

Era
Polymers

THE Herald
ERA POLYMERS NEWS BULLETIN



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LESSONS FROM LIFE # 48 - COME BACK ELLIE

At my ripe old age of 65, I get amazed what my mind stores away, in its long term memory banks.

I've written before that my father was the quintessential Greek story teller.

In the late 50's, we were too poor to have a TV... We had a radio that Maria and I, would listen to the serials on 2UW.



And that was only when dad wasn't telling us stories.

Stories about his youth, the tragedy of war, the injustices, the struggle to survive the Depression, the sadness, and most importantly, the happiness that he had experienced, during his life's journey.

He, mum, Ella, Maria and I, would all sit on my, second hand bed. The bed would creak under the weight of all of us.

And he told stories. The stories sometimes scared me, sometimes saddened me, and sometimes made me feel happy. BUT, above all they stayed with me.

(cont'd Pg 2)

FEATURING: GAINING GROUND

Amsterdam to San Francisco

Era Polymers at the Museum of Craft & Design, San Francisco

Jolan van der Wiel - Gravity Stool

Artist Jolan van der Wiel uses Erapol polyurethane to create his Gravity Stool masterpieces, based in Amsterdam he is going to San Francisco with some fellow Dutch artists to demonstrate and display his work at the:

"Hands Off: New Dutch Design At The Confluence Of Technology & Craft" exhibition between



9th May – 13th September, 2015 at the Museum of Craft & Design, San Francisco.

Era Polymers export to over 70 countries worldwide and have many global strategic alliances.

(cont'd Pg 4)

Era Polymers
Administration Centre

(Cont'd from Pg1)

And his stories still echo, in my mind.

The one I remember the most, was about a family from our village of Mitilini. The father, mother, and daughter (called Ellie) had gone to America, to make their fortune. (They probably ended up in Samos Town, in Chicago... who knows.)

Ellie was, for all intents and purposes, a very pretty girl. She was pretty enough, to have won some kind of beauty contest.

Having made their fortune, they made their way back to Mitilini ... rich, at least by Mitilini standards.

Such people coming back, where, for ever after, called "Americani".

They had money, and in a village of 8,000 people, that meant that you had stature, you had class...when you had, MONEY.

Having all this money, meant that your daughter had to marry.... UP.

The problem was that Ellie, fell in love with, a poor, but good looking boy...

**"... IT WAS WRONG
TO BREAK UP THE
TWO STAR CROSSED
LOVERS...."**

The boy, and his parents, had NOTHING!

If you, or, your family didn't have property, you were NOTHING, in the social standing of the village.

Tinkers, tailors and candlestick makers, and people without LAND, were at the bottom, of the Totem Pole.

By my Tina's and even Cathy's standards... it was wrong to break up, the two star crossed lovers....

But, don't judge them by the standards to 2015... judge the father, by the standards to 1948!

The father broke off the relationship.

Ellie wasn't going to give up, on her lover.

So her father locked her in a room... she was a prisoner, in her father's house.

She pined, she wasted, and



eventually, she died (I don't remember how, or why... maybe because of a broken heart.)

The mother's mind snapped.

Like all good Greek mothers, she never gave up, on her daughter....so when her daughter died, so did a part of her.

When her daughter passed away, and his wife, was, no more... the man packed his bags, and moved away from our Village. The mother's mind didn't accept that her daughter had died.

She thought that the father, had taken her away.

The mother, would wander endlessly at night, through the narrow cobbled streets of Mitilini, looking for her daughter, and, all the while, shouting;

"Ellie come back.

*Leave your bastard of a father,
And come back to your darling
mother"*

Everybody, near our church, of Agia Matrona where they / we lived, knew the words.

NOBODY knew what the words... meant... nobody, apart from the "Americani", spoke English.

BUT, the mother's words were etched, into all their souls.

They heard those words, endless times, over endless nights.

All they knew, was that she was calling out toEllie.

