



EUROPEAN PLASTICS INDUSTRY

EPDA welcomes new EU food-contact directive / Significant investments made by members

The **European Plastics Distributors Association** (EPDA, Salisbury / UK; www.epda.com) has welcomed the EU's new legislation on plastics that come into contact with food and is urging its members to comply. The regulation is designed to protect consumers from potential contamination by the plastics used in food products.

Directive EU 10/2011, which is binding in all member states, applies to food-contact materials and article, as well as their parts made from plastic. This includes printed or coated plastic multi-layer materials and articles held together by adhesives; plastic layers or plastic coatings forming gaskets in caps and closures; and plastic layers in multi-material, multi-layer materials and articles.

The EPDA said many of its members have been working to these standards prior to the legislation becoming legally enforceable, and have invested significant time and money to ensure their plastic products used in food production are certified and fully compliant.

Members including **Quadrant Engineering Plastic Products** (Quadrant EPP, Lenzburg / Switzerland; www.quadrantplastics.com), **Ensinger** (Nufringen / Germany; www.ensinger-online.com) and **Zell-Metall Engineering Plastics** (Kaprun / Austria; www.zellamid.com) have already ensured they are certified and in compliance with the new rules.

The EPDA concluded by reassuring food processors that they will receive a safe supply of food-grade plastic materials with excellent traceability and reliability when buying from certified Europe firms.

Published on 28.02.2017

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Date of print: 02.03.2017 16:20:05 (Ref: 4248974)

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The magazine for **Europe's** plastic processors

eppm

EPDA-backed plastic packaging legislation gives EU consumers peace of mind

The European Plastics Distributors Association (EPDA) has thrown its weight behind new EU legislation protecting consumers from the risks of contaminated plastics in packaging products.



The [EU](#) has issued Directive EU 10/2011, which is binding in all member states and applies to food contact materials including printed or coated plastic multi-layer materials and articles held together by adhesives, plastic layers or coatings forming gaskets in caps and closures, and plastic layers in multi-material multi-layer materials and articles.

The EPDA has encouraged its members, who are stakeholders up and down the [plastics packaging](#) value chain, to meet these higher standards, which many of them already achieving these benchmarks before the legislation became legally enforced.

Designed to protect consumers from potential plastics contamination, the legislation has driven a surge in investment in migration testing, due diligence, employee training, customer training, brochure and certificate redesign and additional manpower.

The avoidance of production line stoppages and huge product recall costs, combined with protecting consumers' health, is at the centre of plastics producers' agenda. EPDA members are united in helping food processors to avoid all contamination by plastics of food products.

EPDA member Quadrant has blazed a trail by establishing a new portfolio for Food Grade products, meeting the Declaration of Compliance set out in EU 10/2011. The company believes that the introduction of the legislation is a major step in the right direction. It, together with raw material manufacturers, additive suppliers and food manufacturers, is constantly developing new materials to make food production even safer in the future.

"High-performance plastics have taken over many important functions in modern food production and contribute significantly to economic and safe production," said Petra Brinkmann, Marketing Communications Coordinator at Quadrant EPP Europe. "It is inevitable that these plastic components come into contact with food. Therefore, it is even more important that the plastic materials are safe with regard to their constituents and additives."

Fellow member Ensinger, has tested all of its products, regardless of end user, to match the standards laid down in the legislation.

"To make life easier, we have no special food grades, but tested all formulations for the selected materials from our regular stock program to avoid double inventory for us and our customers," an Ensinger spokesperson stated.

Furthermore, Zell-Metall, which supplies engineered plastic stock shapes destined for the food industry, declared that even though its products were already classed as food grade materials before the Directive, it is now fully certified and compliant.

Thanks to the hard work of EPDA members and the significant investments made in light of the Directive, the European plastics industry can assure food processors, buying from certified European firms, of a safe supply of Food Grade plastic materials with excellent traceability and reliability, giving the supply chain from manufacturer to consumer peace of mind.

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The EPDA said many of its members have been working to these standards prior to the legislation becoming legally enforceable, and have invested significant time and money to ensure their plastic products used in food production are certified and fully compliant.

Members including **Quadrant Engineering Plastic Products** (Quadrant EPP, Lenzburg / Switzerland; www.quadrantplastics.com), **Ensinger** (Nufingen / Germany; www.ensinger-online.com) and **Zell-Metall Engineering Plastics** (Kaprun / Austria; www.zellamid.com) have already ensured they are certified and in compliance with the new rules.

