

news briefs

Volume 4, Issue IV

May, 1975

"ENERGY FOR PLASTICS" THEME BRINGS ENTHUSIASTIC TURNOUT

A vital "Energy for Plastics" theme, a "Visit Your Congressman" program and Congressional reception, and the election of SPI Officers and Directors at Large, were all featured at the Society's Sixth Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., April 29 and 30. Officers re-elected are: C. Rex Scott, Phillips Petroleum Co., as Chairman of SPI; Vice Chairman, Stanford H. Shaw, Shaw Plastics Corporation; Secretary, William H. Willert, Egan Machinery Co.; and Treasurer is LaVern A. Niedfeldt, Technical Plastics Corporation. Officers will serve until May 31, 1976. Directors at Large are: Robert A. Gerdes, Plastic Moldings Corporation; Charles Grant, Hercules, Inc.; James S. Hearons, Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation; Leonard Lane, Automatic Plastic Molding Div., Icore International; Jean F. Malone, B. F. Goodrich Chemical Co.; and Edward G. Slatcher, Container Corporation of America. They will serve from June 1, 1975, to May 31, 1978.

In his talk on the State of the Plastics Industry, Mr. Scott alerted the industry to understand that they will have to engage in vigorous price competition for a fair share of the hydrocarbon raw materials needed to keep plants running. That means, he said, that the plastics industry must price its products high enough to get its share of the available feedstocks and BTU's of energy.

"The swift rise of the plastics industry has helped demonstrate that many materials are not only interchangeable, that some are totally replaceable. This is not simply your problem, or even that of our industry association, but one for all of society," he said.

"Nevertheless, it is a problem in which the SPI can far more effectively take the leadership in seeking solutions than any of us individually."

Other speakers included the Honorable Stephen S. Gardner, Deputy Secretary of the Treasury of the United States; Dr. Manuel Perez-Guerrero, Venezuela's Minister of State for Economic and International Affairs, and Senator Mike Gravel of Alaska.

Senator Gravel's talk highlighted the nation's serious need for a workable energy policy that would provide enough natural gas and oil to satisfy industry and public need. He also emphasized that new natural gas



C. Rex Scott, SPI Chairman (left) greets Mike Gravel, Senator from Alaska

Senator Gravel - continued

should be de-controlled as soon as possible in order to encourage development of new wells. His position coincides very much with SPI's own Energy for Plastics policy and Fred C. Sutro Jr.'s discussion of SPI's official stand on the de-control of new natural gas. Mr. Sutro, who is with USS Chemicals, is Chairman of SPI's Public Affairs Committee. Both gentlemen told SPI members that the de-control measure would be a positive step, though only an initial one, towards improving the general energy and feedstock situation.

Ralph L. Harding, Jr., SPI President, talked about the increasing number and intensity of the problems confronting the plastics industry. They are coming in layers, he said, rather than in sequence. As a result, SPI has changed, becoming one of the most capable and action-oriented trade associations in the nation. Mr. Harding assured his audience that continuation of the kind of enthusiasm exhibited at this Annual Meeting would further strengthen industry efforts.



(Left to Right) John S. Gardner, Deputy Secretary of the Treasury of the U.S.; Ralph L. Harding, Jr. President of SPI, and C. Rex Scott, SPI Chairman.



At the Congressional Reception: Iver Freeman, Reed Prentice Div., Packaging Machinery Corp., (right) talks to unidentified Congressman from Massachusetts.

But members did more than simply listen to speakers and reports at the Meeting - they actively participated. Tuesday afternoon, April 29th, attendees visited their Congressmen on the "Hill" and spoke to them about the problems and needs of the plastics industry - especially in the area of energy. That evening,

Annual Meeting - continued

they attended a Congressional reception to which the Legislators had been invited. About 30 Congressmen and/or their Administrative Assistants were present, making for a stimulating and successful affair. Attendees expressed their opinions of the Congressional visits in Reaction Reports and overwhelmingly agreed that the program was not only constructive but necessary for the future. (Complete texts of the talks given at the Meeting will be available in booklet form at a later date.)