It wasn't until, we came to Australia, and my parents learnt a smattering of English... that they finally understood what the woman was saying.

Twenty Four years ago, Tina and I went back to my Village... and I told that story to my cousin, Angelo Papamanuel... I thought that maybe I had the story wrong. I thought that maybe my mind, had added extra "salt" to the story... after all, my father had told us the story, when I was about 10 years old.

No, Angelo said it was all true.... In fact he and his friends would tease, the woman.

They would go up to the bell tower of the church. The staircase to go up there, was extremely narrow... only young, prepubescent boys could wind their way up.

And at the top, they would call out in Greek; "Mama, eime etho "

("Mama, I'm up here") And the mother would try, and squeeze her way up, to finally, find her Ellie.

Children can sometimes, be so cruel !

The mother too, finally passed away, and all that remained was the mother's words, etched into the Mitilinian mind:

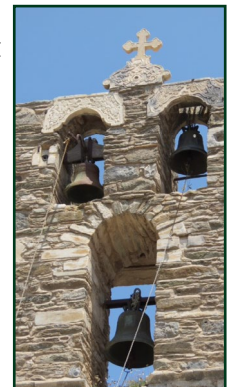
" Ellie come back.

Leave your bastard of a father.

And come back, to your darling

mother"

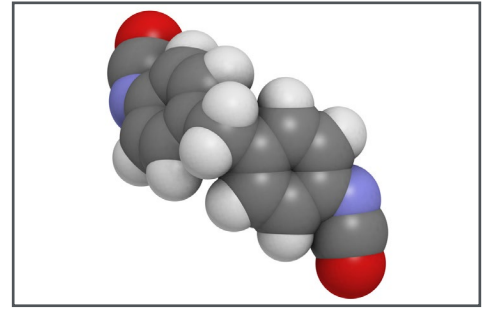
Remind me, next time to tell you some of my father's other, stories .



WHAT'S NEW AT 25-27 GREEN ST?

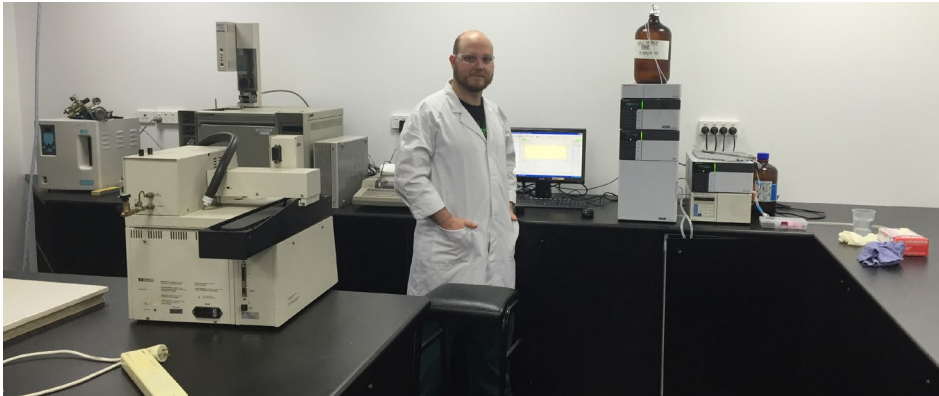
Era Polymers continues to refurbish. Now that all management, export, IT, sales, marketing and administration staff are all settled into 2-4 Green Street, we have started refurbishing the laboratories at 25 – 27 Green Street.

The first stage of the refurbishment for 25 – 27 Green Street is our Physical and Analytical Laboratories. We will keep you updated on our progression in the next issues of the Herald.



DID YOU KNOW?

Methylene diphenyl diisocyanate, often abbreviated to MDI, is an aromatic diisocyanate. Toluene diisocyanate (TDI) is also an aromatic diisocyanate. Along with polyols, which are long alkoxyether chains, these chemicals form the building blocks of polyurethane.



