareonkidkachorn, Secretary-General, Plastics Industry Club. The Federation of Thai Industries (PIC FTI), Mr Paradorn Chulajata, Host Chairman and Chairman, PIC FTI. Mr Callum Chen, Secretary-General, APF, Mr Chen Namchaisiri, Chairman, FTI, Mr Suracha Udomsak, SCG Chemicals and Dr Tine Rorvik, Chief Executive Officer, Norner AS at 26th APF 2016.

Datuk Lim Kok Boon

MPMA PRESIDENT (2008-PRESENT)



An accountant by training, Datuk Lim Kok Boon joined the plastics industry in 2002 with zero knowledge of the product and the market. He described himself as a nontechnical person, but that did not deter Datuk Lim from pushing for his company to adopt the latest technology and investing in stateof-the-art machinery.

"We persisted, and together with the focus on training the team with the latest in technology, we were able to produce consistently high quality products," said Datuk Lim.

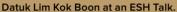
His boldness paid off when his company, Great Wall Plastic Industries Bhd became the first plastics manufacturing company in the country to achieve the ISO 22000 certification on Food Safety Management System.

Datuk Lim's leadership qualities did not go unnoticed and he was elected MPMA Vice-President barely after two years in the plastics industry. After that, he was elected as MPMA President, and he has led the association for nine years to date.



Datuk Lim Kok Boon (6th from left) at the MPMA-Chevron Phillips Environmental Awareness Programmme 2014.







Courtesy call to the then MITI Secretary-General, Tan Sri Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria.

He said he is most proud of how MPMA members have been able to come together and address issues collectively. This spirit of working together was demonstrated when MPMA had to face EU's threat of imposing anti-dumping duties on plastic carrier bags from Malaysia, Thailand and China in 2006.

"The US had in the previous year imposed crippling anti-dumping duties as there was then only very feeble attempts by Malaysian companies to defend the allegation of dumping actions by Malaysian manufacturers.

"With the US market being almost effectively shut off, it would be a disaster for Malaysian producers if the EU market was similarly shut off," recalled Datuk Lim who led MPMA's efforts to get manufacturers to defend the EU case collectively.

It was a major exercise to get every company on board and raise the funds to engage the needed legal experts. MPMA's successful defence not only resulted in Malaysia being spared anti-dumping duties, but gave local producers a competitive edge. They were able to attract more orders as plastics producers from China and Thailand were hit with high duties which then affected the pricing of their products.

"Although challenging, this incident was critical in bringing members together as it demonstrated that working together as a team will be in the mutual interest of all within the industry," said Datuk Lim who is proud that MPMA is recognised as one of the leading trade associations in the country as it has been proactive on many issues affecting the Malaysian business community.

He is also proud of MPMA being recognised by the regional plastics industry to be an active and progressive trade association.

"Despite having to put in the long hours over the years, I am grateful I was given this opportunity as I have been able to touch base with, and get to know many members of the industry, and to go beyond only knowing about the flexible film extrusion sub-sector.

"I am also proud to be in an industry where members in the same line of products/ business can get together for a nice meal or a round of golf. It is wonderful to see the high sense of camaraderie amongst the members and the mutual assistance within the industry," said Datuk Lim.



Advancing The Plastics Industry



Emergency General Meeting to discuss the issue on tarrif protection in 1993, chaired by Dato' Liew Sew Yee (right).

FNGAGING WITH THE GOVERNMENT

One of MPMA's most crucial functions is to present the plastics industry's concerns to the Government and to work out solutions to their problems. It is a responsibility that MPMA's office bearers take most seriously as they take on issues that impact the plastics industry.

Tariff Protection on Resins

In December 1990, MPMA got wind of the Government's plan to impose a 30% duty protection for locally produced PE and PP resins. The industry was concerned as certain specialty grades of resins would still have to be imported as they were not produced locally.

MPMA submitted two memoranda to the Government, objecting the move. But the 30% tariff protection was imposed in 1992 and 1993 when PP and PE resins began to be produced in Malaysia.

In late 1993, the situation worsened when the Government announced its plan to

implement import licensing to control the import of PE and PP resins through the "Approved Permit (AP)" system. MPMA was shocked and again registered its strong objections to the government. But the AP system was implemented on 7 April 1994.

The imposition of the AP system was problematic for the industry. MPMA's Central Committee monitored the situation closely and held regular dialogues with resin producers and MITI/MIDA.

In early 2000s, MPMA had several discussions with MITI and MIDA on this issue and the Government agreed on a gradual removal of the resin tariff. The tariff reduction schedule for PE and PP resins were 25% by September 2005, 20% by September 2008, 15% by January 2010 and 10% by January 2012.

National Minimum Wage Policy

In early 2011, the Government announced that it would implement a national minimum

wage policy between RM800 to RM900 across all sectors, covering local and foreign workers. MPMA was concerned about this policy's effect on the plastics industry. MPMA initiated a discussion with three major national trade associations on the negative impact of the new policy. A joint press conference was co-ordinated by MPMA on 6 March 2012, to present the concerns of 16 trade associations.