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28.02.2017 PIE [236248-0]

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02-16-2017

EPDA Backs New EU Plastic Legislation

Plastics come into contact with food throughout the supply chain from conveyor belting and mixing vessels to bagging. To alleviate any public health concerns, the EU has issued Directive EU 10/2011 with which the European Plastics Distributors Association (EPDA) is asking its members to comply.

The new, all-encompassing legislation, which is binding in all member states, applies to food contact materials and articles and parts thereof consisting exclusively of plastics. This includes printed or coated plastic multi-layer materials and articles held together by adhesives, plastic layers or plastic coatings forming gaskets in caps and closures and plastic layers in multi-material multi-layer materials and articles. This latest regulatory development to protect consumers from potential plastics' contamination, has been welcomed by EPDA, whose members are involved in everything from plastic packaging to food contact components. Many members of EPDA have already been working to these higher exacting standards prior to the new legislation becoming legally enforceable.

The avoidance of production line stoppages and huge product recall costs, combined with protecting consumers' health, is at the center of plastics producers' agenda. EPDA members are united in helping food processors to avoid all contamination by plastics of food products. Quadrant, Tielt, Belgium, for example, has made substantial investments to ensure its "Food Grade" products have their own portfolio and are supplied with the 'Declaration of Compliance' according to the EU 10/2011 Directive. The company believes that the introduction of Regulation EU 10/2011 is a major step in the right direction. It, together with raw material manufacturers, additive suppliers and food manufacturers, is constantly developing new materials to make food production even safer in the future.

Ensinger, Nufringen, Germany, meanwhile, has tested all of its products, regardless of end user, to match the standards laid down in the legislation. Austrian member, Zell-Metall, Kaprun, which supplies engineered plastic stock shapes destined for the food industry, declared that even though its products were already classed as food grade materials before the Directive, it is now fully certified and compliant.

COMPANY PROFILE

EPDA - European Plastics Distributors Association

The Old George Brewery
GB SP1 1DX SALISBURY



La EPDA apoya la nueva legislación de la UE en materia de plásticos

Para eliminar cualquier problema de salud pública, la UE ha emitido la Directiva UE 10/2011, y la Asociación Europea de Distribuidores de Plásticos (EPDA) pide a sus miembros que la cumplan.

Los plásticos entran en contacto con los alimentos en toda la cadena de suministro, desde las cintas transportadoras y los recipientes de mezcla, hasta el ensacado.



Para eliminar cualquier problema de salud pública, la UE ha emitido la Directiva UE 10/2011, y la Asociación Europea de Distribuidores de Plásticos (EPDA) pide a sus miembros que la cumplan.

La nueva legislación, que abarca todos los Estados miembros, es aplicable a los materiales y objetos en contacto con alimentos, y sus partes, que consisten exclusivamente en plásticos. Esto incluye materiales de plástico multicapa y artículos impresos o recubiertos unidos por adhesivos, capas de plástico o recubrimientos de plástico que se encuentran en tapas y cierres y capas de plástico en materiales y artículos multicapa de varios materiales.

Este último desarrollo normativo para proteger a los consumidores de posibles contaminaciones por plásticos, ha sido bien recibido por la EPDA, cuyos miembros están involucrados en todo el proceso, desde envases de plástico hasta componentes en contacto con alimentos. Muchos miembros de EPDA ya han estado trabajando con estos estándares más exigentes antes incluso de que la nueva legislación sea legalmente aplicable.

Sus miembros están invirtiendo mucho tiempo y dinero para asegurarse que sus productos de plástico, destinados a la producción de alimentos están certificados y cumplen

plenamente con todas las partes de la Directiva que implica cosas tales como, pruebas de migración, documentación adicional, formación para los empleados y los clientes, rediseño de los folletos y los certificados, y posible mano de obra adicional.

La prevención de las paradas en las líneas de producción y sus enormes costes de puesta en marcha, combinados con la protección de la salud de los consumidores, está en el centro de la agenda de los productores de plásticos. Los miembros de la EPDA están unidos para ayudar a los procesadores de alimentos a evitar toda contaminación por plásticos de sus productos alimenticios.