MAGNUM PLUMBING USE AQUALINE 300 FOR MANHOLE REHABILITATION

Aqualine 300 is an ideal product for rehabilitating small manholes when there is not enough space to apply 2 component spray polyurea elastomers through heated plural spray equipment.

The **Aqualine 300** is a roll on protective coating to prevent the breakdown of concrete by corrosive gasses such as hydrogen sulphide.

So when **Magnum Plumbing** approached Dominic Pearsall one of **Era Polymers** Technical Sales Adviser asking for a solution for rehabilitating small manholes he knew **Aqualine 300** would be the perfect solution. It didn't disappoint **Magnum Plumbing** were "Very Happy with it."

Aqualine 300 is a 100% solids, 2 component product typically used on concrete structures such as sewage digesters, manholes, channels and other waste water applications. The product contains a biocide to resist biological growth.

Repairing the Manholes

Surface Preparation

The concrete was cleaned using a high pressure water jet to ensure it was clean from contaminants.

Filling The Voids

Any voids in the concrete were then filled using **Irathane CR94** a cementitious fairing compound.

Priming

The concrete was then primed with Irabound BC50 a water based epoxy product.

Aqualine 300

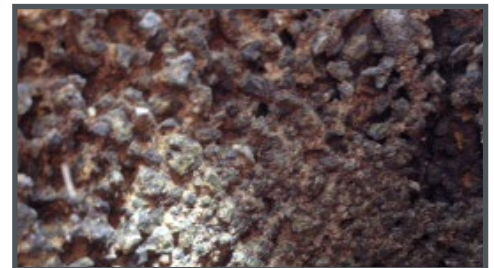
3 x roll coats of **Aqualine 300 grey** to a DFT (Dry Film Thickness) of around 1.5 mm were then applied. Full cure will be achieved in 7 days, walk on cure is 2 hours at 30°C.

Aqualine 300 is from our Irathane Futura

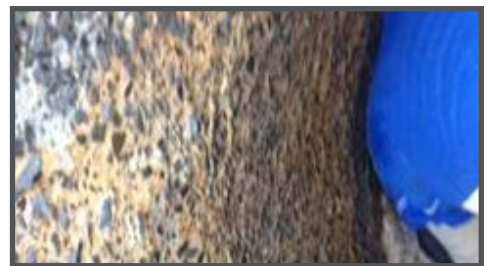
range of products which we have distributed in Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia for over fifteen years, we even manufacture many of their key grades under license at our Sydney based manufacturing plant.

For more information on our Irathane Futura range of products please call Dominic Pearsall on 0423 603 710 or visit our website for more information:

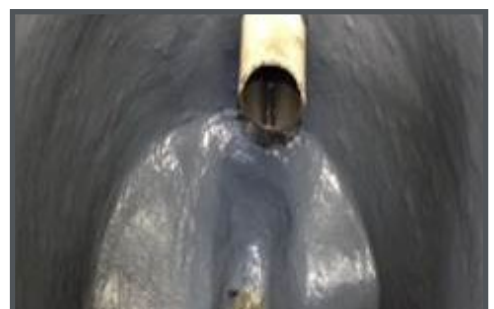
<http://www.erapol.com.au/products/agency-products/irathane-futura/>