The Government subsequently announced that the minimum wage policy would be implemented effective January 2013. MPMA was very concerned about the impact of the huge increase in wage rates (from average RM500-RM650 to RM900 for Peninsular) and the short time frame for implementation.

MPMA at times, initiated and led the discussions with several main trade associations including the Associated

Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry Malaysia (ACCCIM), Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM) and Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) to formulate strategies and to offer counter proposals to the Government. As a result of the strong lobby by the group of associations, the Government eventually allowed SMEs to defer the implementation of the minimum wage policy for foreign workers by 12 months.



Joint Press Conference on minimum wage issues in 2012.





Foreign Workers' Issues

The plastics industry has to depend on foreign workers as there is a shortage of local workers. However, the Government had set stringent conditions on hiring foreign workers, which has made hiring foreigners more costly than hiring locals. The frequent change in Government policies on employment of foreign workers had also adversely impacted the operations of the plastics business.

In 2014 and 2015, MPMA had discussions as well as attended several meetings and issued joint press statements with ACCCIM, FMM and MEF on issues related to labour and foreign workers. The main issues discussed were proposed amendments on policies related to foreign workers such as

market-based levy mechanism for foreign workers, Employment Insurance Scheme and new mandatory online renewal of foreign workers permit through MyEG Services Bhd.

In February 2016, the Government announced it was freezing the intake of new foreign workers from all source countries. This new ruling caused hardship across all sectors. MPMA together with ACCCIM, FMM and MEF, had discussions between trade associations and Government on the impact of this ruling.

After several rounds of discussions and submissions of memoranda/proposals, the Government announced the re-opening of foreign workers' intake from 15 source countries in 2017.

Annual Dialogue with MITI

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI)'s Annual Dialogue provided a platform for the business sector to communicate with the Government on issues and policies affecting the growth of industries.

MPMA has actively presented our views and proposals for the betterment of the plastics industry, especially on the following two issues:

- Reinvestment Allowance (RA)

In 2015, MPMA proposed that the 15-year RA claimable period be extended indefinitely (as long as the company is in operation) to encourage continuous investment to

several Ministries. In November 2015 the Government approved a Special RA which would be provided for year of assessment 2016 to 2018.

- Off-peak Electricity Tariff

MPMA made two proposals concerning offpeak electricity tariff:

That Tenaga National Bhd (TNB) extends its off-peak electricity tariff to include SME users in the Tariff D category, not just Tariff E, and that TNB extends its off-peak tariff to cover the full day of Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays for all categories of users.

In 2014, MPMA presented the proposals to the Economic Planning Unit (EPU). In March 2015, EPU informed MPMA that the Enhanced Time of Use (ETOU) Scheme, which replaced the Off-peak tariff, will be extended to Tariff D and Tariff E users including Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays effective 1 January 2017.

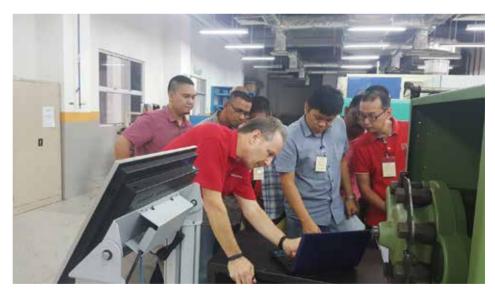
SUPPORTING MPMA MEMBERS

MPMA's core role is to assist its members during challenging times and to keep abreast with developments in the plastics industry.

The key challenges of the plastics industry are competition from low-cost producing countries, more demanding customers, high investment cost of new technologies, shortage of both skilled and semi-skilled labour as well as higher environmental compliance requirements.

To assist members to meet these challenges, MPMA provides services which are encompassed in three main areas:

- 1. **Technical upgrade and development** organised events and provided information for members to gain new technology insights for business development
- 2. Information and operational management organised events and provided information for members to manage business activities more efficiently
- 3. Development of market channels organised events and provided information for members to develop new business.



Mr Andy Routsis, Trainer, at a hands-on session during the Advance Scientific Injection Moulding Certification at the German-Malaysian Institute (GMI).

MPMA Annual Roadshows

The economic downturn in 2008 and 2009 affected Malaysia's plastics industry negatively. There was a severe contraction in demand, both domestically and internationally. The situation was worsened by the record high prices of plastic resins and the sharp rise in electricity tariff rates and fuel costs then.

MPMA was aware that its members were under pressure amid the uncertainties brought about by the economic crisis. It organised a Roadshow to share with its members information about the economic development, trends of the resins industry as well as some recommendations and strategies.

The first Roadshow was organised in July and August 2008 at the MPMA Head Office, Johor Branch, Perak Branch and Northern Branch.

The Roadshow became an annual event in the subsequent years for MPMA to engage with its members on issues, new developments and strategies to promote the growth of the plastics industry.









MPMA International Plastics Conference (MIPC)

The 1st Malaysia-Japan Plastics Conference (MJPC) was organised in 2002 in Penang. It was sponsored by Texchem Resources Bhd (Texchem) and supported by the Society of Polymer Science, Japan and the University of Science Malaysia. The main objective of the Conference was to discuss the emerging technologies for further development of the Malaysian plastics industry.

