

## The new TOPAS Advanced Polymers: Outstanding progress so far!



**Bernd Sparenberg**, President,  
TOPAS Advanced Polymers, Inc.

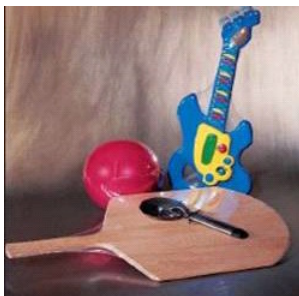
TOPAS Advanced Polymers was launched a year and a half ago, on January 1st, 2006, when the TOPAS business unit of Ticona was acquired by Daicel and Polyplastics. With the full cooperation of Ticona, and the resources and expertise of Daicel and Polyplastics, the new venture has taken flight around the globe. The startups of the new business entities TOPAS Advanced Polymers GmbH and TOPAS Advanced Polymers,

Inc., have gone smoothly, while ensuring a minimum of transition issues for existing customers.

We maintained our customer base through the change from Ticona to TOPAS Advanced Polymers, and gained many new customers and applications - a pleasant surprise in a time of transition. As we reach the halfway point of 2007, we are experiencing unprecedented growth, due to a combination of our products' unparalleled value and performance, and the business being on a sound footing for the future. We want to thank today's customers for their support, and invite those who are not yet experiencing the benefits of TOPAS by visiting our website at [www.topas.com](http://www.topas.com) or contacting us today!

## Shrink Film Performs Better with TOPAS®

Sealed Air Corporation has succeeded in creating a film that shrinks easily with low shrink force at temperatures as low as 150°F without compromising strength. The new shrink film, Cryovac® Xenith<sup>3</sup>, also has high free shrink and provides a wide processing window. These benefits are due in great measure to the use of TOPAS® cyclic olefin copolymer (COC) in this multi-layer coextruded film.



Xenith<sup>3</sup> shrink film, the latest iteration of the company's new technology platform, shrinks softly to wrap delicate goods without distorting them and conforms closely to contoured and irregularly shaped products. Its tear

strength allows use of thinner grades of Xenith<sup>3</sup> films without sacrificing packaging performance.

Xenith<sup>3</sup> film shrinks at temperatures as low as 150°F, whereas most other films do not begin to shrink until 220°F. The ability to shrink at a relatively low temperature can reduce utility bills and makes this film an ideal product for wrapping heat-sensitive items. The film runs well on a wide range of shrink equipment and with many types of sealing mechanisms.

"The use of a tailored grade of TOPAS COC has made this film a category-breaking product," said Brendan Thomas, vice president of marketing at Sealed Air. "Shrink films usually have either strength or soft shrink. Xenith<sup>3</sup> combines them both and is the strongest soft-shrink film available."

For additional information on Xenith<sup>3</sup> shrink films, contact Sealed Air's Cryovac Division at (+1) 866-773-4567, by e-mail at [cryovac.mkt@sealedair.com](mailto:cryovac.mkt@sealedair.com), or visit: [www.sealedair.com](http://www.sealedair.com).

## Tech Talk: Thermoforming Enhancement

One of the leading applications for TOPAS® resin is as a thermoforming enhancer in polyethylene. Because TOPAS COC has excellent thermoforming properties, and because it is an amorphous ethylene copolymer (thereby blending well with PE), a small amount of TOPAS can deliver a surprising improvement in applications such as forming webs and trays. The high stiffness of TOPAS also enables downgauging in many of these applications, often making the resulting structure less expensive than the original – not to mention a better performer. TOPAS Market Development Engineer Paul Tatarka has recently completed a study of TOPAS/PE forming blends, and he has this to say:

“TOPAS offers film engineers a valuable tool to make better thermoformed products, usually at lower cost.” Paul advises using TOPAS at between 10 and 30% for the best combination of performance and value. Using TOPAS in blends with LLDPE alone resulted in significant enhancements regardless of the type of linear PE used. “Butene, hexene, octene, metallocene, Ziegler-Natta – they all form much better with TOPAS,” Paul observed. Details of this study are published by the Society of Plastics Engineers in this year’s Annual Technical Conference Proceedings.

For more information on this topic, please contact Paul at 859.746.6447 or at [paul.tatarka@topas-us.com](mailto:paul.tatarka@topas-us.com).

## Meet the TOPAS Team!



**Erin Stanley**, Supply Chain Manager

For most of our customers, Erin is the voice of TOPAS Advanced Polymers. She is usually the one who places customer orders and arranges for delivery. Erin was a former member of the TOPAS team under Ticona, and then spent some time as a Ticona Customer Service Representative before returning to TOPAS early in 2006. Newly relocated to Covington, Kentucky, Erin is a native of southern Ohio. She attended Ohio University in Athens, Ohio and has an MA in American Politics. Her hobbies include her dog and her new yard. She and her husband Henrik are expecting their first child later this summer, so please wish them well!

For your convenience, here is a TOPAS Contact List for our North American team:

**Customer Service:**

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### Upcoming TOPAS Events:

[SPE Thermoforming Conference](#), Cincinnati OH, 16-19 September 2007: Sponsor, Exhibitor, Presentation

### Recent TOPAS Publications:

[TOPAS: A High-Performance Modifier for Polyolefins](#), by Randy Jester at SPE Polyolefins, February 2007

[Improved Properties & Cost of TOPAS-Enhanced Forming Films](#), by Paul Tatarka at SPE Antec, May 2007