

# PNNI



OCTOBER 2008

Print Post Approved PP 339434/0007

PLASTICS **NEWS** INTERNATIONAL

<http://www.plasticsnews.net>

## Sumitomo all electrics - number 1 in the world



### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- Ausplas exhibitors' directory
- Exhibitors stand locations and floor plan pages 24 & 25
- Change in the global HDPE market
- Competitive edge with IT assisted services

This Edition at  
[www.plasticsnews.net](http://www.plasticsnews.net)  
in an easy read  
format

# Sumitomo: the

The company is widely considered the worldwide expert in all electric injection moulding machine technology. With annual production of 4,500 units in 2008, it leads the world by a significant margin, and here in Australia and New Zealand it is a similar situation with the number of electric machines fast approaching 100.

Sumitomo has developed an entire range of machines based on a common platform of direct drive servo technology. This technology allows its electric machines to perform to a superior level.

Whether you are looking at horizontal, twin shot, vertical, micro parts, even twin shot vertical machines; the company has an all electric solution to suit.

Its direct drive technology provides unerring shot accuracy and repeatability, combined with ultra-fast responses and machine movements, all the time operating with the best energy efficient drive system in the market.

"We have been supplying all electric machines into the market since 2000. In the last two years in particular we have seen very strong growth. In 2008 we installed over 25 machines, and in 2008 we will exceed that number. We may well be celebrating the installation of the one

hundredth electric machine by the end of this year," said Dermid McKinley of Tasman Machinery.

"What we find incredibly satisfying is when we install the first electric machine into a new customer's facility. It is like watching someone move from black and white television to colour. The jump in technology is that great! All of a sudden our customers have a whole new avenue of potential growth at their fingertips. They see what the machines are capable of doing very quickly. Some of the cycle time reductions we have been able to achieve for customers, while increasing quality have really been quite astounding. Having the confidence in the performance of the machine allows them to be much more aggressive in hunting out new work," he added.

When asked what he would define as the Sumitomo advantages McKinley says that at the heart of the

machine is its patented Direct Drive servo system.

"The direct drive offers the best possible repeatability and accuracy. As it is direct drive it also offers the quickest possible response times, with the most energy efficiency."

"Sumitomo has combined this with some very good technology in terms of their platen design, and closed loop control on clamp force. The overall package that customers get is a machine that is extremely hard to better in terms of nearly all criteria you can assess a machine on."

As an example he refers to a study undertaken by a testing company in the UK, on behalf of a major European based mobile phone supplier.

"The aim of the testing was to nominate a machine to be recommended for their suppliers to use worldwide."

The test involved five well known European brands and two other



Sumitomo's SE DU series will be running at Ausplas

# all electric experts



Japanese machines. The criteria for the tests were repeatability, injection profile analysis of set versus actual, cycle time, power consumption, and noise and vibration.

"The end result was that Sumitomo was nominated as the preferred machine. One customer alone ordered over six hundred machines based on these results," he said.

Here in the local market Tasman has been kept extremely busy over the last year with many installations over a wide variety of applications and locations.

"We have been involved in some very unique projects, including the start up of Australia's first disposable contact lens manufacturer.

Another recently completed project in Melbourne involved working very closely with Swiss toolmaker Otto Hofstetter.

"The project involved some very complex tooling with special functions. It was a first for both Hofstetter and Sumitomo, and involved a lot of close communication. We recently completed the project and the feeling

among all parties involved was very satisfying."

"We are delivering machines to a wide range of customers, from flower pot manufacturers to clean room medical applications, automotive, to food packaging."

Just as diverse are the tonnage and cycle times, with sizes from 30 through to 550 tonnes, and cycle times of 3.5 to 40 seconds.

Tasman Machinery is running a Sumitomo All Electric on stand 202.

Come and have a close look, and see why Sumitomo is No.1!

## Sumitomo Purchases Demag

Earlier this year Sumitomo announced the purchase of Demag's injection moulding machine operations worldwide.

This includes Demag's European, USA, Indian and Chinese operations.

The combined market share of Sumitomo and Demag is estimated at close to 20 per cent of the worldwide market making Sumitomo the largest supplier of injection moulding machines worldwide.



2 duck bill LSR medical valve used in surgical scrub rooms



Thin-wall pipettes

Sumitomo's new high speed double shot machine for packaging applications