SPI WINS
"EQUAL TIME"
IN N. Y. TIMES

On March 30th, some of you may have seen the inflammatory article in the Real Estate section of the Sunday New York Times in which the author attempted to portray plastics in construction and its supporters as villains. "Plastics in Construction Are a Fire Hazard," wrote James D. Morgan, a Pratt Institute Environmental Design staffer. Presenting a series of emotional half-truths, he trotted out the Manhattan telephone building fire, the impact of gases from burning plastics on fire-fighters, and an assortment of other "facts" culminating with a report of his reaction to the movie, "The Towering Inferno."

Drawing on its resourcefulness all too frequently called for these past few years, SPI proceeded to convert a bad moment into an opportunity with dispatch. Quickly negotiating the opportunity for "equal time" to air the broader body of facts, a response was drafted by Joseph McDermott, manager of SPI's Plastics in Construction Council. His "In Defense of Plastics" appeared on the front page of the publication's Sunday, April 20th Real Estate Section. In a factual presentation, McDermott brought the rest of the picture into focus, citing facts omitted by Morgan, correcting inaccuracies, and reporting the various research activities being funded by the plastics industry through SPI. We recommend you to the article for first-hand interest. The complete text is attached to this edition of NewsBriefs.

DOROTHY RICHEY
SPOKESWOMAN FOR
PLASTIC BOTTLE
INSTITUTE

Well-known broadcaster, novelist, columnist, and lecturer Dorothy Richey began her new duties as spokeswoman for the Plastic Bottle Institute recently in Houston, Texas. She has appeared on television and radio programs, and has been interviewed by the local newspapers and spoke before the Women's Civic Club. Bursting with enthusiasm, Mrs. Richey brings plastic bottles in the shapes of accordions, plumbing fixtures, bears, you name it, to engage today's major consumers - women. (continued over)



Dorothy Richey - continued

"I decided to become the industry's spokeswoman because plastic has created a renaissance in packaging," she declares. "Plastic bottles make standardized packaging a thing of the past."

Mrs. Richey's husband is Chief Chemist with Arco Polymers, Port Arthur, Texas. Unbeatable combination!

PEPSI COLA HITS THE SPOT
FOR PBI BOTTLE AWARD

The Pepsi Cola Co., won the Plastics Industry 1975 Bottle of the Year Award for its 32 fluid oz. soft beverage bottle. The industry award, sponsored by the Plastic Bottle Institute, was one of seven announced at the Waldorf Astoria during the Third Annual Plastic Bottle of the Year Awards. The Pepsi bottle is a clear cylindrical container featuring a stabilizing base. Because the polyester resin is polyethylene terephthalate, the bottle retains carbonation and withstands internal pressure. The blow molder was The DuPont Company.

Judges were Ben Miyares, Food and Drug Packaging; Joseph Kalina, Modern Plastics; Roger Guilfoyle, Industrial Design; Evan Frances, Lady's Circle; and Delphene Richards, Redbook. Also judging the entries - May Bender, of May Bender Industrial Design, Inc.

At the same time, PBI's Consumer Advisory Board named the Excalibur Concours Car Wax container as the Bottle of the Year. The blow molder was Kerr Glass Manufacturing Co., Lancaster, Pa. The Consumer Board, a nation-wide group of 106 homemakers, was created to help the industry continually upgrade its products.

Other category awards were given to bottles blow molded by Brewster Plastics, Inc.; Texize Chemical Co.; Charter Supply; IMCO Container Co.; the Bottle Division of Phillips 66; Corco, Inc.; and Wheaton Plastics.



John W. Cahill, Director, Plastic Bottle Div., Pepsi Cola Co., (right) receives Award from Don Pollack, PBI Chairman

COMBUSTIBILITY SYMPOSIUM
BOASTS RECORD ATTENDANCE

SPI's Fourth Combustibility Symposium in Washington, D.C., last month, was the largest so far. Over 175 attendees heard authoritative speakers discuss the industry's fire problems and the research programs aimed at solving these problems. Dr. Joseph E. Clark, the Acting Administrator of the Commerce Department's National Fire Prevention and Control Administration, told the meeting that "the plastics industry is one of our principle resources in combatting the fire problem." Citing the industry's "breadth and depth in research and development on more fire-safe materials," Dr. Clark called on the industry's leadership to "increase efforts to bring improved products to the market place."