Blasted Concrete



Substrate holes filled with CR94



Remediated Monhole

**MAGNUM
PLUMBING**

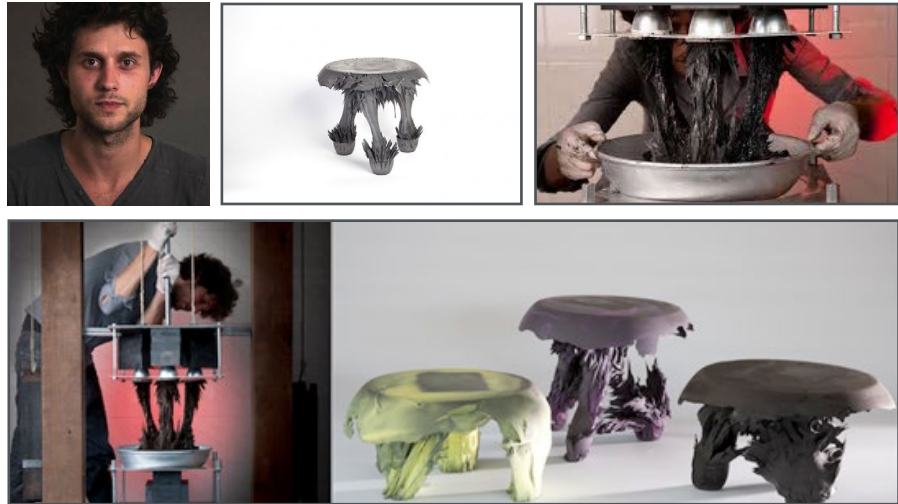
Pictures supplied courtesy of Magnum Plumbing Pty Ltd, Bungalow, QLD 4870

GRAVITY STOOL

(cont'd from page 1)

This means, Jolan van der Wiel is able to locally source the exact same Erapol product he uses in Amsterdam for his artwork demonstrations in America.

For Jolan van der Wiel to create his Gravity Stools, he combines Erapol polyurethane with iron filings and the required pigment. He then uses a medieval-looking magnet machine which he designed to pull the gloopy mixture apart, letting gravity determine the final form of each unique stool. To view a Gravity Stool being created watch the video link: <https://vimeo.com/34773498>



Leaking Copper Roof in Synagogue finally fixed

The congregation at St Kilda Synagogue will no longer be needing umbrellas during Simcha (Private Party/Celebration).

The St Kilda Synagogue has played a leading role in Melbourne's Orthodox Jewish Community for over 140 years. For many years the copper roof at St Kilda Synagogue has been leaking.

This problem has finally been fixed using Era Polymers Eraspray ST.

Once the copper tiles were removed from the roof of the St Kilda Synagogue the timber was prepared ready for the **Eraspray ST** to be applied once applied the copper tiles were replaced restoring the Synagogue roof to its former glory with not leaks!

Eraspray ST is a 2 component spray in place, solvent free, flexible, 100% polyurea elastomer system.



This product has a fast reaction profile as it is formulated for spray application through plural component spray equipment.

If you would like more information on **Eraspray ST** please contact your local Era Representative who will be happy to assist you.

Should you be interested in plural component spray equipment please contact:

Hugh Fraser
Era Polymers Machine specialist
Tel: 02 9666 3788.

THINK ERATROWEL

Need to repair a damaged conveyor belt, polyurethane or rubber component, waterproofing, mining wear parts such as rotors, impellers or screens?

Think Eratrowel

The Era Trowel range is one of Era Polymers ancillary products for repairs and is available as a 2 Component MDI or a 3 Component TDI system.

Want to know more contact your local Era Representative who will be able to help you.

