



THE
Herald
ERA POLYMERS NEWS BULLETIN

ISSUE #43



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LESSONS FROM LIFE # 36
JOHN L. McLEAN



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At the end of 2020, I wanted a new footer, to go at the bottom, of all our outgoing emails.

The last one as seen here, being Andra Tutto Bene by Vittoria, struck a cord with everybody, so I wanted something UPLIFTING;



Hence "The Dawn of a New Era" for 2021....



(Continued Page 2)

As the holiday season is upon us, we find ourselves reflecting on the past year and those who have helped to shape our business. It's been quite a year for us all!

We hope that 2022 will bring us all joy, happiness, and most of all, health to colleagues, friends and all your loved ones. We look forward to working with you in the years to come.

The team at Era Polymers' Head Office and worldwide locations wishes you peace, joy and prosperity throughout the coming year.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to working with you in the years to come!



(Continued from page 1)

Everybody wrote off last year. Everybody at the end, of 2020, was hoping, indeed praying for a “better” year ... and IT DIDN'T COME.

It got worse... a whole lot worse.

As Queen Elizabeth said way back in the early 1990's, it was an “annus horribilis”.

If it was worse for her, then, it got a lot worse, with the new in-laws, with a child, and a grandchild going off the rails...and above all else, she lost her “strength and her stay”.

Nobody could, taking the stuffiness out of the stuffy universe, that she lived in ... except for her GREEK consort Prince Phillip ... and she lost him.

The Greek in him, made sure that he never held back, sometimes pointing out the Stupidity of Life, with anybody, and everybody, within earshot.

That got him into endless trouble ... sometimes, I can truthfully say, “That's Me!” ...I'm The “Phillip” in our family!

For the world also, 2021, was also an “annus horribilis”.

Endless deaths, endless, lockdowns, endless emotional, and spiritual harm to some people.



In democracies, much like in one party and one person, dictatorships... the politicians, finally learnt how to control ...OR at least they THOUGHT that they found a way to control, their citizens ...i.e. declare a Covid-19

state of emergency ... take people's democratic rights away, restrict their physical and mental thought processes ... and presto.....

George Orwell's dystopian world “1984” arrived a bit late in 2020 / 2021.

How will history judge these last couple of years? We'll just have to wait and see...

The Wide and Wonderful World of Polyurethanes, also suffered.

Never ending price increases. Endless shortages of critical raw materials. Never ending Supply Chain problems. Never Ending Shipping Delays, and Cost Increases.

A perfect Viral and Economic Storm...

“For the world also, 2021, was also an “annus horribilis”.”

blowing ill winds around the world ... NOT JUST with polyurethanes, but across ALL industries.

BUT, hang on George, Victoria asked you to write something UPLIFTING, to put a good story together to end the year, that needs to be ended.

BUT with all this sadness, and madness... sometimes a light, a ray of sunshine, chases away the gloom.

Everybody, everywhere, looked for a positive amongst all the negatives.

I found mine.

Well how is this for a beautiful story .

A couple of days ago, Tina walks into my office, with an unopened letter.

“ Why didn't you open it?”

“Because it is addressed to you”

“ What does that mean, we have no secrets from each other”?

We have the same passwords on our phones. God Bless, we are dinosaurs, we only have the one bank account, and you control that ... we have NO secrets between us!

I looked at the back of the letter. It was from a Mr John L McLean, in Melbourne.

“Tina, I don't recognize the name, do we have a customer in Melbourne, with that name”?

“I don't think so”

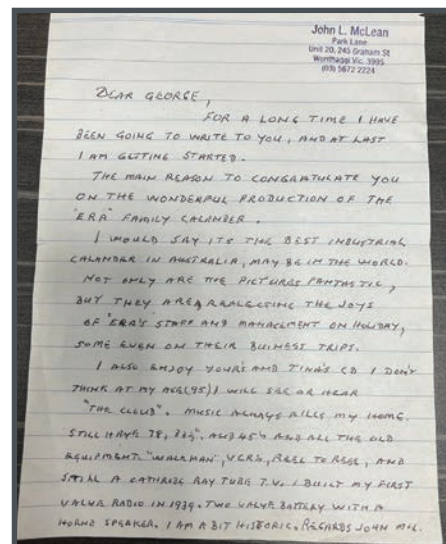
So, I opened it.