MPMA worked with Texchem to organise the 2nd and 3rd Conference (renamed as International Malaysia-Japan Plastics Conference, IMJPC) on a bi-annual basis.

MPMA continued to organise a bi-annual Conference since 2008. The name of the Conference was changed to MPMA International Plastics Conference (MIPC).



2nd from left: Mr Callum Chen, Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon, the then Chief Minister of Penang, Tan Sri Fumihiko Konishi, Chief Executive Officer of Texchem Group and Mr CM Wong, Organising Committee Chairman at the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the 1st MJPC.



The 8th MIPC 2017 was held in conjunction with MPMA Golden Jubilee on 23 and 24 May 2017.

MPMA recognised that it is important for the industry to develop its own technological capability and capacity to become a knowledge-based economy. The main objective of MIPC is to provide information on the challenges, opportunities and prospects of the Malaysian plastics industry, as well as the latest in leading edge technologies and solutions for plastics manufacturers to become globally competitive. Five MIPCs were held from 2008 till now with the MIPC 2017 organised jointly with the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) on 23 and 24 May 2017.

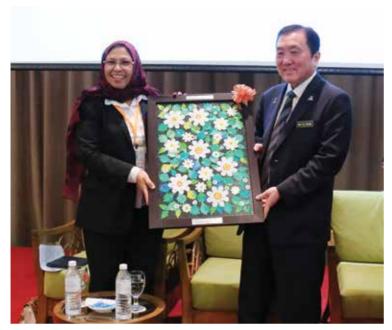


Tan Sri Fumihiko Konishi (right) presenting a momento to Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, witnessed by Mr Callum Chen (2nd from left), during the opening ceremony of the 2nd IMJPC in 2004.



From left: Datuk Lim Kok Boon, Tn Hj Fadillah Yusof, the then Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Mr CC Cheah at the opening ceremony of the 4th MIPC in 2008.

The 8th MPMA International Plastics Conference (MIPC) held on 23 and 24 May 2017 in Kuala Lumpur



Datuk Noraini Soltan Talib, Vice-President, MPMA presenting a token of appreciation to Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan, MITI Minister II.



Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan visiting an exhibition booth.



Mr Callum Chen presenting at 8th MIPC.



Participants at 8th MIPC.

Working with Local Resin Producers

Plastic resin is a major component for plastic products. The rapid development in the local resin industry had contributed significantly to the growth of the plastics industry. Maintaining a good rapport with resin suppliers is a win-win strategy for both the plastics manufacturers and resin suppliers as both have symbiotic relationship.

MPMA has regular dialogues with the Plastic Resin Producers Group (PRPG) to exchange views on resin issues as well as to share ideas on promoting the growth of the industry. Quarterly dialogues (which were reduced to thrice and subsequently twice a year recently) were held between MPMA and PRPG to discuss the following issues:

- Exchange market information on the resin and plastics industries.
- Issues related to supply and demand of raw materials.
- Government policies/ programmes of mutual interest amongst the resin and plastics industries.
- Sustainability issues related to both the industries.



A training session of the MPMA-PTTC held in PSDC, 1994.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

One of the most pressing issues in the plastics industry is the need for skilled manpower. MPMA has taken the initiative to set up training institutions and develop programmes to meet the human resource needs of the industry.

MPMA-PTTC

In October 1993, the MPMA Plastics Technology Training Centre (MPMA-PTTC) Penang was set up in collaboration with the Penang Skills Development Centre

(PSDC) and the Penang State Government, with support from MPMA members who contributed to the training fund and machine suppliers who loaned their machines for training purposes.

Between 1993 and 2005, MPMA-PTTC trained more than 4000 workers for the plastics industry on injection moulding and film extrusion technologies. MPMA members recognised the importance of training their staff so they can keep abreast with the rapid development of processing technologies.



Mr Callum Chen exchanging the MoU with Mr James Tay, Unigraphics Solutions, witnessed by Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz and Mr Badlisham Ghazali, Hewlett Packard Sales Malaysia.



From left to right: Mr Eddie Fong, MPMA Secretary-General, Datuk Noraini Soltan Talib, MPMA Vice-President and Mr Andy Routsis promoting MPMA-TDP.

The success of MPMA-PTTC has also resulted in the establishment of training centres in MPMA Branches in Johor and Selangor in August 1995.

Malaysian Plastics Design Centre

The idea of the Malaysian Plastics Design Centre (MPDC) was mooted in 1995, and MITI approved a grant of RM1.5 million to set up MPDC in 1997. MPDC was launched in 1999 with the mission of inculcating a design culture among MPMA members.

MPDC was operated by a team of qualified designers and engineers focused on providing industrial design and engineering design services. It also helped MPMA members build up their own in-house design team by working with tertiary institutions.

In 2002, MPDC introduced the "Towards Optimising Injection Moulding and Design" programme to introduce softwares that could enhance the manufacturing process and automate the mould design process.

MPMA members who have used MPDC's design services found that it has helped them to be more competitive and this has prompted some to set up their inhouse design team. These pioneers have successfully moved from Original Equipment Manufacturing (OEM) to Original Design Manufacturing (ODM) and finally to Original Brand Manufacturing (OBM).

