From the Editor's Desk

Polypropylene business recorded a growth of 16% on year to year basis from April to September 2012, a good news for processing industry and the growth is in all major sectors viz. Raffia, BOPP, Injection Moulding, Fibre Filament & Extrusion. This enthusiasm is supported by the fact that processing sector has witnessed a capacity addition of 140 KT spread across various segments in polypropylene alone.

We are also pleased to inform you on the significant progress in some of the policy level initiatives we have taken during the last quarter. We are reporting them separately under the title “New Applications”. A notable achievement of the Polypropylene team is introduction of Plasticulture course in Agricultural Universities.

We have organized several Customer events during July - September’12 for entrepreneur development and to create awareness of new markets.

We are privileged to interview Mrs Shashi Singh, ED, Indian Technical Textile Association, throwing light on the role of ITTA for the growth of Technical Textiles and opportunities it offers for our customers.

Wishing you a very happy festive season ahead.

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1st Plasticulture Course in Agriculture University

Rajasthan Agriculture University, Bikaner are the pioneers in the country to start an elective course on Plasticulture applications. Prof J K Gaur, Head Dept of Ag Engg, has been conducting a programme since last two years.

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New Applications in Polypropylene

Technical Textiles: ITTA Growth Initiatives

Q: What is ITTA & what are the main responsibilities?

A: To facilitate the growth of this industry, infusion of investments in new technologies in Indian MINISTRY OF TEXTILES, Government of India -recognized the need to have industry's active participation to bring out issues, concerns and suggest policy framework that would lay the foundation for this sector. This lead to formation of ITTA (Indian Technical Textiles Association)- an Industry think-tank whose objective is to facilitate the growth of technical textiles in India. Given the fact that Government policy has played a critical role in the advancement of Technical textiles (TT) - ITTA maintains a close interaction with Government of India in formulating National Technical Textiles Policy focusing on removing the ambiguities in the system which are hampering the growth of the sector.

Q: What are the supports from Textile Ministry to promote TT in India?

A: Textile Ministry has been proactively working in terms of market development support and infrastructure support by strengthening the centres of excellence to provide good environment for the growth of TT in India. Technology Up gradation Fund Scheme (TUFF) has gone a long way in spurring the investment in TT during last couple of years. The TUFF provides interest reimbursement as well as capital subsidy to eligible units. In addition Government has initiated Technology Mission on Technical Textiles (TMTT) to provide requisite support to the industry.

Q: What is the current status of Technical Textiles usage in India?

A: It offers a huge opportunity in India for both local consumption as well for exports. Based on current usage patterns the domestic consumption is expected to exceed US $ 13 billion by 2012/13. (around Rs 62000 crores). The major raw materials for TT are Polypropylene, Polyester, Polyethylene, Polyamide etc. Application areas are Geotextiles, Agro textiles, Industrial, Protective Textiles, Medical, Hygiene & Packaging. The working group for 12th five year plan has projected the market size of Rs. 158540 Crores by the year 2016-17.

Mrs Shashi Singh is professionally qualified Chartered Management Accountant (UK) and has experience of about 25 years in Textile Industry including 10 years in Technical Textile Industry. She was former Joint Textile Commissioner and during her tenure in Office of the Textile Commissioner, Ministry of Textile, She was instrumental in formulation and implementation of highly successful Technology Up gradation Fund Scheme (TUFF) and Technology Mission Technical Textiles (TMTT).
**Klene Paks Ltd.** Quality Packing Company

KLENE PAKS LTD, an ISO 9001:2008 certified company, is a leading player in the Raffia industry at South India. Led by Mr Vimal Sipani, as Managing Director, the company has successfully transformed itself into a profit making venture over the past 30 years, with an established presence in HDPE/PP woven fabric and bags consuming around 35000 Tons of Polypropylene per annum.

The Company has established its market presence focussed on quality, stable prices and superior service. This has helped in withstanding competitive pressures and changing business environment and attaining the current status of the largest manufacturer of Woven Fabrics in the sub-continent.

They have installed world class machines with the best technical inputs and have actively pursued backward integration strategies to bring in operational and cost efficiencies. The product portfolio has been expanded to include HM/LLDPE liners, Filler and HDPE stitching yarn. With the commissioning of a compounding plant for in-house consumption, the company has successfully integrated backwards to maintain control on the entire process. They believe in zero wastage, thus reprocessing all the waste produced during the process.

Various value addition opportunities have been pursued in the fabric business like lamination, double and centre slitting suitable for box, big bags, tarpaulins, gusseting and controlled handling of bags.

The company has always been a front runner in volunteering to fulfil social obligations and has always come forward with helping the state authorities during natural calamities and disasters.

Mr Sipani appreciates the support of Reliance Polymers Team in success of his group. He further reiterates the close relationship with Reliance who have always helped them to identify new and innovative products and concepts adding value to his business.

