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## LESSONS FROM LIFE #37 ▼ WHAT'S IN A BOOK?

A few weeks ago, grandson George Papamanuel came past to fix my "Sonos" sound system.

Sometimes I play with buttons that I shouldn't ...things go "wonky" and presto, a sound disaster.

In such situations I have THREE options, call a son, a son in law, or a grandson.

The son-in-law, lives too far away, and only comes back, to our neck of the woods, for extremely short bursts...before they're off again, into the glorious inner west, famous for street parties, and women wearing Birkenstocks.

Sons have a habit of TRYING to teach old dogs, new tricks.

(Continued Page 2)



Where did this year go? Once again, 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 2023 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)

They want to guide you through menus, sub menus, and sub, sub menus... I get lost at the first "click" which quickly changes the discussion to:

"Gee dad you're starting to lose it ...why don't you try, increasing your Gingko, and Turmeric consumption."

SO, that's when GRANDsons, have an extremely important part to play, as those grey cells, get greyer, and greyer.

Anyway, George weaved his magic... and then we spoke about books.

Alex loves to read, loves Audio books, and loves PODCASTS, even more.

BUT now he belongs to a generation, of NOT liking the REAL thing...PAPER books.

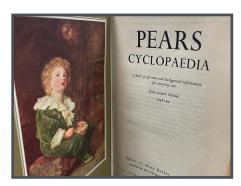
He likes electronic books, or, books that you can hear.

So, the discussion went like... When it's time for us to move on, the GRANDKIDS will inherent our book collection, NOT the children.

Tina collects COOKING BOOKS... she has dozens and dozens ... so between three granddaughters, and hopefully three granddaughters in law, they too, will be well looked after, in the book department.

I mentioned to George, that all these books all descended from ONE book.

I showed it to him...







"Pears Cyclopedia 1958-59" So, I was NINE when it was published.

I grew up in a house with very few books.

MUM's "bibles" were THE GREEK Bible ... and "Oneirokriti" (the Meaning of Dreams)

Mum was a VIVID dreamer... so every morning, she would look up what her latest dream meant.

Good future / day, bad future / day ... it was all there in black and white.

She always waited for a dream, that we would win the BIG lottery.

It never came.

"When it's time for us to move on, the GRANDKIDS will inherent our book collection, NOT the children"

Dad only finished third class primary school ... So, he struggled to read... BUT he read the daily paper, voraciously every day... it was his, passport, to the wilder world, of politics and general news.

I always knew what "new" stuff he had read for the day, when he would test me ,with questions like:

"So, how many sheep does Australia have?" or:

"What's the capital of Argentina?"

It kept both of us on our toes.

HE, like Tina's dad, was extremely intelligent... BUT they both grew up in an "Era" (love that word ...what does ERA mean again!) ,where growing your daily food, was much more important, than knowledge for knowledge's sake.

That's where people go wrong... they confuse education with intelligence.

There are lots of dumb, educated people out there, just as there are and lots of intelligent people, without a proper education.

So, sometime in the late '50's at school, we were told that, if, you sent 5 wrappers of PEARS SOAP, plus 10 shillings (\$1) ... you would get a copy of this cut down version, of an encyclopedia.

FIVE wrappings is a lot of wrappings right...that is a lot of soap?!





Back then, it was a BATH, ONE time per week... and with 5 members of our family... it was going to take LOTS of time, to use up 5 cakes of soap... especially with the LACK of patience, that I have become famous for.

SO, I learnt to bathe, EVERY day, which was BIG news, AND STRANGE, back then.

(I read a story once, that IF, the ENGLISH had a bath or shower EVERY day, there wouldn't be enough water, in all of Mother England. Which reminds me of another story ... when dad turned 65 and retired, he went back to Samos, for a 3-month holiday. He met his brother Uncle Michael, in the fields of Kamara, Samos. They hugged and kissed, Greek style, the way that long lost brothers do... and the FIRST words out of my father's mouth were;

"Gee, Michael, you smell, when was the last time that you had a bath"?
"I don't remember, MORE, than ONE
YEAR ago! "So, two old men, one 65 the other 67, stripped down naked, and in the Field of Dreams, they gave each other a bath, with water pumped from the well... laughing all the time, rejoicing in their old age, and remembering all the years that they had spent together, and all the years, that they had spent apart).