Quadrant, por ejemplo, ha hecho inversiones sustanciales para asegurar que sus productos *Food Grade* tengan su propia cartera y se les suministre la *Declaración de Cumplimiento* de acuerdo con la Directiva UE 10/2011.

Ensinger, por su parte, ha probado todos sus productos, independientemente del usuario final, para que se ajusten a las normas establecidas en la legislación. Y el asociado austríaco Zell-Metall, que suministra moldes de plásticos de ingeniería destinados a la industria alimentaria, declaró que aunque sus productos ya estaban clasificados como materiales de calidad alimentaria antes de la Directiva, ahora está totalmente certificado y cumplen con la misma.

Gracias al trabajo de los miembros de la EPDA y a las importantes inversiones realizadas a la luz de la Directiva, la industria plástica europea puede garantizar a los procesadores de alimentos que, comprando a empresas europeas certificadas, el suministro de materiales plásticos de calidad alimentaria con una excelente trazabilidad y fiabilidad está asegurado. Y, por supuesto, los consumidores pueden relajarse para comer sus alimentos con tranquilidad y confianza.

La EPDA se formó en 1973, representando a empresas de más de 20 países que participan en una sección transversal de actividades de distribución y fabricación que abarca placas de plástico, bloques, varillas, perfiles, tubos, tuberías, válvulas, accesorios y numerosas actividades relacionadas.

***Para más información:** www.epda.com



La asociación EPDA apoya la nueva legislación plástica de la UE para proteger a los consumidores



Los plásticos entran en contacto con los alimentos en toda la cadena de suministro, desde las cintas transportadoras, los recipientes de mezcla, hasta el ensacado. Para eliminar cualquier problema de salud pública, la UE ha emitido la Directiva UE 10/2011, y la

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Este último desarrollo normativo para proteger a los consumidores de posibles contaminaciones por plásticos, ha sido bien recibido por la EPDA, cuyos miembros están involucrados en todo el proceso, desde envases de plástico hasta componentes en contacto con alimentos. Muchos miembros de EPDA ya han estado trabajando con estos estándares más exigentes antes incluso de que la nueva legislación sea legalmente aplicable.

Sus miembros están invirtiendo mucho tiempo y dinero en asegurarse de que sus productos de plástico, destinados a la producción de alimentos, están certificados y cumplen plenamente con todas las partes de la Directiva que implica cosas tales como, pruebas de migración, documentación adicional, formación para los empleados y los clientes, rediseño de los folletos y los certificados, y posible mano de obra adicional.

La prevención de las paradas en las líneas de producción y sus enormes costes de puesta en marcha, combinados con la protección de la salud de los consumidores, está en el centro de la agenda de los productores de plásticos. Los miembros de la EPDA están unidos para ayudar a los procesadores de alimentos a evitar toda contaminación por plásticos de sus productos alimenticios.

Quadrant, por ejemplo, ha hecho inversiones sustanciales para asegurar que sus productos 'Food Grade' tengan su propia cartera y se les suministre la 'Declaración de Cumplimiento' de acuerdo con la Directiva UE 10/2011. Petra Brinkmann, coordinadora de comunicaciones

de Marketing de Quadrant EPP Europe, comentó: "Los plásticos de altas prestaciones han asumido muchas funciones importantes en la producción de alimentos y contribuyen significativamente a la producción económica y segura. Es inevitable que estos componentes plásticos entren en contacto con los alimentos. Por lo tanto, es aún más importante que los materiales plásticos sean seguros con respecto a sus componentes y aditivos".

La empresa cree que la introducción de la normativa UE 10/2011 es un paso importante en la dirección correcta. Junto a los fabricantes de materias primas, proveedores de aditivos y procesadores de alimentos, está desarrollando constantemente nuevos materiales para que la producción de alimentos sea aún más segura en el futuro.

Ensinger, por su parte, ha probado todos sus productos, independientemente del usuario final, para que se ajusten a las normas establecidas en la legislación. "Para hacer la vida más fácil, no tenemos ninguna clase especial para alimentos, pero hemos comprobado todas las formulaciones de los materiales seleccionados de nuestro programa standard de existencias para evitar el inventario doble para nosotros y nuestros clientes".

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PackagingNews

EPDA backs new EU plastic legislation

The European Plastics Distributors Association (EPDA) has backed recent EU legislation concerning plastics coming into contact with food.