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**Kanpur Plastipack Ltd.** Providing Solutions to Industrial Bulk Packaging

M/s. Kanpur Plastipack Ltd. (KPL), incorporated in the year 1971 as a Private Limited Company, became a Public Limited Company in December, 1986. It is presently engaged in the manufacture of HDPE / PP Woven Sack, PP Box Bags, Flexible Intermediate Bulk Containers (FIBCs), Fabrics and Multi Filament Yarn. Currently the thrust area is only FIBCs where value added high end products are being introduced in a phased manner. The company is processing about 15000 tons of polymers per annum.

KPL started its commercial production in 1972 as an SSI unit. The export initiative of the company started in 1997 primarily to utilize its capacity. They were manufacturing FIBC's initially only as an add on product to help fill up the containers for clients in Europe. However quick product acceptance and demand led to a situation where at the end of 2006, the Company was already planning to build a spanking new factory with over 200,000 sq feet of building space. A key factor which helped the Company at this stage was obtaining ISO 22000:2005 and BRC certification for the manufacture of Food Grade bags. They are now preparing to seek AIB certification from USA in the current year. The Company has received status of Star Export House from Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

During 2011 they initiated two important moves. One was the entry into South America- Overcoming barriers of language, location, time differences and most of all handling an entirely different culture. The other was to invest in High Tenacity FDY PP Multi Filament Yarn manufacturing.

Manoj Agarwal, managing director, is a Masters in Management Studies from BITS, Pilani and has been involved in all aspects of the business enterprise since his joining the company in 1977. His rich experience of over 35 Years has evolved as a leading light in the raffia industry.

After taking over as managing director in 2005, the company witnessed an exponential growth of almost 3½ times in 7 years. He savours the close relationship with Reliance Industries Limited Polymers team and attributes major contribution of his success to the team.
INDUSTRY EVENTS

Packplus South 2012, Hyderabad
A prominent trade event dedicated to Packaging Industry. Held in Hyderabad between 4-6 July 2012. More than 250 exhibitors across India participated in the exposition.
A successful event which provides one stop shop for entire packaging industry. Reliance Polymers participated in the exhibition and displayed various new initiatives in packaging field like, PP ISBM Bottles, Clarified PP Containers, TWIM containers among many others.

Agritech Bangalore and Gandhinagar
Two exhibitions dedicated to Agriculture related industries were held in Bangalore and Gandhinagar with purpose of exposing Indian farmers to the latest technology / practices from across the globe for better agriculture output
Reliance Polymers Team actively participated in Bangalore event displaying various products
Our processors participated in both the events displaying their product range for agriculture sector.

Plastomotive 2012, Chennai
This event was organized with an objective to build bridge between Automotive and polymer industries. India’s prime congregation for the Automotive Supply Chain attracted over 400 participants from the industry.
We made a presentation on Role of PP Long Fibre reinforced material in Automotive with success stories and insights into some of the on-going projects.
There were 19 other presentations by leading stakeholders of the automotive sector.

All India Cold Storage Association Annual Meet, Agra
Special Seminar was organized by Cold Storage Association coinciding with their Annual Meet on 18th of July ‘12. Over 300 Cold Storage owners & progressive farmers participated in the Annual Meet.
Reliance Polymer made a presentation on ‘Increasing the efficiency of Cold Storages by use of Leno Bags for Potato packing’, Free samples with details of supply chain were provided to all visitors.

Plasto 2012 Launch Function, Pune
Launch ceremony of Plasto 2012 organized at PYC Club Pune on August 24th 2012. Mr. Warren Wilder, President Polymers & Cracker inaugurated the Launch function. Plasto 2012 is scheduled for 20th to 23rd Dec ‘12.

IPI & IPF programme on Rigid Packaging, Kolkata
A Seminar was organised by IPI & IPF Kolkata Chapter on Sept. 11, 2012. Reliance Polymer made presentation on recent trends in rigid packaging. Samples were displayed at the event.
CRM for PP Nonwoven promotion at Meoli Village, Haryana

Our polymer team in co-ordination with CASA (Centre for Advancement & Sustainable Development in Agriculture) an NGO visited Meoli a remote Village in Haryana. Farmers had to depend on Sarkhans to fight Frost & Pest till now. They are excited about polypropylene nonwovens that could save them from the vagaries of weather in winter.

PPR ITI training Programs in South Gujarat

5 CRM’s were organized on promotion of “PPR pipes for Plumbing & Industrial Applications” at ITIs & COE. Around 1000 attendees including Principal, ITI & COE Instructors of various trades viz. Fitters, Welders, Plumbers, PPO (Plastics Processing Operators) & Students of above trade participated.

1st Plasticulture Course in Agriculture University (Contd. from Page 1)

Plasticulture education has certainly not kept pace with the rapid growth in industry for the plastics applications in Agriculture which is spurred by the Government policies supportive of the growth.

While special purpose vehicles like GGRC (Gujarat Green Revolution Company), Andhra Pradesh Micro Irrigation Project (APMIP) floated by State Governments to propel growth in these (Drip) applications, there is a lack of professionals / Educational institutes available to cater to needs of the industry and State Governments. Research by experts, industry and PFDC's (of NCPAH) has remained scattered and largely unavailable to Faculty / Students / Industry on a single point basis.