We read it together.

There was a handwritten note, and a photograph enclosed as well ...

The man that wrote it, is 95 years old.

He wrote to say, that he enjoys our calendars, and our Love Songs.



In a year, where I saw fear, real fear in people's eyes.

Where normally passive people, would get angry, when social isolation took its toll on people's souls.

Where, just like that famous ITALIAN movie "Life is Beautiful" ... where a father played the clown, when he and his son, where in a concentration camp...

I TOO, learnt to play the clown, more than I normally do, to try and bring some kind of normality, to our Era Family...

And with all that, a 95 year old man, took the time to write to me, a beautiful uplifting letter that made my year ... it made me feel good, again.... reading beautiful words from a beautiful old man.

It made this "annus horribilis" quietly disappear, with each word that I read.

And who is John L McLean?

Rob McLean's dad.

And who is Rob McLean ?...

Our National Foam Sales Manager, that's who.

Christmas Day is a very special day for the Papamanuels.

The whole family ... 13 of us (which of course includes Tina's mum, our Grandmother and Great Grandmother) come to our place, for a very Special Christmas Breakfast.

FIRST, we all open our presents ... It is a time for Tina, and the girls to shine... having chosen that very special present for that very special personlots of them.

Then we eat.

Tina makes pancakes, and yours truly, lathers on the NUTELLA .

And through all the excitement, the laughter, the family is one , we are united ...And we thank God for his Blessings.

May you too enjoy God's blessings... and may the New Year be kind to all of us.

George Papamanuel, December 2021

HOW TO GROW A BUSINESS

So, how do you grow a FAMILY OWNED international polyurethane business?

By listening to your father's words that echo down, through your memory;

"If you are going to do anything... do it well, or not at all"

"Treat others as you want to be treated"

"Give it your very best, every single day"

But what other wisdom did you pick up along life's journey?

Lots of stuff, for example, from Field of Dreams;

"BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME"

35 years later, we are still building!



The votes for the best Three Minute Thesis Presentation are in, the winner is Claire Wilson, INC18!

Era Polymers' Claire Wilson was selected and participated in the UNSW Co-op program event where presentations are given by penultimate year engineering scholars. Claire presented a three minute thesis style presentation showcasing a key project/achievements - highlighting the nature of work completed on industry placements. Congratulations Claire! The message from the boss says it all!
 "My wife, Tina and I are the owners of Era Polymers... we are super pleased that Claire won this presentation award. She is a super bright, highly motivated, and intelligent young lady"



We are pleased to advise that effective from January 1, 2022 David Pu will be taking over the Business Development Manager role within Urethane Coatings

Announcing some further exciting changes to the **Era Polymers Coating and Membrane Laboratory**.
Arlingga Sutinah, our Technical Service Manager - Membranes, will continue to coordinate the Coating and Membrane Laboratory activities in line with our company goals and expectations and to support the growth in Membranes.
Yasmine will move permanently into the Coating and Membrane Lab and **Cassandre** will be available part-time (with her main priority in Polyesters).



www.erapo.com.au

TANK YOU VERY MUCH! ERAPRIME LV452 & ERASPRAY ES900W

Eraprime LV452 & Eraspray ES900WPW

The Erapol Dynamic Duo: Restoration Project - Protective Lining for Potable Water Reservoir Tank

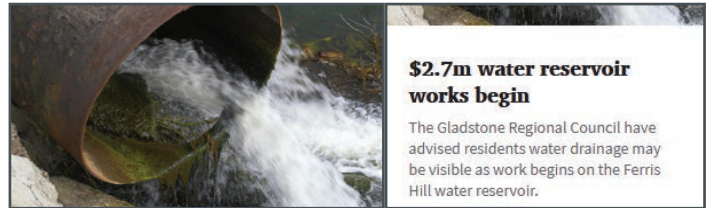
A QLD based Elastomeric Coating Applicator were contracted to line a large potable water tank for the local council at Gladstone, QLD, Australia.

