

News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **PLASTICS MACHINERY GROUP OPENS EUROPEAN OFFICE**

*To sell full spectrum of equipment,  
injection molding extrusion, blow molding, thermoforming*

**Solon, Ohio USA (5<sup>th</sup> September, 2013)** – Solon, Ohio- USA-based Plastics Machinery Group (PMG) parent company of Stopol Thermoforming and Stopol Extrusion is expanding its geographic presence by establishing a new company in Europe with an office based in the United Kingdom.

This start-up is being created in conjunction with Ken J. Braney, Chairman and Managing Director of Thermoforming Solutions Ltd. PMG has a long and successful partnership with Thermoforming Solutions Ltd. and this new company, Plastics Machinery Group International Ltd (PMGI), is the first step in their worldwide expansion plans.

This new European operation will be involved in many different fields, mergers and acquisitions, Joint Ventures, consulting and technical support. This company will be selling a full spectrum of new and used plastics processing equipment, including injection molding, thermoforming, blow molding and extrusion machinery.

Ken J. Braney will be the Managing Director of this operation and will be based in this office. Charles Greenwood, Commercial and Technical Director of PMGI, will spearhead growth in this region.

Ken J. Braney, who has more than 35 years of experience in the plastics industry, brings a vast array of both plastics and international expertise to PMG International Ltd. As well as being Chairman and Managing Director of Thermoforming Solutions Ltd, he has been involved in the plastics machinery industry as Director and General Manager for the Europe/Middle East/India operations of Brown Machine LLC. He was the 2010-2011 President of The Society of Plastics Engineers—the first non-resident of North America to be elected to that position. Ken J. Braney has chaired both the SPE European board as well as the SPE Thermoforming Division European board. In his new role, he is responsible for guiding the successful growth of PMGI throughout Europe, Middle East and India.

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Charles Greenwood, who has more than 27 years of technical experience and knowledge in a variety of plastics processes, will initially oversee all PMG International Ltd. Technical, Sales and Engineering services. He has worked at the prestigious Metal Box R & D Centre at Wantage, U.K., developing “cutting edge” technologies such as the multi-layer oxygen barrier sheet for the Lamipac project. For the past 16 years he has specialized in project engineering, relocating of plants, new plant start-ups, commissioning of machinery, servicing and installation as well as training on all types of plastics machinery. Charles’ great depth of knowledge will enhance the new organization.

“PMG is excited to be involved in this new European operation with Ken J. Braney as his reputation speaks for itself in the plastics industry. Charles Greenwood’s expertise in the plastics machinery industry means that the new company in Europe has leading experts in their fields and this will reflect in the way the overall company will operate in the market place,” says PMG President Donald Kruschke. “Their reputations and international relationships will produce innumerable benefits to both PMGI Ltd. and our customer base throughout Europe, Middle East, Africa and India.”

Additionally, the new PMGI Ltd. office will serve as the official distributor of both MAAC Machinery and SencorpWhite equipment throughout Europe, the Middle East, Africa and India.

Headquartered in Carol Stream, IL., USA, MAAC is one of the top thermoforming machinery companies in the world, providing a wide array of manufacturing services.

SencorpWhite’s Sencorp brand thermoforming machines are recognized as the industry standard for producing blisters and clamshells for consumer products, medical, food, cosmetics and electronics packaging.

As an authorized distributor of new MAAC and SencorpWhite equipment in Europe, Middle East and India, PMGI Ltd. will proactively sell and market the MAAC and Comet lines as well as SencorpWhite thermoformers to its customer base of 51,000 accounts.

According to Don Kruschke, partnering with MAAC and SencorpWhite makes perfect sense as PMG has a long history of working with both companies.

“We’ve always enjoyed working with MAAC and Sencorp White over the years,” he says. “It’s an honor and a privilege to further bring their quality equipment to the European/Middle East and Indian market.”

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### **About Plastics Machinery Group**

Donald Kruschke owns and operates Solon, Ohio-based Plastics Machinery Group. PMG is known as an industry-innovator with the ability to think outside of the box and leverage technology to its clients' benefits' by creating a competitive advantage and quality machines. In addition to providing machinery that manufacturers need, PMG uses its technical expertise, unparalleled market intelligence and industry-reach to deliver solutions through a variety of services. We offer appraisals, merger and acquisition consulting and remanufacturing of blow molders, thermoformers and extruders. To learn more, call +1 (440) 498-4000 or visit [www.plasticsmg.com](http://www.plasticsmg.com).

### **Company History**

Plastics Machinery Group has its roots in the well-known plastics equipment dealer Stopol, Inc. President Donald Kruschke helped found Stopol in 1990 with his father and brother. Stopol began as a dealer of used plastics equipment with just three employees. Over the years, the company expanded its capabilities to include auction services, liquidations, appraisals, and merger and acquisition consulting. In 2009, Kruschke acquired four Stopol divisions – Thermoforming, Extrusion, Blow Molding and Rotational Molding – and they now operate under the name Plastics Machinery Group.