



**ELECTION FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**James Alongi**  
**MAAC Machinery**

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James Alongi is the CFO of MAAC Machinery Co., including responsibility for its manufacturing operations. He has been an active member with the SPE Thermoforming Division since 1997. He has served on the Finance, Machinery and Student Activities Committees, and is currently the Assistant Treasurer of the Division as well as an active member of the Machinery Committee.

James has been instrumental in obtaining affordable thermoforming machinery for universities utilizing the equipment grant program and has consistently participated in fundraising events to provide donations for the SPE Thermoforming Division Scholarship Fund. He has also regularly assisted with the parts competition during the Thermoforming Conference.

**Todd Harrell**  
**Plastics Machinery Group, Inc.**

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As sales executive in the plastics industry for nearly 25 years, I have been an active participant in the SPE Thermoforming Division conferences since Ft Mitchell, Kentucky. My first job after graduating from Ohio University with a BA in Latin American Studies and Spanish, I began selling Motorola radio communication systems to various industries.

Upon marrying my wife Laura, I moved to the Cleveland area. Shortly thereafter, I started working for Stopol Inc. Stopol was one of the leaders in buying and selling of plastics processing machinery. I have gained a tremendous amount of industry knowledge working for Neil and Don Kruschke. As I moved up the ranks, I became an integral part of the growth and leadership within our organization. During my 20 + years of working for Stopol Inc and Plastics Machinery Group, I have been afforded the opportunity to travel the world to attend and exhibit at many plastics trade shows events, including shows like K show in Dusseldorf, Germany, Plastimagen in Mexico City, numerous NPE Chicago & Orlando, and SPE Europe, along with several ANTEC meetings.

As Executive Vice President at Plastics Machinery Group, I am responsible for maintaining customer relationships, sales, purchasing and consulting with many of our thermoforming customers. As a machinery dealer we can offer new and used machinery sales. Purchasing of complete plants, liquidations, appraisals, Mergers and Acquisitions are some of the many services we offer. In addition, I am a certified machinery appraiser.

I have two boys in middle school and high school. My hobbies are travelling and trail running. I enjoy coaching my boys in baseball and basketball and being part of their growth and development in sports.

**Jay Kumar**  
**Universal Plastics**

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I started regularly attending the meetings in September 2018. I joined the industry in 2012 when I purchased a heavy gauge thermoformer, Universal Plastics, based in Holyoke, MA.

Since then, I have acquired two other thermoformers: Mayfield Plastics in Sutton, MA, and a manufacturing operation near Albany, NY (the former Kintz Plastics). Prior to 2012, I was a trader at JPMorgan. I studied Computer Science and Operations Research in college where my internships were focused on the tech industry. I have been fortunate in my career to have experienced several industries and a taste of different career paths.

I believe that this industry has a lot of opportunity and can provide a very useful niche in the manufacturing world. As a collection of processors, material suppliers, and machine manufacturers, we need to work together to educate the industrial community on what thermoforming can do for them. I believe I can bring a lot of value to the board given my experience before entering the industry, but also through my experience in the industry as a relative “newbie.”

**Dennis Lemmon**  
**Cascade Engineering**

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Dennis Lemmon works for Cascade Engineering in Research and Development, working with current and potential customers. Cascade Engineering is a family of companies that specializes in large-plastic injection molding. In service to a wide variety of industries, we share our engineering, technology and knowledge across multiple business units producing a diverse product line. As a triple bottom line company, Cascade Engineering strives to have a positive impact on society, the environment and to be financially successful.

Dennis grew up around manufacturing as his father owned an injection molding company, Northwest Molded Plastics. Dennis worked there from a young age and eventually started running the company at age 21. He received his associate's degree from Northwest State Community College in 2012, and attended Penn College for a hands-on workshop in thermoforming. He joined Cascade engineering in 2015. He has utilized thermoforming in many ways. Including thermoforming thin sheet paint film and using them as inserts into an injection mold, in-mold-coating for injection molding, distortion print forming, foil transferring, tooling, and processing injection and thermoforming. He has worked with major material companies in developing and testing new materials for injection and thermoforming. He has also worked with acoustical sound barrier materials and compression molding. Dennis was also hand-selected to learn robotics and computer numerical control systems at Fanuc and brought that knowledge back to the company.

Dennis currently services the entire family of companies within CE because of his education and experience in many areas of expertise, including information technology, internet securities, injection molding, thermoforming and agricultural sensors. He still utilizes all of these skills making him one of the most well-rounded and dependable employees of CE. He even helps instruct Kung Fu in his spare time, which speaks to his discipline, respect and commitment to his profession.