The keynote speaker, Dr. Dieter H. Ambros, President, BASF Wyandotte Corporation, also encouraged "a positive and active approach by members of the plastics industry when confronted with challenge, rather than sitting back and waiting for adversity to overwhelm them." He told the meeting that we must increase our communications within the industry, especially in respect to the safety aspects of plastics.

John J. McEvoy, E. I. Dupont de Nemours, was Program Chairman for the successful two-day meeting.

WESTERN CONFEREES FLOCK
TO SAN FRANCISCO SESSIONS

Well over 200 persons attended the Transactional Analysis Seminar offered at SPI's Western Section Conference in San Francisco in April. "How to Manage Yourself and Other People" was the thrust of the TA session. For the third year in a row, the Western Conference has offered such a session in human behaviour and each year, the attendees have greeted it enthusiastically.

Total paid attendance for the Conference exceeded 400 persons. A look at the industry's future was provided by keynote speaker Reed Belden of Allied Chemical and marketing research methodology was discussed by W. R. Grace's Robert Miller.

Leonard Lane, Automatic Plastic Molding Division of Icore International, was named Man of the Year in ceremonies on the final day of the Conference. Mr. Lane is also a Director at Large for SPI.

NEW APPROACH TO INJURY
AND ILLNESS DATA

The Safety and Loss Prevention Committee of SPI has initiated a new method of collecting industry occupational injury and illness data. The American National Standard method has been replaced with OSHA Form 102 which identifies the processing method by S.I.C. number. The data is confidential and will be used to provide SPI with Industry Disabling Injury Accident Experience and as a back-up for SPI's Safety Awards Program. If you are a processing company and somehow did not receive the original mailing of this form which was made in April, please contact Jerry Carroll at SPI, N.Y.

SPI ISSUES
PVC TRAINING
MANUAL

The VCM-PVC Producers Committee of SPI has developed a four-page training manual entitled "What Every Employee Should Know About Polyvinyl Chloride -- and What You Should Tell Others." The manual was prepared in response to one requirement of the OSHA standard on VCM which calls for the establishment of a training program for all employees engaged in the "manufacture, reaction, packaging, repackaging, storage, handling or use of vinyl chloride or polyvinyl chloride" regardless of the employee's level of exposure. It "does not apply to the handling or use of fabricated products made of polyvinyl chloride." A single copy of the manual has already been sent to member company representatives. Additional single copies are available free from the SPI Literature Department. Multiple copies can be ordered from the New York office at \$10. per 100. The manual is specifically designed to assist SPI member companies who are PVC fabricators or processors in complying with the OSHA requirement.

SPI TECHNICAL
DIRECTOR ON
SPEAKING TRAIL

The positive image of the plastics industry was presented before two important audiences during the month of April by John Lawrence, SPI's Technical Director. He addressed the 13th American Society for Metals Annual Public Seminar on the subject: "Plastics Materials Role in Resource and Energy Conservation," and the Second Plastics Manufacturing Seminar of the 1975 International Tool and Manufacturing Exposition and Engineering Conference on "Plastics Face Environmental and Health Concerns with Confidence." Response to both presentations was favorable, and the questions asked by attendees at both meetings indicated that the understanding of our industry is growing as is the positive interest of people who are not actively involved in it.

PLASTICS WASTE
MANAGEMENT UPDATE

U. S. use of plastics will rise from 30 billion pounds in 1970 to as high as 60 billion pounds per year by 1980. This forecast is part of the update of the 1972 Plastics Waste Management study prepared for MCA by DeBell & Richardson. The study reviews current disposal methods for plastics including incineration, reuse and recycle, pyrolysis (chemical change caused by heat), sanitary landfill and environmental degradation. It also examines government activity and environmental impact statements in SWM, energy needs and consumption and the future for solid waste recycling. The 1974 update of "Plastics Waste Management" is available for \$5.75 per copy from: Publications Service - MCA; 1825 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009. Quantity prices are available. A two-page summary is included with each report.

TWO-WAY TRADE
FOR PLASTICS
URGED

U. S. Tariffs on plastics should not be reduced unless they are given equalized access to foreign markets, declares William F. Christopher, Director of SPI's International Committee. Addressing the International Trade Commission recently, he noted that plastics offer an excellent opportunity for negotiation by sector, including both tariff and non-tariff barriers.

