



The HERALD

Era Polymers News Bulletin



WELCOME

LESSONS FROM LIFE NO. 7 GINKGO MEMORIES

I read somewhere once, that a person's personality is 60% genetic, and 40% environmental.

You can't do much about the 60%, BUT, you can do a helluva lot about the 40%. The 40% is your life's experiences. Those bits, which, for whatever reason, appeal to your soul. **SO YOU MAKE THEM, OR THEY MAKE YOU, WHO YOU ARE.**

If the 60% is the "hardware", then surely 40% is the "software".

Let me tell you about three examples from my life, which defined my "software"....

The time was Paddington in the late "50's and early "60's." Paddo" was a lower middle class migrant suburb. Full of Greeks, Italians, "Dagos" and "Wogs" who had all come over to the "promised land" to make their way. It was also full of poor people, and people who had lost their way .

EXAMPLE 1.

School was Darlinghurst Primary School. It was a microcosm of "Paddo". Andrew Vivelis and I used to walk to school with an Aussie boy. Unfortunately it has been too long since I thought of his name, so his name is lost somewhere in the neurons of my mind. His family was particularly poor. Mind you the house was always spotlessly clean, BUT they were too poor to even own an iron. So his mother, overnight, to press his clothes, would put them between the mattress and the metal mesh base. So his pants and shirt would come out, sorta pressed, but with the dimpled impression of the metal mattress base. The kids at school would make fun of him, viciously. I used to feel for him. And even then, me at 10 years old, would scream in my mind, "**Being poor is NOT a crime**".

EXAMPLE 2.

We lived in Neild Ave. Around the corner, and up the road, an old woman lived in Gosbell Lane. She was a "BOTTLE-O ". i.e. she would trawl the suburb, looking for discarded beer bottles. She'd pile them into an old baby pram, and push them back to her yard. The yard was always overflowing with brown bottles, which I presume she sold, to earn her daily bread. I'd feel sorry for her. Gosbell St. was steep, and the pram was always heavy, So I'd help her push it up the hill and help carry the bottles to her back yard. Again the street kids would be vicious. Making fun of both of us. Sometimes they'd get to me, and I would be embarrassed enough to hide, when I knew she would be coming past. Thank goodness, those times were far and few between. **BUT, THE TIMES I HID, STILL HAUNT ME. So now I NEVER get embarrassed.** Much to my children's chagrin.

EXAMPLE 3.

Oxford St Paddington was a different street back then. It was full of Greek and Italian delicatessens. Hardware stores that sold the latest "woggy" coffee cups, and dinner sets. Fish shops that sold REAL fish, NOT fish fingers. The street was packed on Saturdays, with migrant people

UTECH NORTH AMERICA 2007

Issue 9



September 2007

In a first ever event the two major forces in the international polyurethane industry – the Alliance for the Polyurethane Industry (API) and the UTECH organisers joined forces to create the UTECH North America exhibition and conference.

The event from 24th - 26th September 2007 at the Gaylord Palms in Orlando, Florida was the largest ever polyurethane industry gathering in the North America region, so of course, it was only fitting for Era Polymers to be exhibiting there.

The exhibition brought together raw material suppliers, equipment manufacturers and end users.

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Era Polymers had a successful exhibition, which has generated much interest in the North America region for our polyurethane products. Representing Era were 3 of the Papamanuel family, George, Tina and Alex, and Louise Connor.

Our next projects are not too far away. The bi-annual PU-Tech show will again be held in India in March 2008, as will the Argenplas show in Argentina. If you're in the area, drop around to our stands and see Tony and Richard working their magic.



Era & Samos Polymers Christmas Closure
 We are **Closing** – Friday 21st December 2007
 We are **Opening** – Thursday 3rd January 2008
 We wish you a safe and Happy Christmas
 and all the best in the New Year

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looking for a familiar face, not just bargains. To get there I had to walk through Green Park, which was right opposite St. Vincent's Hospital. Green Park was where the street people shared the "Metho", and shared the sadness of their existence. They'd hustle me with their sad stories, and ply me with their hunger. So I'd empty my pockets to them. Somewhere in my mind, I knew that they just wanted to buy another bottle. But I didn't care. **I had more than them, and they needed it more than me.**

So people's sadness and predicaments have helped to define my soul.

And I am a wiser person for it.

Life is a journey of meeting people. and as the Chinese proverb says " Life is a journey, and we have only just begun ".

Era Polymers is coming up to its 22nd birthday, and it's journey too, is also just beginning.



At 1pm on Tuesday 13th November two young Australian adventurers embarked upon a goal to kayak, unsupported, over 2200km across the Tasman Sea, from Australia to New Zealand, a journey that has been unsuccessfully attempted three times before. James Castrission, 25, and Justin Jones, 24, aim to raise funds and awareness for the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick while realising their childhood dream.



Nick Kozanitis pouring GP2

Era Polymers was approached to provide additional buoyancy solutions to their kayak, LOT 41. Due to the recent approval of Erathane GP2, for buoyancy in boats under 12m, by the NSW Maritime Authority, we were able to offer a solution. There were three voids in the front and rear of the kayak totaling around 0.25 m3. On site we mixed enough Erathane GP2 to fill these voids. In the unlikely event of a crack or hole in the kayak, the water would not fill these spaces and thus provide buoyancy to the kayak. There have been numerous sponsors involved in the project from the start, providing equipment, materials, food etc. and Era Polymers was happy to provide our assistance.

