

## Press Release

For immediate release

### T-PLAS 2017: Strong showing of global innovations and solutions from an international line-up of companies

- **Six national pavilions and country groups**
- **Untapped potential in the fast-moving plastics and rubber sectors**

**3 April 2017** – Continuing on its successful streak as Thailand’s leading exhibition for the plastics and rubber sectors, T-PLAS 2017 is back with yet another edition to address the latest developments in the regional and international outlook of the plastics and rubber markets. Taking place from 20 – 23 September 2017, the biennial international trade fair for the plastics and rubber industries, T-PLAS, is set to be bigger than its previous edition.

#### Global Innovations

Following the success of its last instalment, T-PLAS 2017 will once again look to deliver the optimum marketplace for international professionals and industry leaders from the plastics and rubber sectors to network and advance cross-border business connections. Six national pavilions and country groups will augment the show floor, with international exhibitors participating from Austria, China, Germany, Malaysia, Singapore and Taiwan. The trade exhibition also aims to raise its profile with 5 influential seminars and conferences that will run alongside the exhibition and its many on-site product and service demonstrations.

“The healthy presentation of international participation truly amplifies the wealth of opportunities surrounding Thailand and the region. To highlight these growing sectors, T-PLAS 2017 is giving special emphasis to 6 focus areas that will go a long way in positioning Thailand as a plastic hub for the region,” said Mr. Gernot Ringling, Managing Director, Messe Düsseldorf Asia.

“On this note, we are pleased to announce participation from leading companies in their sectors, including Wittman Battenfeld GmbH, Rickermann (Thailand), Starlinger Recycling Technology, Engel Austria, alongside first-time participation from many companies such as Genius Machinery Co Ltd and Plasco Engineering Inc, which is testament to the relevance of T-PLAS as the platform of choice to gain a strong foothold into Thailand,” he added.

Driven by the leading global exhibition for plastics, K, organised by Messe Düsseldorf, Germany – T-PLAS organised by MDA will continue to address future challenges and identify opportunities within the regional plastics and rubber landscape.

The four-day exhibition will feature a wide-ranging line-up of front-line technologies and solutions from the plastics and rubber industries. T-PLAS 2017 will showcase products and services from the burgeoning plastics markets, with an industry-related focus on medical, automotive, lifestyle, packaging, electrical and electronics and bioplastics.



International Trade Fair for the  
Plastics and Rubber Industries

**20 - 23 SEP 2017**

**Bangkok International  
Trade & Exhibition Centre (BITEC)  
Bangkok, Thailand**

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## Strategic Presence

This one-of-its-kind plastics and rubber trade exhibition fits perfectly against the backdrop of modest growth in Thailand's economy in 2017. Thailand has seen an exponential growth in domestic spending in recent years, registering an average year-on-year growth of 3.3%. T-PLAS 2017 will feature 6 focus areas that reflect the various sectors' contributions to Thailand's thriving plastics and rubber industries.

**Medical Sector:** With over 17,000 healthcare facilities, Thailand possesses one of the fastest growing healthcare industries in Southeast Asia. Thailand's healthcare spending is expected to grow at 8%, and will reach US\$18.7 billion in 2018, propelling the consumption for medical and pharmaceutical plastics.

**Automotive Sector:** Thailand's automotive sector is on the rise. Gargantuan brands such as Honda and Mazda projecting sales to grow as high as 18% in 2017 alone. Furthermore, the Thai government plans to significantly increase tire production from 530,000 tonnes per year to more than a million tonnes in the coming years. These plans are in the pipeline to make Thailand more appealing for business expansion and foreign investment.

**Lifestyle Sector:** The fondness for errand running and online shopping, coupled with the nation's steady economic growth, have boosted plastics demand for the next two years. Thailand's online cross-border shopping is estimated to grow by 84% in 2017. With online platforms and e-payment systems becoming increasingly reliable, and the growing usage of the internet, the e-commerce market will continue to flourish without a hitch.

**Packaging Sector:** Food and beverage packaging is growing exponentially. As demand for convenience continue to grow in Thailand, packaged food evolved from supermarkets to neighbourhood convenience stores all across Thailand. This has seen the rapid expansion of convenience stores, which are now close to 30,000, or a ratio of 1 store per 5,500 people. The packaging industries account for more than 48% of Thailand's plastics consumption.

**Electrical and Electronics Sector:** Thailand witnessed a surge in the manufacturing of electronics and electrical appliances in recent years. Production for these sectors saw an increase of 7.4% from 2015. Electronics were the main exported product, combining with electrical appliances to make up 21% of total exports, resulting in a significant increase in plastics consumption for the respective industries.

**Bioplastics Sector:** Thailand is fast becoming one of the epicentres for the emerging bioplastics industry in Southeast Asia. The nation boasts numerous advantages in bioplastics manufacturing as they possess an abundance of sugarcane, an important component to substitute for petroleum in the production of plastics. Efforts have also seen the Thai government investing more than US\$60 million in bioplastics development in recent years.

To further enhance the regional focus and international outlook of the exhibition, T-PLAS will be co-located with PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL 2017,



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the 6th International Packaging and Printing Exhibition for Asia. The strategic parallel showing of the two exhibitions will sharpen the profile and enhance the relevancy of the two independent trade fairs as they bring together the best companies from the packaging, printing, plastics and rubber sectors.

### About the Organisers

Messe Düsseldorf Asia is a subsidiary of Messe Düsseldorf GmbH, one of the world's leading trade fair organisers, responsible for organising more than 20 global No. 1 exhibitions in industries including plastics, printing and packaging, and medical and healthcare - specifically K, drupa, interpack, MEDICA, COMPAMED and A+A held in Düsseldorf, Germany. Since 1995, MDA's portfolio of trade fairs in Southeast Asia includes the plastics and rubber sectors in Thailand (T-PLAS), Vietnam (PLASTICS & RUBBER VIETNAM) and Indonesia (INDOPLAS), the printing and packaging sectors in Thailand (PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL) and Indonesia (INDOPLAS, INDOPACK and INDOPRINT), the wire, cable, tube and pipe industries in Thailand (wire Southeast ASIA and Tube Southeast ASIA), the medical and healthcare industries in Thailand and Singapore (MEDICAL FAIR THAILAND, MEDICAL FAIR ASIA, MEDICAL MANUFACTURING ASIA), the wine and spirits sector (ProWine Asia) and Workplace Safety & Health industries in Singapore (OS+H Asia), and the metal and steel trade sectors in Indonesia (indometal).

Space application is now open for T-PLAS 2017!

For more information on the exhibition, please visit [www.tplas.com](http://www.tplas.com).

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