MPMA Talent Development Programme

MPMA lobbied various Government departments and agencies in 2009 and 2010 for a RM12 million grant to fund its proposed Talent Development Programme which aims to:

- Move companies from OEM to ODM through product development activities.
- Strengthen capacity building by providing higher skilled training to create a pool of highly skilled workers.
- Seed capital to support MPDC which would be responsible to ensure industry participation in product development and capacity building activities.

On 25 January 2011, EPU allocated a grant of RM3 million to MPMA to undertake MPMA's Talent Development Programme (MPMA-TDP) for the Malaysian plastics industry. The aim was to train 220 members, but 384 members had been trained by the end of the programme in 2015.





Training sessions at the MPMA-TDP.

SUSTAINABILITY

Plastics Waste Management Task Force

The Plastics Waste Management Task Force (PWMTF) was the first major sustainability project undertaken by MPMA. As a responsible trade association, MPMA recognised that it had to take the initiative to identify ways to manage plastics waste in the country. Hence, in July 1992, MPMA formed PWMTF in collaboration with the Department of Environment to look into plastics waste management in Malaysia.



MPMA in collaboration with the Petaling Jaya Municipal Council and BP Chemicals organised the environmental awareness programmes for schools in Petaling Jaya in 1993.



Award Ceremony for the MPMA-Scientex Foundation 3Rs Awareness Programme 2012, Melaka.



From left, in cap: Dato' Ahmad Bin Hj Kabit, the then Secretary General, MHLG, Dato' Dr Nazri Bin Yahaya, Director-General, Department of National Solid Waste Management, MHLG, Dato' Seri Chor Chee Heung, the then Minister of MHLG, Datuk Lim Kok Boon and Mr Callum Chen in 2011.

Environmental Awareness Campaigns

In 2011, MPMA initiated a contribution drive to fund a Media and PR campaign to address the rising adverse perception of plastics. The initiative began with a public Anti-litter Campaign entitled "Don't be a Litterbug", and included an advertising campaign; media interviews covering newspapers, TV and radio; video clips with an anti-litter message.

Further to this, MPMA had collaborated with Scientex Foundation, a non-profit charitable organisation funded by contributions from Scientex Berhad, on 3Rs programmes with schools. Further collaborations on 3Rs and Sustainability programmes for schools were undertaken with raw material suppliers, namely, Chevron Phillips Chemicals, Dow Chemical, ExxonMobil Chemical, Lotte Chemical Titan and Petronas Chemicals Group.







Dato' Dr Nazri Bin Yahaya (4th from left), the then Director-General of the National Solid Waste Management Department with the VIPs at the MPMA-Scientex Foundation 3Rs Awareness Programme 2012, Melaka.





ADVERTORIAL



MPMA had also organised anti-litter public programmes with polystyrene manufacturers during festivals such as Thaipusam and Puasa, as well as Hi-5 ME (Mother Earth) public programmes with member companies including plastic bag manufacturers.

MPMA's efforts towards environmental sustainability were also recognised by the Government.

On 27 October 2013, MPMA was honoured with the Malaysia Environment Week 2013 Special Acknowledgement Award as Leading Contributor towards Environmental Sustainability by the Department of Environment, under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.



MPMA-Chevron Phillips Chemical Young Sustainability Innovators Award Ceremony in 2016.



MPMA Johor Branch at Litter-Free Chingay in 2016.



PETRONAS Chemical Group Be Green Campaign in Kerteh, Terengganu in 2016.



'Don't be A Litterbug' with LA21, Kuala Lumpur in 2014.















- 1. MPMA ExxonMobil 3Rs Awareness Programme with students on 30 October 2012.
- 2. Datuk Noraini S Talib (right), at the interview with Radio Host Ms Asha Gill of Capital FM on 2 July 2012.
- 3. MPMA Johor Branch Hi-5 and 'Don't be A Litterbug' Event on 6 October 2012.
- 4. The Launch Ceremony of the MPMA-DOW Programme in Penang on 6 May 2014.
- 5. Litter-Free Penang Bridge International Marathon on 27 November 2016.

Plastics Sustainability

Despite the misconceptions and actions against plastic bags and PS, the plastics and the petrochemicals industries have to continue to highlight plastics sustainability. Companies will also need to embrace new plastic product innovations, including bio plastics, and develop products according to customers and consumers environmental green trends.

STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

Standards Writing Organisation (SWO)

MPMA was appointed as a Standards Writing Organisation (SWO) by SIRIM in 1994, but MPMA has continued its active role in developing, reviewing and promoting Malaysian Standards related to plastics. The main activities carried out by MPMA as an SWO are:

Develop and review Malaysian **Standards**

The various Working Groups (WGs) under the TC3 - Technical Committee on Plastic Products had actively developed draft Malaysian Plastics Industry Standards for submission to SIRIM to endorse as Malaysian Standards (MS). By 2014, approximately 220 MS on plastic products had been



Malaysian delegates at the ISO/TC 61 meeting in October 2015, New Delhi.

developed. The WGs also reviewed the MS which are more than five years since their last approval, and recommended to SIRIM amendments, re-confirmation or withdrawal.

