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**Manufacturing
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SME in the News

New SME Web Page Provides Plastics Industry with Quick Facts and Tips

DEARBORN, Mich., April 26, 2005 - The Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) announces a new informative Web page for the plastics industry - The Plastics Industry Solution Center: Quick Facts, Tips & Techniques - www.sme.org/ema. Designed and produced by the SME Injection Molding Technical Group, the site features proven tips and techniques written by a host of plastics industry veterans. This simple and comprehensive Web page learning tool is geared to professionals with mid-level experience in plastic part design, injection mold processing, tooling and mold, and secondary processes.

To-date, books or publications have not been available to offer this type of industry-shared know-how in such an easy-to-use format. Tips are categorized and archived by topics such as product design, mold design, processing, troubleshooting, quality assurance/inspection, quotation and pricing, value-added operations, safety, profitability, design, materials, and assembly.

The Plastics Industry Solution Center has generated positive and wide interest among members of the SME Engineering Materials Applications Community, as well as other professionals from the plastics industry. A broader scope of informative and valuable tips for the plastics industry are the result of the collaborative efforts of four SME Technical Groups, Injection Molding Technical Group, the Design for Plastics Technical Group, the Plastics Tooling & Mold Design Technical Group, and the Finishing & Assembly of Plastic Components Technical Group.

"The wealth of hands-on and proven knowledge which is being shared with these tips and which resides in a single location is priceless to me." said Aldo Balatti, design engineering director/plastic applications specialist, Evolve Design Solutions Inc., Ottawa, Canada, who led this program development for SME. "It will highly benefit any person involved within the plastics industry and over time, will grow to become an outstanding library of plastics knowledge."

The SME Technical Community Network:
The Society of Manufacturing Engineers' (SME) online Technical Community Network (TCN) is designed to meet the needs of manufacturers in a highly competitive environment where formidable changes in the manufacturing enterprise include aging workforce technology, globalization, outsourcing, lean, supply chain, and best practices. The TCN consists of seven technical communities representing key areas of the manufacturing enterprise, and each includes a variety of more than 50 technical groups. The network's resources accessible to SME members at (www.sme.org/communities) provide manufacturing professionals, companies and industry with access to other professionals and technical resources for in-depth information on manufacturing disciplines.

About SME:
The Society of Manufacturing Engineers is the world's leading professional society supporting manufacturing education. Through its member programs, publications, expositions and professional development resources, SME promotes an increased awareness of manufacturing engineering and helps keep manufacturing professionals up to date on leading trends and technologies. Headquartered in Michigan, SME influences more than half a million manufacturing engineers and executives annually. The Society has members in 70 countries and is supported by a network of hundreds of chapters worldwide.

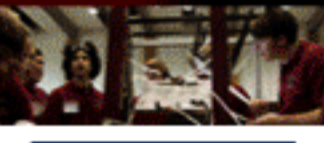
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