A total of 3,500 m² surface area needed to be coated with a system suitable for potable water, have a dry film thickness of approximately 3mm, while providing a protective coating for the water tank.

The system chosen for this job was Era Polymers, **Eraprime LV452** a PU based primer, followed by a top coat of Era Polymers, **Eraspray ES900PW**.

Eraprime LV452 is a single component primer so no mixing is required making for easy application. The primer was formulated for use in bonding liquid polyurethane compounds to substrates such as concrete, **Eraprime LV452** is quick drying, low viscosity and has excellent adhesion. The ideal choice for this large job.

Eraspray ES900PW is a non-solvented polyurethane spray elastomer with a 90 Shore A hardness, approved to AS/NZS4020 for potable water contact. It is designed for heavy-duty industrial applications where spray applied elastomeric coatings, linings or membranes with good physical properties are specified. Also the ideal choice for this project.



The project commenced in early February 2021 and was completed in early March 2021 once the Eraspray ES900PW spray elastomer coating had cured the water tank was sanitized prior to being filled with potable water.



ADDED FEATURES: ERASPRAY ES900PW	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convenient 1:1 (volume) mix ratio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydrolytic stability & corrosion resistance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% solids - zero V.O.C. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good abrasion resistance & toughness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fast build for very thick requirements - reduced labour & time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonds to most substrates when appropriate surface preparation & recommended primers are used
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fast curing for quick turn-around times - cost effective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remains flexible so able to handle some expansion & contraction
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applied with plural component equipment

For more information:
Please visit www.erapol.com.au or contact us on +61 02 9666 3788

ERA POLYMERS SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

SPECIALTY ELASTOMERS

2KE Blocked Series

Used for coating fibres impregnated with coarse carbide grains to produce tough abrasive discs used for cleaning metal surfaces.

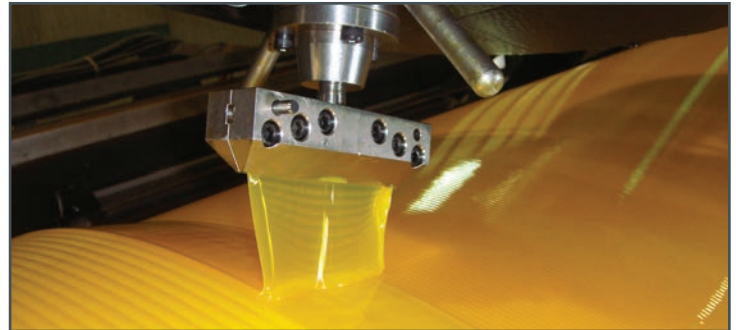
High Hardness Cold Castable Series

A range of high hardness castable elastomers, used for tooling and rigid applications.



Erakote Systems

Rapid reacting elastomers available as two or three component systems. They are poured onto a rotating core to produce a tough elastomeric roller covering, suitable for steel and paper mill rollers.



Eratrowel Series

Two and three component cold cast TDI & MDI trowellable systems.



GL Series

A water clear laminating polyurethane system used in security glass applications



Eragel

Both MDI and TDI based elastomers with extremely low hardness, used in footwear, mousepads and pillow covers.



FRAS Systems

Fire Retardant Anti Static, additives used to make Elastomers self - extinguishing and non sparking for applications in explosive environments such as underground mining.



For more information:

Please visit www.erapol.com.au or contact us on +61 02 9666 3788

“Success is not final. Failure is not fatal.
It is the courage to continue that counts”

Winston Churchill

SO, WHAT DOES ALIPHATIC URETHANE MEAN?

So, what does Aliphatic Urethanes mean?

It means that most of the urethane molecule has straight, or open chains, rather than closed, or aromatic.