So back to the story, I even learnt to lather up, TWICE ... and those damn Pears soaps, as big as they were, didn't dissolve all that readily...

There were no moisturisers like the modern DOVE soaps, back then....

NOW with 7 showers, and it's time for a new cake of Dove.







SO, It took lots of time, to use up all those Pears...BUT we finally got there.

So, I sent the wrappers, and the money... The book finally came back...and it became MY daily bible.

The world of knowledge, opened up to me... It had sections on "Events", "Home and Personal", "Medical Matters", "the World Of Science", "GREEK Myths and Legends"...

Yada, yada, yada!

I read that book voraciously, EVERY day. There was no TV back then, right, so what to do at nighttime?!

"You're kidding PAPPOU... NOW you're also going to tell me that there were NO iPhones, that you could play under the table, when you thought, that nobody was watching?!"

YES !! SO, one BOOK, made me fall in love with BOOKS... ALL BOOKS. As I got older, and I earnt some pocket money, I would go to Ashwoods on Elizabeth Street... I would hand in a book, and for 20 cents, you would get a new one. AND I promised myself, back then, that when I grew up, and FINALLY had some decent money in my pocket I would buy books ... LOTS OF BOOKS.

Dada.

ONE book, taught me to look at the wider world

ONE book gave me a thirst for reading and knowledge.

ONE book taught a young boy, to dream.

At 72, I still dream, impossible dreams.... With no "Onirokriti" to tell what they mean.

George Papamanuel, December 2022

# Versatile. Durable. Incredible.

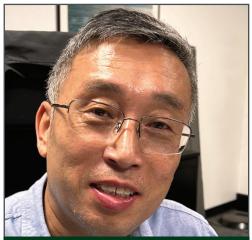
When it comes to polyurethane's role in improving performance, there's another consideration: Sustainability.

Conserving energy and our planet's natural resources are two of the most important things we can do to improve our environment and achieve sustainable outcomes. Polyurethane products, in their various forms, play a vital role in achieving both.

Rigid and spray polyurethane foams used for thermal insulation are significantly enhancing the energy efficiency of residential and commercial buildings. Energy lost through walls, roofs and windows is the largest single waste of energy in most buildings. Energy loss means extra operating costs, loss of comfort, and not to mention an increased carbon footprint. Polyurethane can contribute to sustainability by helping preserve our natural resources and save energy.

For all your questions regarding all matters Foam, call us on +612 9666 3788

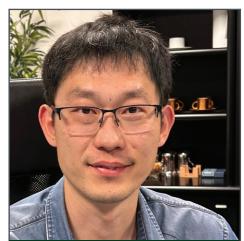
### **WELCOME!**



David Di - Foam Laboratory

David completed a PhD in Polymer Chemistry and Physics, Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry (China), and studied at the University of Napoli (Italy). He worked at several flexible foam companies in Australia.

## **STAFF NEWS:**NEW CHEMISTS JOIN ERA



Xin Qin - Elastomer Laboratory

Xin completed B.Eng in High Polymer Science and Engineering, Suzhou University (China) and M.Eng (research) in Material Processing Engineering, the University of Waikato (NZ). He has experience in polyurethane from two companies in China (TPU and Polyurea) and worked with Steve at a pharmaceutical company in R&D.



Steve Li - Elastomer Laboratory

Steve completed Chemical Engineering at China University of Petroleum in China and masters at the University of Sydney. He worked at a pharmaceutical company in QA, then moved on to R&D.

### **ERASPRAY**



**Eraspray ESM900** is a high performance, non-solvented polyurethane spray elastomer. It is characterized by a solids content of 100% and possesses a good abrasion resistance. **Eraspray ESM900** does not contain mercury catalyst. Additionally it offers:

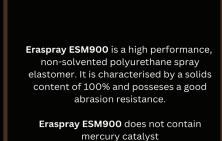
## **ESM900**

## NON-SOLVENTED SPRAY ELASTOMER

- 1. Convenient 1:1 (volume) mix ratio.
- 2. 100% solids zero V.O.C.
- 3. Fast build for very thick requirements reduced labour and time.
- 4. Fast curing for quick turn-around times cost effective.
- 5. Hydrolytic stability and corrosion resistance.
- 6. Good abrasion resistance and toughness.