Water management needs canal lining / pond lining to save scarce water resource from seepage in ground and to check losses during conveyance. The engineering aspects of applications like Micro-Irrigation (sprinkler / Drip) itself has vast scope with respect to design, irrigation scheduling, Fertilization, management etc.

Add to it the emerging fields like Protective cultivation (Green Houses / Agri. Shade nets / Low tunnels), Mulching, Crop Covers, Subsurface drainage, Silage packing, Nursery, etc., the need for having an Engineering course is acutely left.

Post harvest technology has important role to play in Indian Agriculture. Use of plastics like burlap bags / unit packaging of farm produce (advancing shelf life) / CAP Cover - Cover As Planch to store food grains are promising applications.

With engineering plastics making in roads in basic raw material it has vast application base in Farm Tools / Dairy equipment / Non renewable energy sources - Wind mill, Bio gas domes, Solar water heaters etc. Introduction of education courses in Plasticulture in Universities is the need of the hour and needs to be taken across the country.

The Plasticulture course further has been initiated in Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology - Udaipur.

Similar initiatives are underway across the country so that professional courses are available for Plasticulture in Agriculture Universities across India.
PPR Pipes for Domestic and Industrial Applications

Repol AER003N is the only locally manufactured material suitable for hot and cold water plumbing applications.

Repol AER003N based piping systems have received more than 50 approvals from 5 star Hotels, Metropolitan Development Authorities, Municipal Corporations as well as from reputed builders and architects, all over India.

Apart from Plumbing it is widely accepted for piping system of paper mills, sugar mills, chemicals industries, polymer processing units replacing metal. PPR Industrial pipes are available in various diameters.

Salient Features
- Continuous Usage at 95°C
- Excellent Chemical Resistance
- Long Service Life
- No Internal Scaling
- Corrosion Free
- Free of Toxic Elements
- Saves insulation cost
- Eco Friendly material for Green Buildings
- No Bacterial Growth

Application Areas
- Hot & Cold water supply in residential, industrial and public projects
- Industrial systems like
  - Conveying air pressure
  - Conveying water at higher temperature
  - Transportation of aggressive fluids like acid and alkaline solutions
  - Effluent & Sewage Disposal Sanitary lines
- Lines for conveying liquid food products
- Chilled water circuit for refrigeration units
- Water purifying / Pharmaceutical plants for clean water

Technical Textiles: ITTA Growth Initiatives  Contd from Pg 1

Q: Tell us about the Plans of ITTA for the current year in direction of promotion of Investment & New Applications.

A: The plan of action of ITTA are focused as under:
- Identification of potential products of TT and encourage investment in setting up of manufacturing units.
- Submit white paper to the Government on regulatory measures.
- Submit comprehensive proposals to various Govt. Departments for removing the bottle necks in the growth of the Industry.
- Facilitate setting up of export promotion council.
- The major users of the TT are Institutions like Defence, Railways, Police, NHAI & Infrastructure agencies. ITTA will approach these institutions for extensive usage of Geo-synthetics. We will also approach State Governments to launch various schemes in TT.

Q: What are the expectations from Raw Material Producers like Polypropylene, Polyester & Polyethylene?

A: We have few very active partners who have played a crucial role in formation and functioning of the Association. RIL has been pioneering the initiative for promotion of TT in Infrastructure, Agriculture, Medical fields. We look forward to other major producers of raw materials to join and play roles in development of Technical Textiles Industry.
New Applications & New market of Polypropylene

At Reliance Polymers we are committed to sustainable growth of Polypropylene industry by creating new market and new end-use applications. To achieve our goal, we formulated a robust development program partnering with our customers and leading OEM/End-users. During H1’ 2012, our joint effort resulted more than 20 new applications/accreditation from industries as well as Nodal agencies across India. We thank all our development associates for their valuable contribution.

Polypropylene Two Wheeler Chain Cover replacing metal
Glass Filled Polypropylene for “Pillion Handle” replacing Engg. Plastics
Glass Filled Polypropylene for AC Blower fan replacing Engg. Plastics

National Research Centre for Banana has approved use of PP Nonwoven skirting bags for Spotless Banana
Directorate of Onion & Garlic Research has approved suitability of Polypropylene Leno Bags for Packing of Onion & Garlic
Govt of West Bengal & Arunachal Pradesh have included Geosynthetics in their SOR for Roads & River bank protection.

INDUSTRY EVENTS

Textil Symposium, Mumbai, 30-31st October
Automotive Plastics India, Mumbai, 1st November
India Composite Show, Delhi, 1-3rd November
Indian Petrochem 2012, Mumbai, 8-9 November
SPE’s ANTEC, Mumbai, 6-7th December
Tech Plast Pack, Silvassa, 7-10th December
Plasto 2012, Pune, 20-23rd December

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For queries please contact Polypropylene Business Group, Reliance Industries Limited, Reliance Corporate Park, Building 8A, First Floor, Thane-Belapur Road, Ghasholi, Navi Mumbai - 400701, Tel: 022-44770000 e-mail: repol.newsletter@ril.com