IMPORTANT UP-COMING SPI ACTIVITIES

May 29. The Western Section Reinforced Plastics/Composites Institute of SPI will host a meeting at the Los Angeles Museum of Science and Industry which will open a public summer-long display of outstanding plastics in construction projects designed by California junior high and high school students. The program begins at 3.00 p.m. at the Museum. Additional information is available from SPI Los Angeles.

June 8-10. Noted economist Walter W. Heller of the University of Minnesota and member of the President's Council of Economic Advisers and the Federal Energy Office Advisory Panel will be the keynote speaker at the Midwest Section Conference at the Nordic Hills Inn in Itasca, Illinois. His topic will be: "Recovery Without Re-Inflation -- Can It Be Done?" But he is only one of several speakers who will be addressing themselves to the Conference theme of "How To Survive In '75", including Geoffrey Snelling, Market Research Specialist of Du Pont; Willard Grimm, President of W. I. Grimm & Company, Financial Consultants; Bruce Olson, Partner in Ernst & Ernst; Betty Garvey, Industrial Psychologist, Conwed Corporation and others. Registration fee is \$85. for SPI members; \$110 for non-members. Contact SPI Midwest for further information and registration forms.

June 10-12. 16th National Plastics for Tooling Conference at Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana. Details from Charlie Condit at SPI N.Y.

June 16. Announcement of the winners in the SPI Furniture Division's Sixth Annual Plastics in Furniture Competition (Poly Awards). Presentations will be made at the American Mart in Chicago.

June 27-29. "The Changing Face of the EPS Industry" is the theme of the Third Annual National Conference of the EPS Materials Group scheduled for The Abbey in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. The meeting has been designed to meet the special needs and interests of block and shape molders, with separate seminar sessions for each group.

Concurrent with the Conference will be the Sixth National Expandable Polystyrene Competition sponsored by the EPS Material Group of the SPI Cellular Plastics Division. The competition has been broadened to include "fabricated parts" giving block molders a special first time category for their products. Awards will be given in seven product classifications.

Registration fee for both events in \$30. for members; \$60. for non-members. Contact SPI Midwest for further information.

September 16-19. The 31st Annual New England Conference at Dunfey's Hyannis Resort, Hyannis, Mass.

October 1-3. The SPI National Moldmaker Conference at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in New Orleans will address itself to the economics of moldmaking, new techniques, and people problems. In response to attendees' comments after last year's meeting, the program has been expanded to a full day and a half. More details will appear here as the program develops.

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SPI Activities

October 8-10. The SPI Cellular Plastics Division Conference on Transportation at the Hotel Pontchartrain in Detroit.

THE MEETING CALENDAR

May 12-16. The 1975 Annual Meeting of the National Fire Protection Association will be held at the Palmer House in Chicago and will center on the theme "Advances Toward the Solution of Fire Problems." Action will be taken on twenty-one proposed and existing standards which will affect industrial, commercial and public interests. A Plastics in Use forum will be one of the special seminars held at the meeting. Further information is available from NFPA at 47 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02210, (617) 482-8755.

May 21. The Third Annual Meeting of the Society of the Plastics Industry of Canada will be held at the Chateau Champlain, Montreal. On the agenda is a report on U. S. SPI activities, by Ralph Harding, Jr., and a talk by Tony Amery, Economist for Dupont, "who will project the economic situation in Canada to 1980."

June 9-11. The 11th National State of the Art Symposium, which will address itself to the interdependence of energy and materials, will take place at the Carnegie Institution in Washington, D.C. The meeting has been organized by the Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry of the American Chemical Society and is co-sponsored by 23 other trade and technical organizations, including SPI. The registration fee is \$50. for three days for members of cooperating organizations. The full program for the meeting as well as registration forms can be obtained from Mrs. Barbara Hodsdon, Manager, Regional Meetings and Conferences, ACS, 1156 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 872-4450.

September 16-19. PATEC '75 is the first of a planned series of annual Pacific Technical Conferences being inaugurated by SPE. The meetings will be geared to the needs of the western plastics industry with the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas being chosen as the site of the first meeting. Forty technical papers will be presented on a wide variety of subjects. Contact Suzy Witzler at Plastics Machinery & Equipment Magazine, 311 Steele Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, (303) 321-3911, for further information.