- 7. Bonds to any substrate when the appropriate surface preparation and recommended primers are used.
- 8. Remains flexible and is therefore very suitable to handling expansion and contraction of metal associated with climate change or equipment that is subject to movement.
- 9. Requires plural component application equipment only.

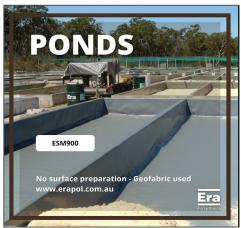




















## **URETHANE COATINGS**



Whilst the Urethane Coatings product range is often used to protect, refresh & beautify timber flooring, it is not limited to just this application.

If it's made of timber Urethane Coatings can protect it.!



Balustrades & Room Dividers



Wooden / Timber Dining Tables





Wooden / Timber Bar Areas





#### QUALITY UC DISTRIBUTORS:







Scan code to access our website:



"There is nothing impossible to they who will try."

## **ERAPOL RUBBER BINDERS**

**Erapol Rubber Binders** - a low cost means of binding together reconstituted rubber to produce safety surfacing solutions

for various applications.

Applications include but not limited to Compression moulding, playground surfaces, shock absorbing mats, athletics, running and sports tracks!

For further information please refer to the relevant Technical Data Sheet or contact your local Era Polymers Sales Representative.

Call us: +612 9666 3788

www.erapol.com.au







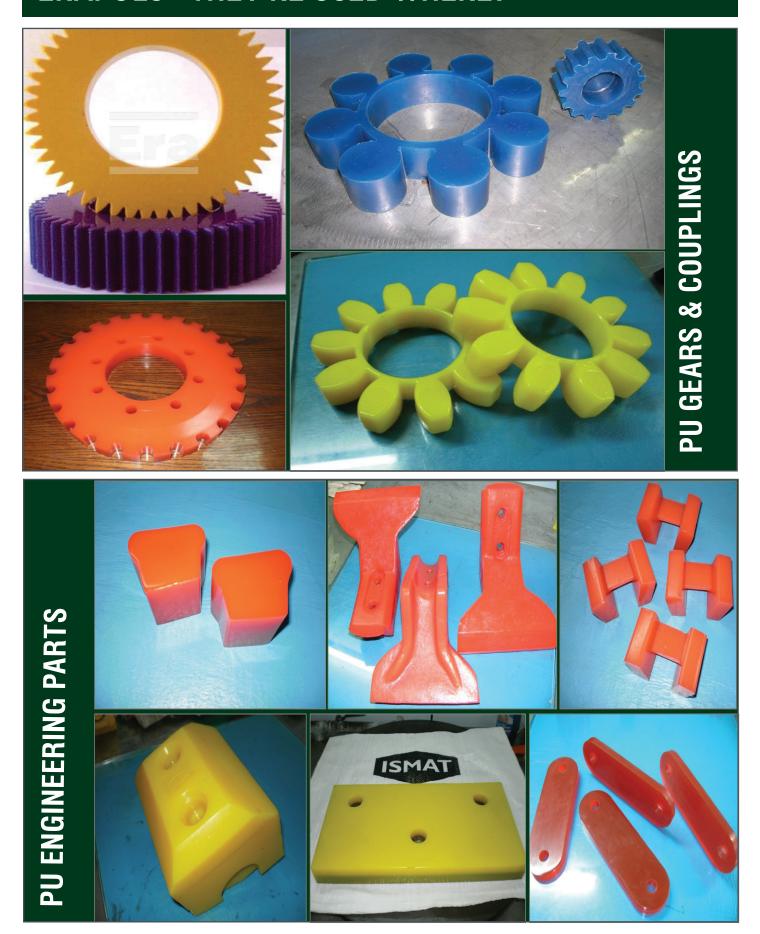






"Nothing is impossible. The word itself says 'I'm possible!'"
— Audrey Hepburn

### **ERAPOLS - THEY'RE USED WHERE?**



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

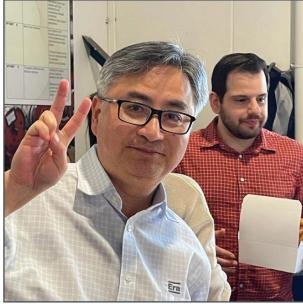
## Alex did real good...PAELLA Day at Era Polymers

Taking time to switch off and reconnect is very important for productivity within our magnificent Era team.