The new legislation applies to food contact materials and articles and parts thereof consisting exclusively of plastics.

This includes printed or coated plastic multi-layer materials and articles held together by adhesives, plastic layers or plastic coatings forming gaskets in caps and closures and plastic layers in multi-material multi-layer materials and articles.

This latest regulatory development to protect consumers from potential plastics' contamination, has been welcomed by EPDA, whose members are involved in everything from plastic packaging to food contact components.



RevistaPlásticosModernos

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EPDA-backed plastic components legislation gives food shoppers peace of mind

by Rose Brooke

February 17, 2017

The European Plastics Distributors Association (EPDA) has thrown its weight behind new EU legislation protecting consumers from the risks of contaminated plastics in food processing components.



The EU has issued Directive EU 10/2011, which is binding in all member states and applies to food contact machinery components, including printed plastic multi-layer materials and articles held together by adhesives, plastic layers or coatings forming gaskets in caps and closures, and plastic layers in multi-material multi-layer materials and articles.

The EPDA has encouraged its members, who are stakeholders up and down the plastics packaging value chain, to meet these higher standards, which many of them already achieving these benchmarks before the legislation became legally enforced.

Designed to protect consumers from potential plastics contamination, the legislation has driven a surge in investment in migration testing, due diligence, employee training, customer training, brochure and certificate redesign and additional manpower.

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EPDA member Quadrant has blazed a trail by establishing a new portfolio for Food Grade products, meeting the Declaration of Compliance set out in EU 10/2011. The company believes that the introduction of the legislation is a major step in the right direction. It, together with raw material manufacturers, additive suppliers and food manufacturers, is constantly developing new materials to make food production even safer in the future.

"High-performance plastics have taken over many important functions in modern food production and contribute significantly to economic and safe production," said Petra Brinkmann, Marketing Communications Coordinator at Quadrant EPP Europe. "It is inevitable that these plastic components come into contact with food. Therefore, it is even more important that the plastic materials are safe with regard to their constituents and additives."

Fellow member Ensinger, has tested all of its products, regardless of end user, to match the standards laid down in the legislation.

"To make life easier, we have no special food grades, but tested all formulations for the selected materials from our regular stock program to avoid double inventory for us and our customers," an Ensinger spokesperson stated.

Furthermore, Zell-Metall, which supplies engineered plastic stock shapes destined for the food industry, declared that even though its products were already classed as food grade materials before the Directive, it is now fully certified and compliant.

Thanks to the hard work of EPDA members and the significant investments made in light of the Directive, the European plastics industry can assure food processors, buying from certified European firms, of a safe supply of Food Grade plastic materials with excellent traceability and reliability, giving the supply chain from manufacturer to consumer peace of mind.



EPDA welcomes members' progress in food contact directive compliance

by John Carlon February 17, 2017

Member companies of The European Plastics Distributors Association (EPDA) are successfully complying with the European Directive 10/2011 on Food Contact materials.

The EPDA has reported that its members across Europe have welcomed the food contact legislation, which became active in 2015, and many have used the legislative standards to invest in ensuring plastic products comply with the Directive, which covers migration testing, records, training for employees, customer education, redesigned brochures and certificates, and possible additional manpower.

Quadrant EPP says it has made investments to ensure its "Food Grade" products have their own portfolio and are supplied with the 'Declaration of Compliance' according to the EU 10/2011 Directive. Petra Brinkmann, Communications Coordinator at Quadrant EPP Europe, said: "High-performance plastics have taken over many important functions in modern food production and contribute significantly to economic and safe production. It is inevitable that these plastic components come into contact with food. Therefore, it is even more important that the plastic materials are safe regarding their constituents and additives."

Quadrant believes that the introduction of Regulation EU 10/2011 is a major step in the right direction. It, together with raw material manufacturers, additive suppliers and food manufacturers, is constantly developing new materials to make food production even safer in the future.

After EPDA members' significant investments made considering the Directive, the European plastics industry can assure food processors, buying from certified European firms, of a safe supply of Food Grade plastic materials with excellent traceability and reliability.

The EU directive applies to food contact materials, articles and parts consisting exclusively of plastics. This includes printed or coated plastic multi-layer materials and articles held together by adhesives, plastic layers or plastic coatings forming gaskets in caps and closures and plastic layers in multi-material multi-layer materials and articles.