September 27-30. Reinforced Plastics for Corrosion Control is the theme chosen by the Niagara Frontier Section of the National Association of Corrosion Engineers for its Fall meeting at the Niagara Hilton, Niagara Falls, N.Y. Further information is available from Donald Kloda, Hooker Chemical Corporation, Walck Road, North Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120, (716) 695-1600.

Meeting Calendar - continued

In 1976. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers has issued a call of papers for its 7th Biennial National Waste Conference scheduled for May 23-26, 1976, at the Statler Hilton Hotel in Boston. Offers for papers along with a fifty word abstract, must be received by June 1, 1975. The full paper must be submitted by September 15, 1975. Interested parties should contact James A. Fife, Technical Program Chairman, Charles T. Main, Inc., Southeast Tower, Prudential Center, Boston, Mass., 02199.

NFPA CATALOG AVAILABLE The 1975 edition of the National Fire Protection Association's catalog of 600 publications and visual aids on fire safety is available free from NFPA Publications Sales Department, 470 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts, 02210. The catalog list fire protection codes and standards, films and other aids to speakers, course materials, periodicals, textbooks, etc.

MEMBERS HELP NEEDED FOR FLAMMABILITY TESTING The Styrene Producers Ad Hoc Committee of the SPI Furniture Division has decided that testing is needed in order to obtain data for possible use by the Public Affairs Committee in answering a petition filed by an individual with the Consumer Product Safety Commission. The Committee is soliciting the support and participation of any other groups of resin producers or processors who will join in forming a committee for the specific purpose of assembling and developing documented data for this purpose. Contact Julie Cahn, SPI Furniture Division Staff Director at the New York office.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS DR. WOLFGANG A. MACK has been installed as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Plastics Institute of America. He is President of Werner & Pfleiderer Corporation.

DR. ROCCO A. PETRONE has been named President and Chief Executive Officer of the non-profit National Center for Resource Recovery, Inc. (NCRR). He was launch director of the first Apollo manned lunar landing flight and associate administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Dr. Petrone succeeds DR. RICHARD L. LESH who became President and Chief Operating Officer of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce on May 1.

LIMITED GROUP TOUR TO DUSSELDORF K-75 PLASTICS SHOW SPI is sponsoring a limited group tour to the K-75 International Plastics and Rubber Exhibit in Dusseldorf, Germany. Show dates are October 7-14, 1975, and all arrangements must be made directly with Europacar, a

continued

Dusseldorf Tour - continued

division of Atlantic-Pacific Travel, Inc. SPI members can realize significant savings going this route. Three set plans include 7, 10 and 13 nights, but you can work out a customized arrangement. However, only a limited number of rooms have been reserved, so you must act quickly. Member firms exhibiting in the jointly sponsored U. S. exhibit have first choice. Reservation cutoff date is June 1 or sooner! Reserve directly with Europacar. Call Ms. Cali Thomas at (212) 751-3250, New York City.

PRODUCTION AND SALES
OF RESINS
CONTINUE DOWNWARD

Final figures for February, 1975, indicate that U. S. plastics production, excluding styrene latex, styrene based polymers and SAN, reached 1,214 million pounds - a 29% decrease over the same month a year ago. This rate of production decline matched last month. Sales and use for February hit 1,226 million pounds, excluding styrene latex, styrene polymers and SAN. This was 31% lower than the same month a year ago. However, the rate of sales decline in February, as compared to January this year, was only an 8% drop - a continued slackening in the rate of decline.

Business inventories declined 0.5% - a record \$1.49 billion in February to a seasonally adjusted \$270.36 billion. Most of the shrinkage came from a 9% reduction in stocks of automobiles at the dealer level. This should be considered encouraging because inventory adjustments must be effected at the retail, distributor and wholesale levels before any resumption can be expected at the manufacturing level where unemployment is heaviest.

U. S. production in March, 1975, according to the Statistical Department of the Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc. (SPI), for select thermo-plastic resin materials, indicate a decline of 40% over the comparable month a year ago. This was about the same rate of decline as last month. Again, all reported materials showed significant decreases. Production, as compared to last month, however, was up about 8%, perhaps reflecting an improvement in orders.