Malaysia jointly organised the "Enhancing Global Competitiveness through Standards" seminar in MPMA Head Office as well as at the Branches, that is, Johor, Northern and Perak. The objective of the seminar

In 2008, MPMA and Standards

Promotion of Malaysian Standards

was to create awareness amongst MPMA's members about MS that had been specifically developed for the Malaysian plastics industry. Similar seminars were repeated in the subsequent years as an effort to continuously creating awarenss amongst the members on MS.

(iii) MPMA Standards Development **Appreciation**

In recognition of the tireless efforts and contribution of the WG Chairmen and members towards MPMA's standards writing activities, MPMA held a Standards Development Appreciation ceremony on



Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, the then Minister of International Trade and Industry presenting a token of appreaciation to a Working Group Chairman, Mr Moi Peng Koon (then with Rex Plastics) witnessed by Dato' Liew Sew Yee (right) and Mr Callum Chen (second from left), during the MPMA 33th Anniversary Dinner in June 2000.

INTERNATIONAL LIAISONS

12 October 2009. The event also gave recognition to Mr BK Goh of Guppy Plastic Industries Sdn Bhd, for his leadership and invaluable contribution towards MPMA's standards writing and development activities throughout his 10 years service as Chairman of TC3.

Standards Development Agency

In October 2014, MPMA was appointed by Standards Malaysia as a Standards Writing Organisation (SWO) to carry out the development of the Malaysian Plastics Industry Standards. The scope of responsibilities of MPMA as a Standards Development Agency (SDA) covers the development and management of standards related activities, which comprises development of MS, management of national standards development infrastructure and management of international standards development activities.

As an SDA, MPMA is responsible for management of the Industrial Standards Committee (ISC) J for Plastics and Plastics Products comprises the following Technical Committees (TCs) and the various WGs. MPMA also actively participated the International Standards Organisation (ISO) annual meetings.

The appointment of MPMA as an SDA signifies the confidence and trust of Standards Malaysia as a capable and responsible organisedon to carry out standards development activities effectively.

ASEAN Common Effective Preferential Tariff

In 1992, ASEAN ministers agreed to adopt a common effective tariff rate for the region called the ASEAN Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT). The ASEAN Federation of Plastic Industries (AFPI) supported CEPT, which was implemented in 1993, which led to the gradual reduction of tariff rate among ASEAN countries from 0-5% by 2003.

Asia Plastics Forum and ASEAN Federation of Plastic Industries

MPMA is the Secretariat for the Asia Plastics Forum (APF). MPMA participated actively in the annual APF and ASEAN Federation of Plastic Industries (AFPI) meetings.

Global Plastics Alliance

The Global Meeting was first held in 1989 as a forum for the exchange

of information among plastics associations in the US and Europe. MPMA has been an early participant in this Global Meeting.

Recognising the need to include Asia Pacific into the Global Meeting, the first meeting of the Global Meeting was held in Kuala Lumpur in 2013. Since then, it has been held in the Asia-Pacific region.

Mr Callum Chen, as the Secretary-General of APF, was in the steering committee representing the Asia-Pacific region in this Global Plastics Alliance.

Today, the Global Meeting has been rebranded as the Global Plastics Alliance which aims to present a unified global vision and share resources. It recognises the challenges in one region can impact the success in many other regions.



 24^{th} Global Meeting on Plastics and Sustainability held in Kuala Lumpur from 18 to 20 November 2013.

MPMA organised the 24th Global Meeting on Plastics and Sustainability 2013 from 18 to 20 November in Kuala Lumpur. Twenty foreign delegates from 12 plastics organisations including PlasticsEurope and the American Chemistry Council (ACC), as well as 15 delegates from Malaysia participated in the meeting. This is the first time that the meeting was held outside US and Europe and since then, it has been held in the Asia region.

Free Trade Agreement Negotiations The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) is the lead Government agency in the various free trade agreement (FTAs) negotiations. During the negotiation process, MITI would invite the private sector to provide their input related to the Rules of Origins, Tariff Concession, Tariff Reduction Schedule, etc. MPMA was actively involved in these consultations with MITI. Some of these FTAs have provided wider export opportunities to our exporters.

Specialised Marketing Mission Subsequent to the success of the

Specialised Marketing Mission (SMM) to Argentina and Brazil in 2006, MPMA continued to co-organise with the Malaysia Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) three more SMM: to Vietnam in 2007, South Africa in 2009 and Germany in 2010.

International Trade Fairs

Since 2007, MPMA has been visiting and taking part in international trade exhibitions for the plastics industry, including Aseanplas, Chinaplas, K Fair, Interpack, Millan Fair and Plastindia.



20th APF, Taizhou, Zhejiang, China in 2010.

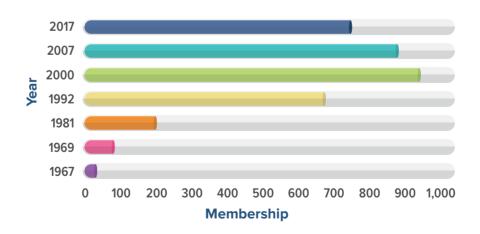
Achievements



In 50 years, the plastics industry has grown in leaps and bounds. The scale and scope of plastics manufacturing has expanded in tandem with the country's economic development, and facilitated by technological advances and innovation.