EPDA annual meeting to be in Lisbon in June / Keynote speech by British economist Vicky Price

The next annual conference of the **European Plastics Distributors Association** (EPDA, Salisbury / UK; www.epda.com) will take place in Lisbon / Portugal from 15 - 17 June 2017. This year's keynote speaker is *Vicki Pryce*, the chief economic advisor at the **Centre for Economics and Business Research** (CEBR, London / UK; www.cebr.com).

Other speakers include *Wolfgang Funke*, sales development manager at **Solvay Speciality Polymers**, talking about developments in high performance plastics and author *Ross Bernstein* presenting how championship-winning professional athletes possess similar characteristics to peak performers in business. There will be plenary sessions, including one by *Daniel Stricker*, head of Market Research at the **PIE** publisher **KI Group**, about the development of plastics markets in Europe. The fast-paced "Ignite" sessions are designed to stimulate discussion and idea exchange based on a specific topic.

The gala dinner will be at the Palacio Foz, an ornate palace built in the 18th century. A charity auction for **Médecins Sans Frontières** / Doctors Without Borders will also take place at the same time.

EPDA represents the European plastics distribution industry. Its member companies come from more than 20 countries involved in a range of distribution and manufacturing activities including plastic sheet, blocks, rods, profiles, tubes, pipe, valves and fittings.

The magazine for Europe's plastic processors

eppm

EPDA announces annual conference speakers

April 12, 2017

The European Plastics Distributors Association (EPDA) has announced a list of speakers for its annual conference in Lisbon, Portugal.

EPDA's flagship event, 15-17 June, will open with an address and welcome from EPDA President Lari Hahtonen, before the keynote speech to delegates by Vicki Pryce, Chief Economic Advisor at the Centre for Economics and Business Research.

Pryce will provide fresh insights into the shifting dynamics of the Eurozone and the impact of Brexit.

Following Pryce will be Wolfgang Funke, Sales Development Manager at Solvay Speciality Polymers. He will discuss transferring high performance plastic materials into applications that push the limits of metal replacement within a variety of markets.



Lisbon, Portugal

Best-selling author Ross Bernstein will conclude the day with a presentation on *The Champion's Code*, based on the books he wrote where he interviewed more than 500 championship-winning professional athletes. He will discuss how peak performers in business possess the same characteristics as winners in sport.

This will be followed by a gala dinner at the elegant surroundings of the Palacio

Foz, an ornate palace built in the 18th Century. The interior is adorned with decorative arts, elegant marble, detailed painted ceilings and walls, intricate iron balconies and mirrors.

On the final morning, Lari Hahtonen will chair EPDA's AGM before a series of fast-paced, dynamic sessions to generate awareness and stimulate discussion led by industry experts from ICM Industrie and Poly Lanema. Then there will be a Plenary Session by Daniel Stricker, Head of Market Research, KI Group, Plastics Information Europe as well as information about the Distributors Forum.

The conference also includes a lively Optional Tours programme, giving delegates and partners the chance to experience Lisbon. Highlights include a unique walking tour of the city, starting at the famous Miradouro de Sao Pedro de Alcantara viewpoint. There will also be a chance to sample the culinary delights Lisbon has to offer at a food and drinks tastings afternoon.

In between talks, discussion groups and the Manufacturer Showcase, there will be plenty of opportunities to network with industry colleagues from all over Europe and further afield before the Closing Address by Lari Hahtonen.



La economista Vicky Pryce, en la próxima Conferencia Anual de EPDA

22/05/2017

La reconocida economista Vicky Pryce ofrecerá nuevas perspectivas sobre la dinámica cambiante de la zona euro y el impacto del Brexit en la próxima reunión de la EPDA, a mediados de junio en Lisboa.

La European Plastics Distributors Association (EPDA) celebrará su conferencia anual en Lisboa, Portugal, del 15 al 17 de junio. La misma contará con el discurso de apertura a los delegados de Vicky Pryce, que ha trabajado en altos cargos en diversas empresas y con varios gobiernos. Actualmente es Consejera Económica Principal del Centro de Investigación Económica y Empresarial.



