



Press Release

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Mike Biddle - MBA Polymers' President and founder to tackle new challenges

From 1st February 2014, **MBA Polymers' President and founder Mike Biddle** is stepping out of his role as President of MBA Polymers, but will remain a non-executive Board member and play a key advisory role in developing the company's future growth strategy.

MBA Polymers Chief Executive Nigel Hunton commented, "MBA Polymers has grown over the last 20 years and Mike Biddle has been a key part of that success. The business is now positioned to expand further and the recent new investor funding shows a sign of real confidence in our business going forward and this new funding will enable us to make further improvements to our operational performance and expand capacity at Worksop."

Mike's drive to increase the sustainability of the plastics industry since he founded MBA Polymers over 20 years ago in his garage in California will continue as he builds a portfolio of other industry roles. He strongly believes and says "I've never seen more clear opportunities to recover value from large waste streams than I see before us now".

MBA Polymers pioneered the large-scale recycling of plastics from very large and complex post-consumer waste streams such as WEEE (Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment), ELV (End of Life Vehicles) and more recently household mixed plastics waste. MBA has now become the world leader at recycling plastics from these streams on a global scale with over 300 million pounds per year of processing capacity at its state-of-the-art plants in China, Austria and the UK.

Explained Mike, “We recruited Nigel Hunton as CEO two years ago to help grow the company and he has now assembled a strong operations and commercial team in the UK that can take MBA to the next level. I’m maintaining my ownership stake because I believe it should have a very bright and exciting future. I hope that I can contribute to that future even more outside the company by working to unlock plastics trapped in large waste streams around the world. Economic access to large amounts of concentrated plastics is the next barrier to more rapid growth of MBA’s business model.”

Mike also plans to leverage his 20+ years of experience growing a company from an idea to a leading multinational company by helping other CleanTech ventures tackle some of the daunting challenges facing all corners of the planet. Mike said: “I hope I can help other entrepreneurs accelerate their journey from dreams to solutions.”

Finally, Mike was recently asked to become President of the newly formed Waste Free Oceans Americas, a non-profit organisation with its parent based in Brussels, who are working to find solutions to waste in our oceans. Mike continued, “This issue touches me deeply at every level: as a father of two amazing young children, as an early recycling pioneer, as a plastics professional, as a scientist and engineer, as an entrepreneur, as a diver and as a lifetime student of nature”.

MBA Polymers Chairman George Powlick commented, “ We have highly valued Mike’s extraordinary contribution and tremendously appreciate his long service to MBA.”

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MBA Polymers

Since 1992, MBA Polymers has been constantly evolving and growing, rescuing postconsumer plastic waste from heading to landfill around the world and transforming it into high quality source material for consumer electronics, appliances, and other plastic products.

MBA saves between 1 and 3 tons of greenhouse gas production for every ton of virgin plastic replaced and is transforming the plastics supply chain, as state-of-the-art processing facilities recycle end-of-life durable goods and 'close the loop' on plastics.

MBA provides customers with a sustainable and consistent supply of high-quality postconsumer recycled plastics as well as providing a better environmental and economic outcome for plastic waste streams compared to landfill or incineration. The company provides customers with the opportunity to produce more sustainable products - a growing focus for consumers, manufacturers and government agencies.

MBA Polymers won the GoingGreen Company of the year award in 2012 and was named one of the top CleanTech companies in the world by the CleanTech Group and The Guardian in 2009 and 2010.

Dr. Mike Biddle

Before starting Michael Biddle & Associates (MB&A) in 1992, which went on to become MBA Polymers, Mike worked for large companies such as GE, Cummins and Dow Chemical.

Mike has won numerous accolades. Most recently in Dec 2012 he was awarded the **Gothenburg Award for Sustainable Development**, sometimes referred to as the Nobel Prize for the Environment. Previous winners of the Award were Al Gore, Kofi Annan & Gro Harlem Brundtland – the former President of Norway. He also won the 2010 Economist Award for Innovation in Energy and Environment, the Tech Museum Award for Technology Benefiting Humanity in 2006, a World Economic Forum Tech Pioneer Award in 2006 and the Thomas Alva Edison Award for Innovation in 2002, among others.

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