



**Press Release**

**15<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

## **MBA Polymers President asks ‘what’s the future for plastic?’**

### ***Sustainable use of plastics will be part of the Earth Summit agenda***

MBA Polymers founder and President Mike Biddle is amongst a star line-up of speakers from the plastics and environmental world at a unique side event which is part of Rio+20, the United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro on June 20-22.

*Plasticity 2012* takes place on the second day of the summit and will focus on one of the major discussion areas the sustainable use of plastics.

New technologies, designs and materials mean that the world already uses plastic with reduced environmental impact. But as population grows and resources become even more constrained, many people are realising that plastic waste has huge secondary value and that companies that take advantage of this opportunity can create more sustainable products and businesses.

“It’s going to be great to have a conversation around big ideas from a wide range of world leading stakeholders. We will be focusing on solutions that allow us to create benefits for local and global economies, the environment as a whole and for individual daily lives in the future”, said Dr Biddle. “This will be a real opportunity to make a difference in the way that plastics are used and even more importantly collected and re-used, by sharing innovative ideas and highlighting leadership in sustainable plastic use.”

“We believe that MBA Polymers is perfectly positioned to help this debate. From modest beginnings 19 years ago, we’ve now grown to become the world’s leading

multinational company recovering plastics from end-of-life durable goods, such as computers, electronics, business equipment, appliances and automobiles. We now have over 340 million pounds (155,000 tons) per year processing capacity across the world in the US, Europe and China, turning waste into plastics for use in the same types of products from which they came. Some of the largest manufacturers in the world now use MBA's post-consumer plastics to replace virgin resins in their new products"

Concluded Dr. Biddle: "This event will help set the agenda for the next round of innovations and solutions which could ultimately lead to a world in which plastics are delivering much greater net benefits on many dimensions, including the environmental area."

## **Ends**

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### *Notes to Editors*

1.The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, commonly called *Rio+20* or *Rio Earth Summit 2012*, will be held in Rio de Janeiro on June 20/21/22.

2.*Plasticity Rio* will be held on June 21 also in Rio de Janeiro.

3.Mike Biddle is President and Founder of MBA Polymers. Dr. Biddle and MBA have received numerous international awards. Among them, MBA was named one of the top 100 cleantech companies in the world in both 2009 and 2010 and one of the top five cleantech companies in Europe in 2009. In 2010 he won *The Economist's* Innovation Award for Energy and the Environment and was named a World Economic Forum Tech Pioneer in 2006. Dr. Biddle also won the first Thomas Alva Edison Award for Innovation and the first Ascent Award for Entrepreneurship.

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