U. S. Sales and Use (captive consumption) for March were off close to 39% as compared to March a year ago. While the comparative rate for March was little improved over last month, it would appear the trend of incoming orders at the producer level is up because sales reflected almost a 12% increase over the preceding month for select materials.

(see attached Tables)

For the Month of **February**

Months to Date

TABLE III
U.S. PRODUCTION OF PLASTICS AND RESIN MATERIALS

(In thousands of pounds, dry weight)

MATERIAL	FEBRUARY		LAST MONTH ACTUAL	VOLUME CHANGE VS.		PERCENT CHANGE VS.	
	1975	1974		FEBRUARY	LAST MONTH	FEBRUARY	LAST MONTH
				1975 vs 1974		1975 vs 1974	
Thermosets:							
Epoxy	15,289	19,488	14,923	- 4,199	+ 366	- 21.5	+ 2.5
Polyester	57,248	71,029	51,817	- 13,781	+ 5,431	- 19.4	+ 10.5
Urea	45,606	80,616	42,891	- 35,010	+ 2,715	- 43.4	+ 6.3
Melamine	6,379	13,386	6,143	- 7,007	+ 236	- 52.3	+ 3.8
Phenolic	70,215	117,071	72,362	- 46,856	- 2,147	- 40.0	- 3.0
TOTAL	194,737	301,590	188,136	-106,853	+ 6,601	- 35.4	+ 3.5
Thermoplastics:							
Low Density Polyethylene	332,024	482,498	418,667	-150,474	- 86,643	- 31.2	- 20.7
High Density Polyethylene	158,992	223,825	217,714	- 64,833	- 58,722	- 29.0	- 27.0
Polypropylene	89,389	176,397	112,615	- 87,008	- 23,226	- 49.3	- 20.6
ABS	26,257	72,570	29,924	- 46,313	- 3,667	- 63.8	- 12.3
SAN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polystyrene	144,636	277,062	152,969	-132,426	- 8,333	- 47.8	- 5.4
Styrene Latex	30,579	43,615	29,968	- 13,036	+ 611	- 29.9	+ 2.0
Other Styrene Based Latexes	3,454	n.c.	3,991	-	- 537	-	- 13.5
Styrene Based Polymers + SAN	10,119	n.c.	12,035	-	- 1,916	-	- 15.9
Nylon	5,059	16,853	9,913	- 11,794	- 4,854	- 70.0	- 49.0
Polyvinyl Chloride	209,661	381,092	267,772	-171,431	- 58,111	- 45.0	- 21.7
Vinyl Acetate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polyvinyl Alcohol	6,586	11,056	11,044	- 4,470	- 4,458	- 40.4	- 40.4
Other Vinyls	12,150	16,328	12,439	- 4,178	- 289	- 25.6	- 2.3
TOTAL	1,028,906	n.c.	1,279,051	-	-250,145	-	- 19.6
GRAND TOTAL	1,223,643	n.c.	1,467,187	-	-243,544	-	- 16.6

Source: The Society of the Plastics Industry, Committee on Resin Statistics as compiled by Ernst & Ernst.