Research has shown that positive interpersonal connections result in better personal and work-related outcomes. Positive relationships make us happier, and thus more productive! Thanks to Alex Papamanuel, we get to be that and much more!





























## **ERAPOL Cold Castables**



Era Polymers range of Cold Castable Polyurethane systems are available in either TDI or MDI with varying hardnesses.

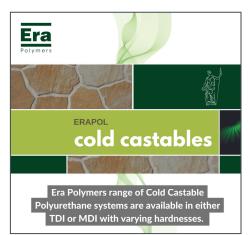
The variety of characteristics suit many applications including casting complex shapes and the reproduction of intricate patterns. They are designed for processing and curing at room temperature but can also be cured at elevated temperatures for faster demould and improved physical properties.

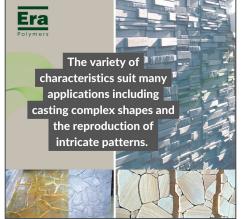
These two component products can be either hand mixed or dispensed through a plural component machine.

Call our Erapol Polyurethane experts for more information and details.

Tel: +612 9666 3788 or

visit our website: www.erapol.com.au



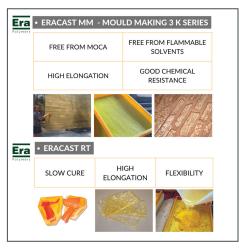


















## **ERA POLYMERS USA - "WHEN WE COME TOGETHER,** WE ARE STRONGER AS A COMMUNITY"



STORY SHARED BY REY LOPEZ

Food Lion believes no one should have to wonder where their next meal will come from or have to make the choice between paying bills or buying food.

That is why, we, at Era Polymers USA, know it is important for us to provide support to nourish our local communities through the Food Lion Feeds program - a philanthropic giving platform focused on alleviating food insecurity.

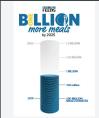
Era Polymers USA care for our community and never miss the opportunity to help serve our neighbors.

The 14th of November saw such an opportunity arise. Era Polymers contributed 17 boxes to the local church in Stanley.

Yes, giving back to the community!







## ERA POLYMERS USA - "EVERY CHILD DESERVES TO **EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS MORNING"**







STORY BY RANDALL HARDIN

The Era Polymers USA Team

(L-R) Randall, Amber, Tate, Mrs. Watson (Springfield Elementary School Social Worker), Josh, Rey

I am so excited to share a couple of special photos and a little information about the kids that we adopted from the angel tree program at one of our local schools here in Stanley, Springfield Elementary.

So, I contacted the school about the angel tree program. I was put in contact with the school's social worker, Mrs. Watson. She was just as excited as we were about us wanting to adopt an angel tree recipient. She explained that we could adopt one child or we could adopt a whole family, so, we as a team decided to adopt a whole family.

The family that we adopted consisted of three siblings, all girls aged one to nine years old.

Their list of needs were varied but consisted of shirts, pants, baby dolls, play dough, fashion nails, and hair bows. Not the typical list of toys that you would normally receive from a

child. Nonetheless, I am so very proud that the team and I were able to get every single thing on their lists and then some.

It was very heart touching to me personally. All of the school personnel were ecstatic that we adopted a family and provided them with all of the gifts.

I'm so very proud of our Era team for participating with the angel tree program. We all touched three little kids life in a special way and made a small difference in their CHRISTmas this year. I can't say "THANK YOU" enough to each and every one of our team members for participating and being so generous. I personally cant wait to do it again next year.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ALL** 

OF US AT ERA POLYMERS USA.



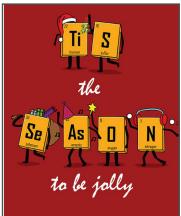
## THE LIGHTER SIDE E



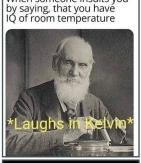


Working over the holidays?

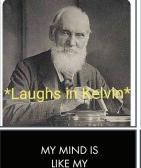
Off and







When someone insults you



INTERNET BROWSER

19 TABS OPEN 3 OF THEM ARE FROZEN AND I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THE MUSIC

IS COMING FROM.



I DON'T CARE WHAT THE SONG SAYS





### WHAT'S MOVING IN MACHINER

**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.











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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