Después de Pryce, será el turno de Wolfgang Funke, Gerente de Desarrollo de Ventas de Solvay Specialty Polymers. Hablará de su pasión por la transferencia de materiales plásticos de alto rendimiento a aplicaciones que empujan los límites en la sustitución de metales en una gran variedad de mercados.

Para completar los eventos de la jornada inaugural, el reconocido autor, Ross Bernstein, un galardonado hombre de negocios, con casi 50 libros de deportes en su haber, hablará de The Champion's Code, basada en sus libros en los que entrevistó a más de 500 atletas profesionales ganadores de diferentes campeonatos. Discutirá cómo los más prominentes hombres de negocios poseen las mismas características que los mejores deportistas.

La primera jornada concluirá con una cena de gala en el elegante entorno del Palacio Foz. Al día siguiente, por la mañana, Lari Hahtonen, presidente de la asociación, presidirá la AGM de EPDA antes de una serie de sesiones rápidas y dinámicas para generar conciencia y estimular la discusión dirigida por expertos de la industria del ICM Industrie y Poly Lanema. Tras ello habrá una Sesión Plenaria a cargo de Daniel Stricker, Jefe de Investigación de Mercado, Grupo KI, Plastics Information Europe, así como el Foro de Distribuidores.

La conferencia también incluye un animado programa de Tours Opcionales, dando a los delegados y socios la oportunidad de conocer Lisboa.

***Para más información: www.epda.com**



Conferencia anual EPDA



La reconocida economista Vicky Pryce ofrecerá nuevas perspectivas sobre la dinámica cambiante de la zona euro y el impacto del Brexit cuando la European Plastics Distributors Association (EPDA) se reúna para su conferencia anual en Lisboa, Portugal.

El emblemático evento del EPDA se llevará a cabo del 15 al 17 de junio y se abrirá con una presentación y bienvenida

a cargo del presidente del EPDA Lari Hahtonen, antes del discurso de apertura a los delegados de Vicki Pryce, que ha trabajado en altos cargos en diversas empresas y con varios gobiernos. Actualmente es Consejera Económica Principal del Centro de Investigación Económica y Empresarial.

Después de la Sra. Pryce, será el turno de Wolfgang Funke, Gerente de Desarrollo de Ventas de Solvay Specialty Polymers. Hablará de su pasión por la transferencia de materiales plásticos de alto rendimiento a aplicaciones que empujan los límites en la sustitución de metales en una gran variedad de mercados.

Para completar los eventos de la jornada inaugural, será el reconocido autor, Ross Bernstein, un galardonado hombre de negocios, con casi 50 libros de deportes en su haber. Su presentación estará en "The Champion's Code", basada en sus libros en los que entrevistó a más de 500 atletas profesionales ganadores de diferentes campeonatos. Discutirá cómo los más prominentes hombres de negocios poseen las mismas características que los mejores deportistas.

A continuación, una cena de gala en el elegante entorno del Palacio Foz, un palacio construido en el siglo XVIII. El interior está lujosamente adornado con artes decorativas, mármol, techos pintados y paredes detalladas, balcones de hierro intrincados y espejos.

En la mañana de la jornada final, Lari Hahtonen presidirá el AGM de EPDA antes de una serie de sesiones rápidas y dinámicas para generar conciencia y estimular la discusión dirigida por expertos de la industria del ICM Industrie y Poly Lanema. Tras ello habrá una Sesión Plenaria a cargo de Daniel Stricker, Jefe de Investigación de Mercado, Grupo KI, Plastics Information Europe, así como el Foro de Distribuidores.

La conferencia también incluye un animado programa de Tours Opcionales, dando a los delegados y socios la oportunidad de experimentar Lisboa. Destacan un paseo único por la ciudad, comenzando por el mirador Miradouro de Sao Pedro de Alcántara. También habrá

oportunidad de probar las increíbles delicias culinarias que Lisboa tiene para ofrecer en una tarde de degustación de comida y bebidas.

Entre las conversaciones, los grupos de discusión y el Showcase de fabricantes, habrá muchas oportunidades de establecer contactos con colegas de la industria de toda Europa y más allá, antes de la clausura a cargo Lari Hahtonen.

La Asociación se formó en 1973 y es la voz de la industria europea de distribución de plásticos, representando a empresas de más de veinte países que participan en una sección transversal de distribución y actividades de fabricación que abarca planchas de plásticos, bloques, barras, perfiles, tubos, accesorios y numerosas actividades relacionadas.