**Stephen Murrill**  
**Profile Plastics Corp.**

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Steve Murrill is one of the owners of Profile Plastics, Inc., in Lake Bluff, IL, a custom molder of highly cosmetic plastics parts manufactured via the cut sheet thermoforming process. He has a BS degree in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University and an MBA from the University of Chicago. He has been on the Board of Directors of the Thermoforming Division since 1987!

Over the course of the last 30 plus years he has been Chairman of the Division and active on every conference committee since its inception. He has been a presenter, moderator and program chair for the Thermoforming Conference and many other SPE Conferences and RETECS, held by other SPE Divisions and Sections including the European Thermoforming Division. He received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Division in 2001 and was recognized as “Thermoformer of the Year” by the Thermoforming Division in 2011.

Most recently in 2015, he was recognized as an “Outstanding Chemical Engineering Graduate” by Purdue University. Prior to his purchasing Profile Plastics, he acquired his plastics background working for the Plastics Department of Exxon Chemical Co., and from his father who was a “Plastics Pioneer” working 38 years for the Plastics Division of the DuPont Co.



**Laura Pichon**  
**Ex-Tech Plastics, Inc.**

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Laura Pichon is VP Development & Strategic Partnerships at Ex-Tech Plastics, Inc., an extruder of thin gauge plastic sheet supplying the packaging industry. She has worked with PET, PVC, PP, HDPE, and PLA. She is currently heading Ex-Tech's bio plastic division focusing on growing Ex-Tech's PLA and bio- based line of products.

Laura has been attending SPE Thermoforming Conferences since 1992. Laura became active with the board as a moderator for the 2002 Conference in Nashville and many subsequent conferences, serving on the board since 2004. In 2004, she chaired the Thermoforming Conference in Indianapolis. Laura has also served as technical chair and headed the publications committee from 2008 to 2013. Laura is currently heading the membership/nominating committee and is active on both AARC and Materials Committees.

Laura is a member of NAWBO (National Association of Women Business Owners) and is a volunteer at the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago.

**Jimmy Shah**  
**Impact Plastics**

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Jimmy Shah is the Senior R&D Engineer and the Food Safety Team Leader at the Impact Plastics Hamlet, NC facility.

Jimmy Shah began his career with Impact Plastics as Extrusion Process Engineer and today is an integral part of the R&D Engineering team at Impact. Jimmy's expertise lies in sheet extrusion and thermal lamination for food packaging applications with a focus on optimization of product and process R&D for new product and process development from the concept phase to the commercialization bringing a high level of technical innovation to Impact customers.

Jimmy holds a Master's of Science in Plastics Engineering from the University of Massachusetts Lowell where he received Graduate Student of the Year award and also received certifications in Plastics Design and Plastics Materials. He has achieved a Bachelor's degree in Polymer/Plastics Engineering, with distinction, from Edinburgh Napier University, Scotland with a project focused on plastics recycling for sustainability. Jimmy is a licensed ISO 9001:2015 internal auditor with Lean Six Sigma with White Belt designation and has been certified in HACCP for Processors and Implementing SQF level 8.0.

Jimmy lives in North Carolina and in his spare time enjoys kayaking, reading, hiking and traveling to the beach or mountains with friends.



**Brian Winton**  
**PTi**

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Brian is the Sales Director for Processing Technologies International (PTi). Brian has over 34 years of experience in domestic and international capital equipment sales and project management. He began his career in the thermoforming industry in 1985 and continued into extrusion and plastic recycling. Brian has worked primarily for equipment manufacturers in manager, director and vice president capacities, with past technical sales and marketing teams including John Brown Plastics Machinery, Modern Machinery, Lyle Industries, and The Brown Machine Group.

He began his career managing turnkey projects for sheet extrusion and thermoforming operations. This included designing and properly sizing ancillary features, downstream equipment and plant utilities, while coordinating comprehensive installation and training services. Brian works closely with his customers to clearly understand their needs and collaborates with suppliers and other engineering sources to define and promote the latest cutting-edge solutions.

Brian promotes the plastic industry through his involvement with educational institutions. He is an active member of his local Plastics Sector Alliance, which identifies and matches the educational needs of individuals with companies that require a properly educated workforce.

An active SPE Thermoforming Division board member since 2002, Brian continues to serve on the Promotion, AARC, and Student Activities Committees, and has previously served as ANTEC Technical Program Chair and Conference Chair.