That's interesting, BUT, as Special Agent Leroy Jethro Gibbs says ...

“Talk to me in English”

So, what do they do, how do they perform ?

It means, if you choose the correct polymer, from a high class manufacturer, that the urethane won't yellow / darken when exposed to sunlight .

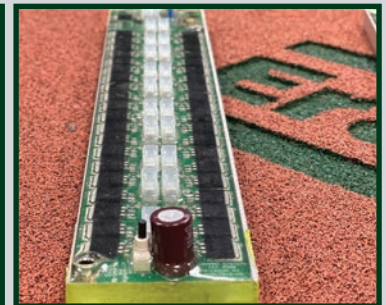
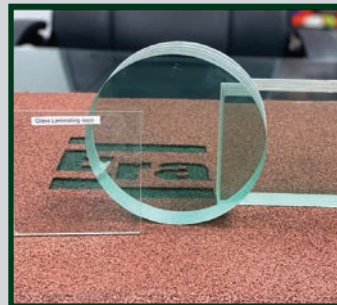
NO! really?

YES, really!

We have lots and lots of aliphatic urethanes, sold as either:

- OC (Optically Clear)
- LM (Light Material), or
- GL (Glass Laminating).

Talk to us, and we'll throw some light, on what we have to offer!



Please visit www.era-pol.com.au

Or contact us on +61 02 9666 3788 to talk to one of our Technical Business Managers

ERA POLYMERS ANCILLARY PRODUCTS: ONE STOP SHOP

We could not call ourselves a “one stop shop” for polyurethanes were it not for this product category. These products include:

Release agents – Used for applying onto mould surfaces before our polyurethane is applied. This helps the cured polyurethane part release from the mould.

Primers – Often referred to as “bonding agents” these materials are applied onto typical surfaces such as metal and concrete to help with the adhesion of polyurethane elastomers.

Pigments – Various colours used to pigment elastomers, foams and coatings.

Plasticizers – Used for softening polyurethane elastomers to lower durometer hardness.

Cleaning solvents – Used for general workspace cleanup of polyurethane resins. Can also be used for cleaning dispensing machine parts and flushing dispensing machine hoses and pumps.

For more information, simply go to our website: www.era-pol.com.au or use direct link: <https://www.era-pol.com.au/products/ancillary/>

Call us direct on Tel: +612 9666 3788

CLASSY SERVICE REQUIRES CLASSY TRAYS!



Sturdy, long-wearing, classy trays - IHS Global Alliance

The **hospitality industry** is a tough game and while there are many master-chefs producing outstanding food this is only part of the experience when you eat out. Hospitality involves a huge team to create your experience and they want it to be a positive one.

Nick Polidoros, Director & Designer of IHS had a dream to work in the hospitality industry. It all started in the 1980's while working as a waiter he noticed there was just so much broken product line back of house, simply labelled "out of order". He enquired why this was the case; he was simply told this is as good as it gets. Knowing that he could do better this was the beginning of Nick's dream and the start of IHS Global Alliance providing top quality designer equipment for hotels & venues World Wide.

Over 35 years later and continuing to go strong, **Era Polymers** with **George Papamanuel's** 50 years experience in the PU industry, is making the IHS dream come true.

Era Polymers, Erapol Cold Castables are used in the manufacture of their quality product the Smart Tray. The **Erapol 60D Cold Castable, Rapid Demould MDI Polyurethane Elastomer** was developed to produce hard-wearing edges and trim on high quality service products for applications where excellent wear characteristics are required. An ideal product for the hospitality industry where the equipment needs to look good, be hard wearing, durable and classy!

Both Nick & George are continuing to keep their dream alive while providing quality products worldwide.