MPMA has played a key role in spearheading the plastics industry's development and progress with its proactive initiatives; from advocating on issues to keeping members abreast of the latest technology to training skilled workers.

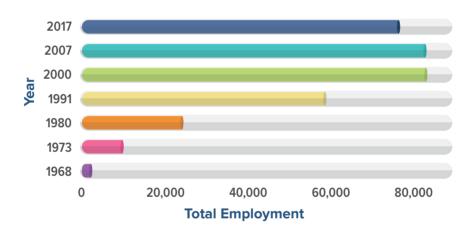
I. MPMA Membership

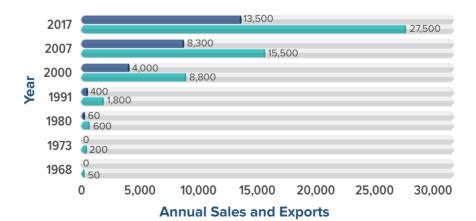


II. Industrial Developments



Plastics companies operating in Malaysia







THE LATE

Mr Wee Hong Im

MPMA PRESIDENT (1982-1986) HONORARY PRESIDENT



MPMA has led the development of the Malaysian plastics industry over the past 50 years.

As our President Datuk Lim Kok Boon has always said, the Malaysian plastics industry faces various kinds of challenges during its various stages of development. MPMA has taken a proactive role in addressing these issues for the benefits of the industry.

The main challenges over the last ten years were the gradual removal of subsidies and incentives by the Government, higher energy and raw material costs, minimum wage and shortage of labour.

Back in the 1970s, MPMA was already aware of the labour shortage issue and we had worked with the Workers' Institute of Training (WIT) to train our workers. We further enhanced our training activities in the subsequent years by establishing the MPMA-Plastics Technology Centre (MPMA-PTTC), Malaysian Plastics Design Centre (MPDC) and developed the effective Talent Development Programme for our members.

However, the industry still faces a shortage of workers due to several factors:

- Mismatched in skills acquired by local graduates and the industry's requirement
- · Locals are not interested in working in a factory environment

As such, the industry still need to employ foreign workers, not because of their low wages (in fact the cost of hiring a foreign

worker is even higher than the cost of local worker) but due to the real shortage of local workers.

On the sustainability concerns on plastics. we have established the Plastics Waste Management Task Force to address this issue. We have also worked closely with local governments and the public to promote 3Rs. We are fortunate to have the resin suppliers as well as members contributing to the funding of these activities. We hope that the local governments would also play a part by continuously promoting these 3Rs activities for a cleaner environment.

Being a proactive trade association, the workload of our Presidents. Committee Members and the Secretariat is tremendous. Their tireless efforts, dedication and contribution should be highly appreciated.



The late Mr Wee receiving a tribute for his selfless service to MPMA over the past 30 years at the association's 40th Anniversary Dinner from the then Deputy MITI Minister, Mr Ng Lip Yong. Looking on is Datuk Lim Kok Boon.

MPMA will continue to play a strong role in leading the plastics industry into the next level of development. We hope that our future leaders will continue to embrace the "MPMA spirit" for the betterment of our industry.

The Future of Plastics

The banning of plastic bags and food containers by the authorities as well as the negative publicity on plastics had led to the general perception that the plastics industry is a sunset sector. This could be due to a misunderstanding about the plastics industry.

In 1961, a Russian scientist published an article "The Next Century belongs to A Century of Plastics". He predicted that plastic, a material that is derived from the abundant supplies of crude oil, would replace metals, glass and papers due to its versatility. excellent properties, low cost and easy processing.

True enough, over the subsequent 50 years, the world is full of plastics: packaging, toys, household products, automotive, construction, medical, aerospace, and many others. Plastics had become the life partner for everyone. The full potential of plastics has yet to be fully explored.

Over the next 50 years, plastic will continue to be "the material" as no other similar material is expected to replace.

To reap the full potential of plastic and remain competitive in the market, the

Malaysian plastics industry must strive to focus on new product development, advanced materials and technology and skills upgrading. The 600 million ASEAN population as well as developed Asian nations including Australia, Japan and Korea are potential markets as they have entered free trade agreements with Malaysia.

With this in mind, we must all work towards expanding our markets beyond Malaysia to the world.

The late Mr Wee was actively involved in the making of this book, and he penned this message for members before he passed away on March 11 2017. This is his final message to all in MPMA.



The late Mr Wee Hong Im led the MPMA delegation to the K'Fair 1983 and the Trade Mission to Europe.



The late Mr Wee Hong Im at the President Dinner in 2016.

Enduring Legacy

MR WEE HONG IM (1938-2017)

The late Mr Wee Hong Im was a stalwart at MPMA, leading and inspiring members with his commitment and contributions towards advancing the plastics industry.

The Chairman of Chong Wah Plastics was one of the pioneer members of MPMA, and was always steadfast and dilligent in carrying out MPMA's mission. Mr Wee was the third MPMA president, and served for two terms from 1982-1986. He was also instrumental in forming and building a regional plastics coalition, the ASEAN Federation of Plastic Industries (AFPI), He was AFPI chairman in 1984.