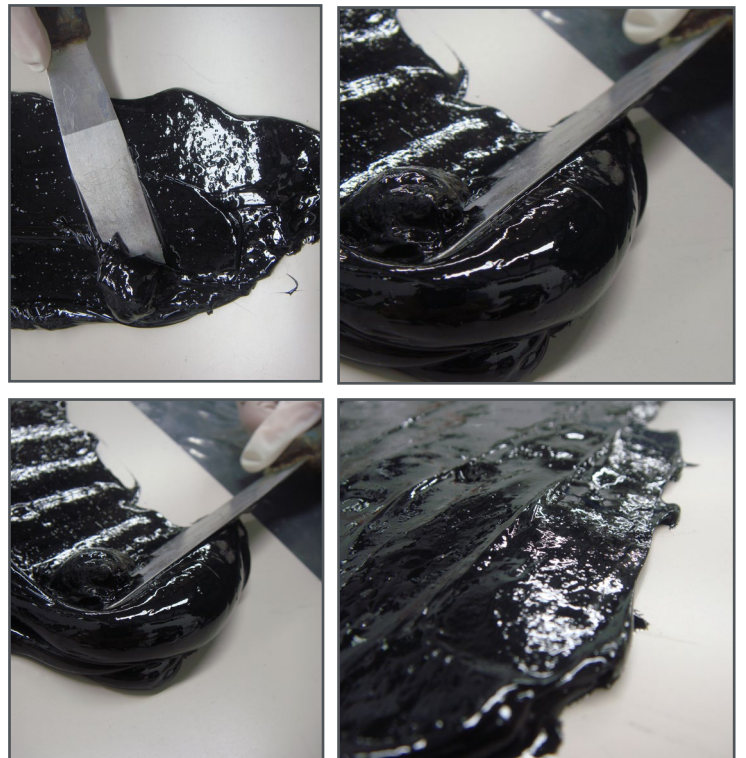
Sydney +61 (0) 29666 3788

Brisbane 07 3299 7135

Melbourne 03 9584 3966

Adelaide 0403 451 223

New Zealand +64 9 269 0710





Happy 29th Birthday Era Polymers!

29 years ago, on 12th April, Era Polymers opened its doors at 11A Beach St., Blakehurst.

My laboratory was my workshop:

- I cooked prepolymers in a 4 litre metal can, with a Black and Decker drill, as my trusty stirrer.
- My Balance was a beam balance given to me by Vic Mocsari.
- My moulds were Tina's Cream Caramel moulds, that I stole from the pantry, when she wasn't looking ...
- My lab oven was a Sunbeam pie warmer...
- And if I forgot to close the door, to the kitchen, the TDI fumes, would waft upstairs, and give Alex an asthma attack.... (Alex has the Papamanuel Asthma gene, and Niki, doesn't).

They we're the days my friends...and I wished for them, to end.

So, we had BRAAI (that's a BBQ to those who don't come from S.A.) to celebrate such a milestone in our various offices.

It was a time to eat, to be merry and reflect on a Dream still in play. Here's to the next 29 years!

Thank you to all our staff, agents, suppliers and of course our wonderful customers for making this dream a reality.

GEORGE PAPAMANUEL



Cancer Council

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

This year, Dearne Osborne from our Samos Dio offices, organised Australia's Biggest Morning Tea for **Samos and Era Polymers**.

It was a great idea! Everyone got involved baking sweet and savoury treats and, of course, trying each other's delicious creations.

Era Polymers, Samos Ena & Samos Dio raised a total of **\$1,018** for the fight against cancer.



UTECH Europe 2015



MAASTRICHT, THE NETHERLANDS

April 14-16 2015

UTECH Europe 2015, the leading international event for the polyurethanes industry is over for another year.

We would like to thank everyone who took the time to visit us during the show it was a pleasure to meet you all. It was a very busy show for Era Polymers meeting existing customers, acquaintances and friends as well as making new ones. We look forward to doing business with you all in the future and thank you for choosing Era Polymers.



GLOBAL REACH



STAFF NEWS

- **Simon Lavis** joined the Era family on the 16th April 2015 at Applied Polymers in our Melbourne office.

He is working with Eamon on QC and Product Development for the Foams group.

- **Cassandra Cailotto** joins our Export Department in our Banksmeadow Head Office

- **Angela Cai** - Era Polymers has a new Payroll Officer.

HAPPY ERA BIRTHDAY!



Kim Charlesworth our Technical Sales Manager in QLD, celebrated 10 years with Era Polymers at the beginning of April this year.

Thankyou for all your hardwork, here's to the next 10 years!!