For more information on our cold castable product range or other high quality polyurethanes please call on +61 (0) 2 9666 3788 or visit our website at www.erapol.com.au



Mr George & Mrs Tina Papamanuel Mr Nick Polidoros

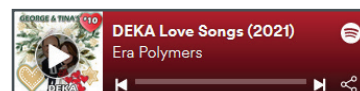


OUT NOW!
LOVE SONGS 'DEKA' #10
 Listen on Spotify



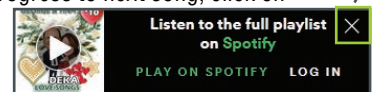
You can now listen to George & Tina's Love Song Collection on your PC or Mobile phone via Spotify - AND you do not need to download the app if you do not want to! Better still - it's FREE.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PC:



1. Click on the Album

2. To progress to next song, click on the X...



3...simply click on the right arrow and voila!



www.spotify.com
 DOWNLOAD FOR FREE



IT'S BEEN A WHILE!



A MUCH NEEDED AND MISSED
SOCIAL EVENT FOR ERA
POLYMERS
SYDNEY HEAD OFFICE



“...SO WE CHOOSE TO LIVE AND HONOUR YOU



This story is about Niki's (our daughter), god parents', grandchild..... Alegra

by Marino, Father of Alegra

“There is a consensus amongst parents, that parenting is much like being on a roller coaster. You can experience the highest of highs and the lowest of lows. Our children look up to us for protection, advice, love and friendship. We always want to be the best role models for our children. As a father I have an instinct to protect my family. There's nothing I wouldn't do for them. A father's love is unbreakable. Alegra is my first born. The girl who made me a dad. Much like the meaning of her name she brought endless joy to our lives. Not a day goes by that I don't think of her or talk to her. She should have been turning ten this year and continuing her life with her siblings and friends. You see Alegra lost her battle with brain cancer on the 7th of October 2017, at just six years of age, only ten months from diagnosis.



When your child is dealt a hand that has one unthinkable outcome, your world is instantly crushed. You are told there's no cure and not much time left. It's like a ticking time bomb ready to go off at any minute, regardless of your child's progress throughout their journey. You are helpless, broken and always questioning your role as a husband and father.

Your mind turns on you. You doubt yourself. You doubt your ability to be a provider and the man your family turns to for help. And that's when you look at your child. She smiles at you and holds your hand, she epitomises the true meaning of a hero,

everything I wanted to be for her. She shows her strength and doesn't let her illness define her.

Our whole world changed when Alegra was diagnosed, and since then we don't remember life without worry. How am I supposed to convince my child to lay still, alone on a flat table with a mask placed over her face holding her locked into position for Radiotherapy treatment? Not only once, but thirty times! How can I convince her it is ok when I can't even convince myself?



I don't know what she thought of in that room, but she did it. She had so much courage. Courage I lacked as I waited outside for her, listening to her mum read her a story over the PA system.

Regardless of the treatment and the wins post-surgery, it wasn't enough to keep her tumour at bay. We were given days; the doctors were advising

us to stay in hospital, but we chose to go home. Alegra gave us seven incredible weeks filled with many drawings, stories and love. Memories her siblings cherish. She turned six. We never spoke about what was happening. One of our final days together I heard my wife tell her she was sorry and that she would be better soon, to which Alegra replied, “it doesn't matter”. Alegra said it was September and then it would be Halloween so



if she could be better by November for my birthday that would be fine. How can such a young child be so selfless? The disease at this stage had taken away her ability to walk, to even sit up straight and raise her hand. This is your turning point to either sink or swim. Thank God for our younger children Emmanuela and Strato. Without them I am certain I wouldn't be here. They were the only reason I was able to get back on a normal path. They needed me for support and to try keep normality in the house. What is normal anymore? We don't even know.

It seems so impossible that in a world filled with such wonderful things and so many possibilities that there isn't a way to try to treat this disease. I don't know why things happen and the sad truth is tomorrow it will be another family. To be honest I pity the world who doesn't get to know Alegra. Alegra and all children deserve to be able to fight. To fight for the life they were given. There needs to be better treatments and a cure for this disease that hurts too many of our little friends and their families.



It was not our choice to survive without you, so we choose to live and to honour you.”