Throughout MPMA's 50 years' history, Mr Wee had been an active member and outstanding leader, and a mentor and patron to many. He will be deeply missed.

MPMA I FADERS' TRIBUTE TO MR WEE HONG IM

Datuk Lim Kok Boon, President

I hold Mr Wee in extremely high regard. When I was undecided about being MPMA Vice-President, he sat down with me one afternoon and encouraged me to take up the challenge. He promised to give me his support and he would turn up at our CC and Exco meetings even when he was not well.

He was my mentor, he guided me and taught me about the history and developments of the industry. I am truly indebted to him for his guidance and assistance.

Dato' Liew Sew Yee, MPMA Honorary President

The late Mr Wee was my mentor as we started in the same field, of changing from PE to PP. I respect Mr Wee for his sense of responsibility and commitment in whatever he did. He continued to sit in MPMA's Central Committee even after he retired as President, something

that no one can emulate. It goes to show his sense of responsibility and commitment towards the association as well as the plastics industry.

Mr Callum Chen, MPMA Honorary President

I will always remember Mr Wee as an ex-headmaster turned entrepreneur with his thick black-rimmed glasses and no-nonsense attitude.

But as I got to know him better during our overseas trips, I also discovered his jovial side.

Mr Wee also set in place very sound advice and guidance, especially when it came to the management of MPMA's funds. Every sen is accounted for, and its accounting transparent. It is because of this accountability that many associate members and members have continued to contribute to MPMA to sustain our Noble Activities.

I have learnt a lot from Mr Wee and I am happy to have had a friend in him.

Mr Johnny Yong, MPMA President (1986-1990)

It was with great shock and sadness that I received the news of my dear old friend's passing. We would certainly miss his presence and contributions. Mr Wee was one of the "foundation" members of MPMA, contributing his time and effort to the association till his very last days. He assisted me during my days at MPMA and I will always have fond memories of him.

Mr Tan Kim Leng, Vice-President (1990-1994)

Mr Wee's passing is really a great loss to the plastics industry in Malaysia, particularly MPMA. He was one of the pioneer founders of the MPMA Central Committee and was the President of MPMA for two terms from 1982-1986. MPMA, under his able leadership,

became a well-respected nationwide association and Mr Wee also played a major role in making AFPI stronger. His contribution in the plastics industry is borderless.

I was Vice-President of MPMA for 2 terms and I appreciate his full commitment in the development of MPMA. He was a man full of sincerity, was very friendly and was indeed a very humble person who was able to work together with all members.

Mr HK Thye, MPMA Vice-President (1995-1996)

Under Mr Wee's leadership, MPMA membership grew steadily because he established a culture of providing selfless service to members. For that, he was greatly respected and acknowledged.

He was always enthusiastic and energetic in moving MPMA forward, as a Central Committee Member and then as President. He contributed ideas to streamline and strengthen MPMA and its Secretariat, and worked hard to bring value and recognition to the plastics industry.

Today, MPMA is a well respected and recognised trade association. Through its down-to-earth and dynamic approach to industry issues, it continues to help its members grow and stay strong in this competitive environment. MPMA's strong standing today is no doubt Mr Wee's legacy.

MPMA has lost a great patron with Mr Wee's passing. He will be deeply missed. May he rest in peace.

Dato' Ang Poon Chuan, MPMA Northern Branch Advisor

Mr Wee Hong Im was one of the founders of MPMA who had led with excellence. We had been friends since the 1970s when he had lend his support to Northern MPMA. It was a privilege to have known him. His leaving would forever be a great loss. He will be truly missed and will always be remembered. May he rest in peace.

MPMA Past Presidents

1967 - 1969 Mr SW Goh (President for pro-tem Committee) United Plastic Factory



1969 - 1978 Mr Thomas Wong Century Plastic Sdn Bhd



1978 - 1982 Mr KC Tan (the late) Lam Seng Plastics Industries Sdn Bhd



1982 - 1986 Mr Wee Hong Im (the late) Chong Wah Plastics Industries Sdn Bhd



1986 - 1990 Mr Johnny Yong Yong Kam Fook Plastic Industries Sdn Bhd



1990 - 1998 Dato' Liew Sew Yee Thong Fook Plastics Industries Sdn Bhd

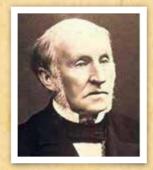


1998 - 2004 Mr Callum Chen LH Plus Sdn Bhd (formerly known as Lee Huat Plastics Industries Sdn Bhd)

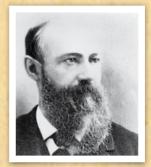


2004 - 2006 Dato' Peter CC Yong Yong Kam Fook Plastic Industries Sdn Bhd

The Essential Stages in the History of Plastics



Alexander Parkes, inventor of Parkesine (1862).



John Wesley Hyatt, inventor of Celluloid (1868).

1839.

Charles Goodyear vulcanizes rubber.

1844.

F. Walton produces linoleum.

1845

C.F. Schonbein obtains cellulose nitrate, starting material for Celluloid.