CONGRATULATIONS! ERA BABY NEWS



Marcel & Bianca Tondo
(Applied Polymers)

BABY BOY: DOMINIC TONDO

Weight: 3.8 KG

DATE: FRIDAY, 3RD APRIL 2015



Leigh & Joanne Symes

BABY BOY: JOSHUA THOMAS SYMES

Time: 3:10 PM

Weight: 3.4 KG

DATE: SUNDAY, 25TH JANUARY 2015



Louise & Mike Logan

BABY GIRL: MAIA KIKI LOGAN

Time: 8:06 PM

Weight: 7 POUNDS (3.22KG)

DATE: FRIDAY, 3RD APRIL 2015



Wendy & Daniel Charlie

BABY GIRL: SCARLETT GRACE CHARLIE

Time: 12:30 PM

Weight: 7 POUNDS (3.2KG)

DATE: FRIDAY, 5TH JUNE 2015



WHAT'S NEWS

“Era aiming to gain ground in North America”

By MIKE MCNULTY

CHARLOTTE, N.C.—At first glance, Era Polymers Pty Ltd. seems like a small family business.

And it is. But it's also much more.

Touted as Australia's largest independent polyurethane systems house, the Australian-based company is a family business, operated by George Papamanuel, his wife Tina, who oversees all administrative functions, and their son Alex, the firm's current sales director.



George Papamanuel, left, and his son Alex pose for a picture at the recent PMA meeting in Charlotte, N.C.

For 29 years, the company has been developing and producing polyurethane systems for a customer base that stretches across the globe and expands yearly, according to George Papamanuel, co-founder and president of the firm.

Era, which produces a diverse range of cast elastomers prepolymers, is making a concerted effort to expand further into North America, where it presently relies on a toll manufacturer in Florida to produce some of the company's most popular brands, he said.

The firm believes it has an opportunity for much greater growth on the continent.

Expanding base

“We are actively looking to acquire similar businesses both in Europe and the U.S.,” Papamanuel said. “Or, alternatively, if we can't find suitable businesses to purchase, we will build a green-field site.”

That search could take two to three years, he said. Until then, he added, the company will continue to ship product to the region and outsource some manufacturing of popular offerings in Europe and North America.

Era always has been a global operation, he said, noting “we started exporting goods six months after we started the business.” But it also has a solid foothold in Australia, where he said the firm has an 80 percent share of the market.

About 45 percent of the company's business is global, he said, pointing out that it has a presence in about 74 countries with a very strong share of Asia. It produces and sells about 800 different urethane products world-wide, Papamanuel said.

Innovations introduced by the firm's chemists has helped it progress globally.

Those products have proven to be very successful in the market, according to Andy Clock, who heads ADC Solutions L.L.C. in Southington, Conn., and is the company's North American urethane technical consultant.



Andy Clock, the North American representative for Era at right, discusses products with a PMA meeting attendee during the conference Supplier Showcase.

He said Era invests heavily in product research and development annually. Its offerings include spray polyurethane and polyureas, rigid and flexible foam systems, rubber binders, timber floor coatings and a wide assortment of other goods.

Steady growth

Andy Clock, the North American representative for Era at right, discusses products with a PMA meeting attendee during the conference Supplier Showcase.

Era has been growing internationally at about a 5 to 6 percent rate annually, Papamanuel said at the Polyurethane Manufacturers Association annual meeting and Supplier Showcase, held recently in Charlotte, N.C.

“We're strictly a chemicals company that provides technical assistance to make finished parts. We specialize in polyurethane chemistry.”

An industrial chemist, he has been in the business for 43 years. He and his wife Tina started Era in 1986; built the firm's headquarters building and a research and development center in Banksmeadow, Australia, in 1992; added a factory in 1993 and a second plant in 2004, both in St. Marys, Australia; and purchased two companies—Applied Polymers and Urethane Coatings Pty Ltd.—in late 2013 and early 2014.

Between its internal expansions and the two acquisitions, the company presently operates four production plants: two in St. Marys, a suburb of Sidney, a third factory in Melbourne, and a fourth in Auckland, New Zealand. It has a work force of about 110.