For more, please visit:
<https://www.littlelegsfoundation.org.au/get-involved>



ONCE YOU CHOOSE HOPE, ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

ECOFOAM Wheelchair Cushion

Hi my name is Dale, my son Matthew McShane is a member of the Australian Paralympic team. One of the issues some of the players have is the fit of themselves into the chair, having more stability in the chair is most desirable. We have made a few seats to match the contour of the athlete to fit their chair.

We were told that Ecofoam ISF 136 would suit the application, thanks Kim from Era Polymers. We used a vacuum bag from Bunnings as a cover while

casting. Placing the material into the bag and quickly sitting the person into the chair, a little warm but produced the correct contours between the chair and athlete. According to Kim this is the same as seat inserts used in race cars. After a few volume and timing trails the seat is working well and providing the athlete with much more stability and control over his chair. The Australian Rollers are now in Tokyo competing for Australia at the Paralympics.



In these dangerous, crazy, and sad, Covid times, it is good to tell a good news story... A Love Story.

So, one of our customers, Dale McShane, just sent us some information, about his son Matt, who, with his Fiancé, Ella Sabljak are heading to Tokyo for the Paralympics. They are both, Wheelchair Basketball Champions, and are playing in the Aussie Teams.. the ROLLERS, and the GLIDERS.

Hi Tina.

I hope all is well in this crazy time.

I thought you and George might be interested to know that my son Mathew and his fiancé Ella are about to head off to Tokyo competing in wheelchair basketball.

We are very excited here, pity we can't be there.

We have made a few special seats for a couple of the athlete's, using Ecofoam.

Like the race car seats fitting to the player.

Just thought I would share some news that isn't covid related.

Regards Dale

Good Luck at the Olympics, guys.

Someone once said;

“Love Conquers All” It does, it does.

George Papamanuel



SO, ERA POLYMERS MANUFACTURES WATERPROOFING MATERIALS? SURE DO!



A wide range of Eraspray and Eraproof waterproofing membranes are used in rooftop areas, balconies, terraces, wastewater facilities and in many more applications such as pavements! Eraproof is a high performance single component, solvent based waterproofing membrane. It is Class 3 and AS4858, AS4654 certified.



SHIPPING LNG YOU SAY? WELL, THE APTANE WAY OF COURSE!



So what's LNG?

- THAT would be LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS!
- **And how do you ship it?**
- At very cold temperatures ... like MINUS 160°C...that's pretty cold right!
- **So you have to have GOOD polyurethane foam to do that?**
- Sure...APTANES made by Applied Polymers, a Division of Era Polymers ... world leaders in Cryogenic Foam Technology!



For more information contact **Era Polymers** on Tel: 02 9666 3788 or email erapol@erapol.com.au



THE LIGHTER SIDE



ELEMENT OF GENIUS

YOU
R-O-R'
GET IT
OR
YOU DON'T

We are the...

Three Aminos

16 S SULFUR	18 Ar ARGON	20 Ca CALCIUM	62 Sm SAMARIUM
--------------------------	--------------------------	----------------------------	-----------------------------

The central element of my personality.

$$\Phi = \iint_S q \cdot dA = 0$$

NO FLUX GIVEN

Metaphor

Is it because I'm FAT?!

WHAT'S MOVING IN MACHINERY? LATEST

YES, WE HAVE THAT...



To complement the lines of polyurethane chemicals offered at **Era Polymers**, we are also agents for various machinery companies which allows us to offer complete solutions for your dispensing and cutting needs. Most of the machinery available is able to be installed by an Era Polymers technician, and once the machine is running, we are able to back this up with a complement of spare parts and technical advice.

SAIP
ADVANCED POLYURETHANE EQUIPMENT

Polytec INDUSTRIAL
PURE PASSION

SUMMERS EQUIPMENT INC.

RAMA

FECKEN KIRFEL

For all your machinery needs or more information about this product, please call our Machinery Department:

Contact: Josip Salopek
Tel: (02) 9666 3788

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THE Herald
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EQUIPMENT AGENCIES



OTHER AGENCIES