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EVENTS

EPDA annual meeting to be in Lisbon in June / Keynote speech by British economist Vicky Price

The next annual conference of the **European Plastics Distributors Association (EPDA)**, Salisbury / UK; www.epda.com) will take place in Lisbon / Portugal from 15 - 17 June 2017. This year's keynote speaker is *Vicki Pryce*, the chief economic advisor at the **Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR)**, London / UK; www.cebr.com).

Other speakers include *Wolfgang Funke*, sales development manager at **Solvay Speciality Polymers**, talking about developments in high performance plastics and author *Ross Bernstein* presenting how championship-winning professional athletes possess similar characteristics to peak performers in business. There will be plenary sessions, including one by *Daniel Stricker*, head of Market Research at the **Plasteurope.com** publisher **KI Group**, about the development of plastics markets in Europe. The fast-paced "Ignite" sessions are designed to stimulate discussion and idea exchange based on a specific topic.

The gala dinner will be at the Palacio Foz, an ornate palace built in the 18th century. A charity auction for **Médecins Sans Frontières / Doctors Without Borders** will also take place at the same time.

EPDA represents the European plastics distribution industry. Its member companies come from more than 20 countries involved in a range of distribution and manufacturing activities including plastic sheet, blocks, rods, profiles, tubes, pipe, valves and fittings.

Published on 17.05.2017



FLAME RETARDANTS

EPDA committed to development of safer flame-retardant plastics / Rising replacement of other materials in construction industry

The **European Plastics Distributors Association** (EPDA, Salisbury / UK; www.epda.com) says the industry is committed to conducting research into flame retardant plastics, materials and additives, that will help boost safety standards. Plastics are increasingly replacing materials in building and construction projects, and European suppliers are striving to make fire-resistant products, especially for applications where flame spread needs to be limited, such as ventilation ducts and wall claddings.

The integrity of plastics in high-rise residential blocks has been called into question after the Grenfell Tower fire in London in June this year, in which at least 80 people are believed to have died – see PIEWeb of [04.07.2017](http://www.pieweb.com/04.07.2017). PIR panelling on the block's exterior insulation is thought by some to have accelerated the blaze.

Plastics are also contributing to equipment for fighting fires. The EPDA says its member **Simona** (Kirn / Germany; www.simona.de) is the first manufacturer to make FM-approved (**FM Approvals**, Norwood, Massachusetts / USA; www.fmapprovals.com) plastic pipes and fittings (up to 630 mm in diameter) for underground water pipe systems, designed for firefighting in buildings.

Low-flammability sheets, rods, pipes and fittings and films made of PVC, polycarbonate and PMMA, among other plastics, are on the market, while fire-safe polymers that are resistant to degradation at high temperatures are being developed to protect items such as window frames. Flame-retardant plastics have also been developed for sectors such as transportation and semi-conductors, which need hard-to-ignite materials that produce very little smoke.

Global demand for flame retardants in construction is forecast to grow 3.2% annually to 803,000 t by 2020 – see PIEWeb of [29.03.2017](http://www.pieweb.com/29.03.2017). The five largest markets for flame retardants (construction products, insulated wire and cable, E&E products, motor vehicles and textiles) represented 88% of worldwide flame retardant sales in 2015.

14.11.2017 PIE [238354-0]



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» **Publication Date:** 14/11/2017



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14.11.2017 PIE [238354-0]

The magazine for **Europe's** plastic processors

eppm

EPDA host forum in Belfast for digital-ready plastics

23 October 2017

The European Plastics Distributors' Association (EPDA) is hosting a Digital Marketing Masterclass in Belfast, 28-29 November.

The forum, at Brett Martin's headquarters in Newtownabbey, is designed to equip plastics industry leaders with practical digital skills.

Now in its third year, the Distributors' Forum helps to improve efficiency and to share knowledge in the plastics industry. This year's event is being hosted by Brett Martin, a world leading manufacturer of semi-finished extruded thermoplastic sheets which supplies material from its manufacturing plant in Northern Ireland to local distributors in five continents and over 70 countries. Brett Martin will include a tour of its facilities.



This networking and educational event, aims to give members valuable insight into building brand value in digital space. All delegates will have the opportunity to engage one on one with the key speakers and will leave the Masterclass equipped with digital and social networking toolkits which they can easily employ in their own businesses.