Papamanuel credits his wife as a key reason the firm has remained on solid footing since its inception, and “the reason we're all sitting here right now.” She's a solid financial administrator and she oversees all administration functions of the company, he said.

“We continue to grow everywhere,” he said, “but our greatest growth potential remains in North America and Europe.”



George & Tina Papamanuel, PMA 2015, Charlotte, N.C.

WHAT'S THAT?

ICYNENE® - JUST LIKE NANA'S CARDIGAN!

When it's cold outside it's nice to get home from work and relax in the warm away from the elements. Icynene® can keep you warm in the winter, cool in the summer and save you money.

We recently received an email from one very satisfied Icynene® Customer in the Blue Mountains:

"You may not remember our conversations of about 12 months ago, but I thought I'd follow-up and let you know how happy we are with the product.

Extremely happy is probably under selling it. We are heading into winter again and I forget that last year we used our a/c heater no more than about 40 minutes a day. 20 minutes in the morning and again at about 8:30pm. Also in the peak of summer we only used the a/c in the middle of the day for short periods. After the plasterers were finished in the new extension we had the heater installers in doing the final measuring and fortunately my brother talked me out of it. He said to me that it was

freezing outside and we were all in t-shirts with the doors opened. He suggested an A/C and we fortunately went down that path. If we have put a log-fire heater in, we would have all died of heat exhaustion. One of the builders said the insulation made the place feel like nana's cardigan. I don't know what he was doing wearing his nana's cardigan, but I got his point.

I only thought to contact you because the last two visitors to my house have commented on how cosy the place is. We now take it for granted. I have referred one to Thomas. (*Easy Foam who carried out this installation of Icynene.)

We essentially have two dwellings linked by an enclosed bridge, so we do get to gauge the difference between the two and the difference is impressive.

Many thanks for a great product and great service."



*no nanna was harmed getting this photograph



If you would like to know more about Icynene please contact us on
Tel: (02) 9666 3788 or visit our website
www.icynene.com.au

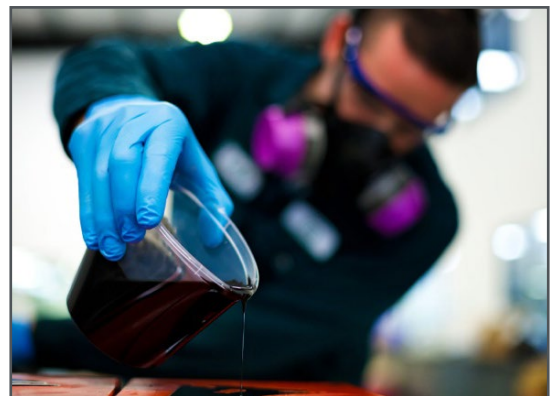
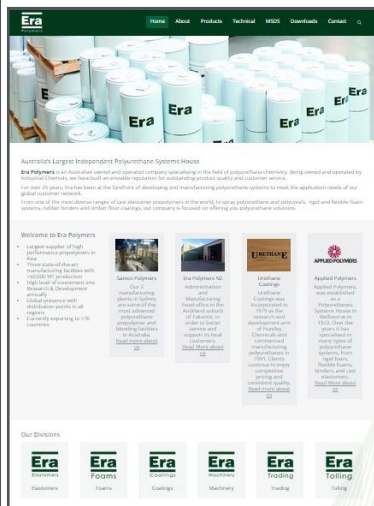
WHAT'S NEWS

UPDATED / NEW ERA POLYMERS BROCHURES



For more information visit our website:
www.erapol.com.au

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



THE Herald
 ERA POLYMERS NEWS BULLETIN

Editors: Marketing Department
 Nicola French | Victoria Zavras



EXCELLENCE IN POLYURETHANE CHEMISTRY

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Strategic Alliances