1851

Hard rubber articles on show in London; Charles Goodyear obtained hard rubber by subjecting rubber to prolonged vulcanization with a high percentage of sulphur.

1862.

A. Parkes presents the first Parkensine objects at the Great London Exhibition; compound of cellulose nitrate, naftalene and camphor.

1868

From a starting point of cellulose nitrate and camphor, J. W. Hyatt obtains Celluloid, very similar to Parkensine.

The Celluloid patent registered in the U.S.A.

The Hyatt brothers built a machine for Celluloid manufacture.

J. W. Hyatt made the first multiple injection mould.

M. Gray patents the first screw extruder.

1892

P. Troester produces the first tube and cable extruder which is an improvement on Gray's machine.

W. Kirshe and A. Spitteler patent Casein formaldehyde: Galalite.

1901.

W. J. Smith obtains the first glycerophthalic and alkyd resins.

Baekeland announces the discovery of phenolic resins, patented under the name Bakelite.

General Bakelite Co. is formed, transformed in 1922 and subsequently incorporated into the Carbide Union.

1910.

German production of cellulose acetate.

1915

The first synthetic elastomer at Leverkusen.

Sandretto Industrie begins, major producer of injection presses in Italy.

Technology for rotational moulding patented.

Industrial production of epoxy resins.

Industrial production of polytetrafluoro-ethylene.

G. Natta obtains isotactic polypropylene, produced by Montecatini, Ferrara in 1957.

High density polyethylene.

Polycarbonate production.

Acetalic resin production in the U.S.A.

Polyimide production.

Polyphenyloxide is produced.

Polysuphones are produced.

Du Pont develops ionomeric thermoplastic

MALAYSIAN PLASTICS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION Central Committee Members for 2016-2018



Ms Ng Peg Shi (Welfare & Membership), Mr Tan Cheow Ho (Treasurer), Mr CC Cheah (Vice-President), Datuk Noraini S Talib (Vice-Front President), the late Mr Wee Hong Im (Honorary President), Datuk Lim Kok Boon (President), Mr Callum Chen (Honorary President), Dato' Raymond Sng (Vice-President), Mr Eddie Fong (Secretary-General), Mr Chow Chee Yut (Public Relations Officer), Mr Tan Tin Nam

Ms Wee Ching Yun, Mr Leong Peng Kong, Mr Hue Kon Fah, Mr Tang Hong Koon (Johor Branch Chairman), Datuk Alan Ang (Sabah Back Branch Chairman), Mr Johnson Phoon (Perak Branch Chairman), Mr FK Lee, Mr Ivan Tan, Mr Alvin Ang See Ming (Northern Branch Chairman), Mr Yeon Kok Kuang

Dato' Liew Sew Yee (Honorary President), Tn Hj Mohd Fitri Mohd Aris (Assistant Secretary-General), Mr Liew Yew Aw (Internal Auditor), Mr SH Choo, Mr George Lee He Liong (Sarawak Branch Chairman)

Plastic Manufacturers' cnina organised China ting Organization) a sent a strong delegation to gapore from July 7 Forum to 8, Asia Plastics the invitation of the the Promotion of PIT). This visited China from missioned by Mr. Wee Hong JUNE/SEPTEMBER 1992 Seremony Liew (second from right) and Dato' Ahmad Tajuddin Ali (second ant signing ceremony on Jan 6 1994, s Singapore Tooling ent signing ceremony on Jan o 1994, r of Science, Technology and Environthis trade mission of purchasing Ding (centre). of exporting e understand ts a lot of Singapore) 25th Annivers SEMINAR ON MOULD DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
WITH STANDARD ELEMENTS The seminar on mould making was held on 23rd March 1977 in Kuala Lumpur at the Units for mould standard elements for mould making was held on in manufacturing standard elements of designing and mould makers the new system of designing and mould makers the new system of designing and mould makers the new system of designing and mould standards are standardized alements.

Mould standards are standardized alements. al Opening of The Plastics Technology ' the Mission moulds with high precision standard elements manufactured in large series in a modular system.

Mould standards are standardized elements manufactured in large series in a modular system.

Mould standards are standardized and punching tools. mould, cutung and punctung tools.

The sets, mould and tool makers have only to concentrate their work. Building moulds moved with routine work. Building moulds any more with routine work. Building moulds any more with routine work. ar system in the world for mountained and the standardized at med and tools. EVENTS ROUND.UP TRADE FAIR ould-n IN MALAYSIA STAND MPMA EXHIBITION THE ΑT o S The Stor ARBY Conference WS take up slar d many ly of ran The Action of th f the plac. aceto Alle Halle Argentine of Charles o Title Heir Replication of the Property of the EVENTS ROUND-UP Chapter to the state of the sta ti Calanto Mi. He sand holders esentatives found every informative and their appreciation to MPMA trm reception Corpora, Man of Man of warm reception. MPMA Public Relation Officer En. Mohd. Fitri
(right) and committee member Mr. Teo Yu Thian
(right) and committee member Mr. Teo MPMA and
(second from right) brief the guest on MPMA and
(second from right) brief the guest on MPMA and



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