Keynote speakers Gareth Dunlop, Andi Jarvis and Greg Fry will be leading the

'Digital Marketing Masterclass'. Topics will include: putting the customer experience at the heart of online presence, implementing a digital strategy appropriate for B2B communications and how social media can help businesses to meet corporate objectives.

Gareth Dunlop, CEO and founder of Fathom, has an impressive track record of 15 years of direct commercial experience helping businesses use the internet more effectively. His presentation will focus on changing the company mindset to thinking like the customer. He will provide practical advice on how to get the best from the internet, drive customer engagement and sales by identifying the customer's user journey and making it as straightforward as possible.

Andi Jarvis, founder of

[Eximo Marketing](#), a Belfast-based marketing strategy agency, will open the proceedings on day two with a presentation on how to rise through the Google rankings and develop a digital marketing strategy. Andi has extensive experience across a range of sectors and has worked with companies such as Budweiser, Corona and Electric Ireland.

Greg Fry, an international trainer and one of Ireland's top Social Media experts, will be leading a practical session on how businesses can execute a winning digital strategy. He has worked with organisations ranging from: The Hardware Association of Ireland and Coca Cola Hellenic to Microsoft and Virgin Media.

With numbers limited and to avoid disappointment, distributor members are being urged to book places now. Brett Martin will lead the opening introductions on day one with EPDA President Lari Hahtonen heading up a discussion group on day two. There will also be opportunities on each day of the event for members to network over dinner or lunch respectively.

Lari Hahtonen said: "We hope to repeat the success of last year's event and to bring as many distributors together as possible. The EPDA believes that the European plastics industry needs to take advantage of the opportunities of the digital world sooner rather than later, and this year's forum is an ideal platform for businesses to get ahead with their digital strategy."



EPDA'S FORUM PREPARES PLASTICS TO GO DIGITAL

A 'Digital Marketing Masterclass' is the theme of this year's European Plastics Distributors' Association (EPDA) Forum. The two-day Forum, at Brett Martin's headquarters in Belfast from 28-29 November, is designed to equip plastics industry leaders with practical digital skills to enable their businesses to capitalise on opportunities in the cyber world.

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EPDA was formed in 1973 and is the voice of the European plastics distribution industry, representing companies in more than 20 countries involved in a cross section of distribution activities encompassing plastic sheet, blocks, rods, profiles, tubes, pipe, valves, fittings and numerous related activities.



El foro EPDA se centrará en la era digital en la industria del plástico

17/11/2017

Ser una 'Masterclass de Marketing Digital' es uno de los objetivos del Foro de la [Asociación Europea de Distribuidores de Plásticos \(EPDA\)](#) de este año. El foro que durará dos días y se celebrará en la sede de la firma [Brett Martin](#) en Belfast del 28 al 29 de noviembre, se centrará en ofrecer a los líderes de la industria del plástico habilidades digitales prácticas para permitir que sus empresas aprovechen las oportunidades en el mundo cibernético.

En su tercera edición, el Foro de Distribuidores ayudará a mejorar la eficiencia y compartir conocimiento en la industria del plástico. El evento de este año lo presentará Brett Martin, un fabricante de láminas termoplásticas extruidas semiacabadas que suministra material desde su planta de fabricación en Irlanda del Norte a distribuidores locales en cinco continentes y en más de 70 países. Brett Martin incluirá un recorrido por sus instalaciones.

Este evento tiene como objetivo brindar a los miembros y asistentes una perspectiva sobre la creación de valor de marca en el espacio digital. Todos los delegados tendrán la oportunidad de hablar personalmente con los principales ponentes y asistir a las jornadas que ofrecerán las herramientas digitales y redes sociales que pueden emplear fácilmente en sus propios negocios.

Los ponentes principales Gareth Dunlop, Andi Jarvis y Greg Fry se harán cargo de la 'Masterclass de Marketing Digital'. Los temas incluirán: poner en valor la experiencia del cliente, implementar una estrategia digital apropiada para las comunicaciones B2B y cómo las redes sociales pueden ayudar a las empresas a cumplir los objetivos corporativos. El resto de ponencias también irán dirigidas a ayudar a los asistentes a estar preparados para la transformación digital en sus negocios.