n.c. - Not Comparable

For the Month of February

Months to Date

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Polyester	57,248	71,029	51,817	- 13,781	+ 5,431	- 19.4	+ 10.5
Urea	45,606	80,616	42,891	- 35,010	+ 2,715	- 43.4	+ 6.3
Melamine	6,379	13,386	6,143	- 7,007	+ 236	- 52.3	+ 3.8
Phenolic	70,215	117,071	72,362	- 46,856	- 2,147	- 40.0	- 3.0
TOTAL	194,737	301,590	188,136	-106,853	+ 6,601	- 35.4	+ 3.5
Thermoplastics:							
Low Density Polyethylene	332,024	482,498	418,667	-150,474	- 86,643	- 31.2	- 20.7
High Density Polyethylene	158,992	223,825	217,714	- 64,833	- 58,722	- 29.0	- 27.0
Polypropylene	89,389	176,397	112,615	- 87,008	- 23,226	- 49.3	- 20.6
ABS	26,257	72,570	29,924	- 46,313	- 3,667	- 63.8	- 12.3
SAN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polystyrene	144,636	277,062	152,969	-132,426	- 8,333	- 47.8	- 5.4
Styrene Latex	30,579	43,615	29,968	- 13,036	+ 611	- 29.9	+ 2.0
Other Styrene Based Latexes	3,454	n.c.	3,991	-	- 537	-	- 13.5
Styrene Based Polymers + SAN	10,119	n.c.	12,035	-	- 1,916	-	- 15.9
Nylon	5,059	16,853	9,913	- 11,794	- 4,854	- 70.0	- 49.0
Polyvinyl Chloride	209,661	381,092	267,772	-171,431	- 58,111	- 45.0	- 21.7
Vinyl Acetate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polyvinyl Alcohol	6,586	11,056	11,044	- 4,470	- 4,458	- 40.4	- 40.4
Other Vinyls	12,150	16,328	12,439	- 4,178	- 289	- 25.6	- 2.3
TOTAL	1,028,906	n.c.	1,279,051	-	-250,145	-	- 19.6
GRAND TOTAL	1,223,643	n.c.	1,467,187	-	-243,544	-	- 16.6

Source: The Society of the Plastics Industry, Committee on Resin Statistics as compiled by Ernst & Ernst.

n.c. - Not Comparable

☐ For the Month of February

☐ _____ Months to Date

TABLE IV
U.S. SALES & USE (CAPTIVE) OF PLASTICS AND RESIN MATERIALS

(In thousands of pounds, dry weight)

MATERIAL	FEBRUARY		LAST MONTH ACTUAL	VOLUME CHANGE VS.		PERCENT CHANGE VS.	
	1975	1974		FEBRUARY	LAST MONTH	FEBRUARY	LAST MONTH
				1975 vs 1974		1975 vs 1974	
Thermosets:							
Epoxy	13,614	17,667	14,007	- 4,053	- 393	- 22.9	- 2.8
Polyester	53,047	71,143	48,822	- 18,096	+ 4,225	- 25.4	+ 8.7
Urea	46,247	80,391	42,180	- 34,144	+ 4,067	- 42.5	+ 9.6
Melamine	7,385	13,860	8,468	- 6,475	- 1,083	- 46.7	- 12.8
Phenolic	71,700	115,497	76,027	- 43,797	- 4,327	- 37.9	- 5.7
TOTAL	191,993	298,558	189,504	-106,565	+ 2,489	- 35.7	+ 1.3
Thermoplastics:							
Low Density Polyethylene	316,104	493,963	388,993	-177,859	- 72,889	- 36.0	- 18.7
High Density Polyethylene	143,235	222,277	155,905	- 79,042	- 12,670	- 35.6	- 8.1
Polypropylene	104,073	182,590	109,528	- 78,517	- 5,455	- 43.0	- 5.0
ABS	27,041	69,144	24,840	- 42,103	+ 2,201	- 60.9	+ 8.9
SAN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polystyrene	148,209	274,022	155,507	-125,813	- 7,298	- 45.9	- 4.7
Styrene Latex	30,202	40,751	32,011	- 10,549	- 1,809	- 25.9	- 5.7
Other Styrene Based Latexes	2,390	n.c.	3,541	-	- 1,151	-	- 32.5
Styrene Based Polymers + SAN	10,947	n.c.	10,097	-	+ 850	-	+ 8.4
Nylon	8,127	15,205	7,563	- 7,078	+ 564	- 46.6	+ 7.5
Polyvinyl Chloride	209,428	403,554	226,379	-194,126	- 16,951	- 48.1	- 7.5
Vinyl Acetate	32,908	50,034	33,721	- 17,126	- 813	- 34.2	- 2.4
Polyvinyl Alcohol	3,997	11,893	5,308	- 7,896	- 1,311	- 66.4	- 24.7
Other Vinyls	10,219	16,467	10,238	- 6,248	- 19	- 37.9	- 0.2
TOTAL	1,046,880	n.c.	1,163,631	-	-116,751	-	- 10.0
GRAND TOTAL	1,238,873	n.c.	1,353,135	-	-114,262	-	- 8.4

Source: The Society of the Plastics Industry, Committee on Resin Statistics, as compiled by Ernst & Ernst.

n.c. - Not Comparable