You can follow their progress at www.crossingtheditch.com.au



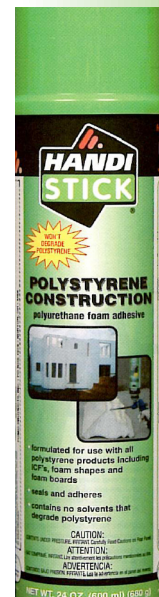
Handi-Stick - Polystyrene Construction Polyurethane

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Handi-Stick will adhere to almost any surface with a strong, robust bond that will outlast the building. Handi-Stick Polystyrene Construction Adhesive is an ideal selection for adhering in most applications, including:

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- * Sheathing
- * Foam Boards



Green for a reason

Handi-Stick is green on the outside and "green" on the inside because it is VOC free. VOC's are carbon-containing chemicals that evaporate easily, at room temperature. Many individual VOC's are known or suspected of having direct toxic effects on humans and the environment.



RISE OF SPRAY POLYURETHANE IN THE MIDDLE EAST



In early November 2007 Terry Petkovic and Dave Weir travelled to Bahrain to present a seminar on Polyurethane spray materials. Present at the seminar were 120 officials from companies such as Bapco, Aramco, Alba and others. Also present were officials from various Bahraini and Saudi government departments.

The seminar introduced the technology behind Polyurethane Spray Elastomers. It also covered the machinery, application and multiple case histories from applications of basic waterproofing through to primary containment of chemicals in the petro-chemical industries .

The seminar was organised by Bahrain Rubber Company (BRC) who are excited about the addition of Polyurethane Spray Elastomers to their repertoire of Abrasion Resistant, Corrosion Resistant and Insulation solutions currently offered. BRC wanted to deliver an awareness of this new technology and present it to relevant industries in the Gulf region.

Machine Hall

Fecken-Kirfel 
GmbH & Co. KG Maschinenfabrik

Fecken-Kirfel was founded in 1870 and is a manufacturer of cutting machines for processing PU flexible foam, PE foam and rigid foam as well as rubber, neoprene, EPDM, expanded rubber and cork.

Era Polymers have been officially appointed as Sales Representatives for Australia and New Zealand.

Please contact Terry Petkovic on Terry@erapol.com.au and make sure to visit the website www.fecken-kirfel.com



IT Corner

Era Product Information CD 3.1

www.samospolymers.com.au

TERRY PETKOVIC - OPERATIONS MANAGER



Sometime around 17 years ago, we were a four man band. The company was about 4 years old. I was starting to have the wicked thought that *MAYBE* we could make it. Maybe the company had a *LONG TERM* future. *MAYBE* I should be looking to hire a chemist. Nah! Surely not!

We'll we advertised, and I screened 200 applicants down to 4 or five.

I brought them in for a fire side chat.

My desk back then looked down on the front car park. So Terry comes in for an interview, dead on time. (The other three had been late). Good one Terry. Terry drives up in a VOLVO. I'm driving, at the time, a beat up Magna. My knees go weak. Can I afford him? HE'S GOT A VOLVO! Terry wants a career in the chemical industry. My erstwhile competitors were out there, trying to convince the industry, that Era was a one man band, without ANY future. We had a couple of beat up second hand lab benches, 2000 sq feet, of warehouse, and a dream. And our competitors called us "backyarders". But hey, we were "backyarders" with a dream.

Terry took the job on about 16 1/2 years ago... He has SIGNIFICANTLY helped turn the dream into reality.

And now, our backyard, is bigger than them other guys, and they can't figure out how we did it.

As my old boss used to say, all they have is a dollar note in front of a thousand mirrors. And they spend all their energy, trying to hide the mirrors.

He has a gorgeous wife, Suzie and an equally gorgeous son, called Thomas.

And by the way, he had borrowed the Volvo from a neighbour, so that he could look the part.

Nice touch Terry. It worked.

Shannon and Nicole Williams
Married in Sydney, NSW
Saturday 5th May 2007



Steve and Elise Johnston
Married in Temora, NSW
Sunday 30th September 2007



International Sales Team

- Front:** Terry Petkovic, Tony Hatzikiriakos, Greg Guan, HK Moey, Joanna Schlage
2nd Line: Dominic Pearsall, Alex Papamanuel, David Parker
3rd Line: Richard Duarte, Kim Charlesworth, Nick Kozanitis
Back: Dave Weir



ERA BABIES



Alex Papamanuel had a baby girl
Evie Eleni on the 7th May 2007
Weight: 3.35kg



Linda Ximen had a baby girl
Sophia Anne on the 7th November 2007
Weight: 2.54Kg



Brendan Kelly had a baby girl
Sierra Jane on the 19th November 2007
Weight: 3.73kg



Scott Perkins had a baby girl
Emma Lee on the 16th November 2007
Weight: 2.83Kg



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New Blowing Agents



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Polyurea Elastomers & Primers



Tooling/Prototyping
Urethanes



Cutting Equipment



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for Superior Elastomers &
Adhesives



High Pressure Spray
Equipment for Foams &
Elastomers



Grinding Wheels for
Rollers



Mould Making Silicone
Rubber



1 Component Blocked
Elastomers



1 & 2 Component Disposable
Polyurethane Foam Systems



High & Low Pressure
Equipment for Foams



Casting Equipment