

## Press Release

For immediate release

### T-PLAS continues to show optimistic growth: Delivering value and future-proof solutions for the region's plastics and rubber sectors

- Strong international showing with 85 percent of exhibitors from overseas, and visitors from 60 countries
- Concurrent events - Inaugural Medical Plastics Engineering Symposium and Specialty Plastics Conference well-received by the industry

**8 October 2019** – T-PLAS, the biennial International Trade Fair for the Plastics and Rubber Industries welcomed 8,820 trade visitors from 60 countries, a marked increase of almost 10% compared to 2017. It was also stage to a wide range of raw materials and auxiliaries, semi-finished goods, and reinforced plastics, and machine and equipment serving the plastic and rubber sectors put up by 138 exhibitors when it concluded last month at BITEC, Bangkok. The internationality at the specialist exhibition was undoubted as seen from the 85 percent of exhibitors who came from abroad, including five national pavilions and country groups from Austria, China, Germany, Singapore and Taiwan.

T-PLAS 2019 was well-attended by quality trade visitors from top application sectors such as automotive, electrical and electronics, telecommunications, medical and pharmaceuticals, mould and die, as well as F&B and healthcare packaging. To which the co-location of T-PLAS with PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL – the International Packaging and Printing Exhibition for Asia, proved to be a winning success. For visiting industry group delegation from the Myanmar Plastics Industries Association (MPIA), being able to visit both exhibitions provided a unique sourcing opportunity. “The cross-sector platform presents the ideal business event for us as it gathers technologies from the plastics, packaging and printing industries to a single destination”, added Joint Secretary, Mr U Kyaw Min.

True to being a business platform that signifies relevance of the growing confidence and interest in the synergistic industries, Mr Gernot Ringling, Managing Director of Messe Düsseldorf Asia, said: “The continued success of T-PLAS from edition to edition is indicative of the market potential of the plastics and rubber industries in Thailand and the region. The strong international make up of visitors and line-up of exhibitors is both heartening and rewarding as it is testament of the fair's quality and its distinctive ability to attract some of the best from these sectors.”

#### Thailand as a choice destination to do business for the plastics sector

With a show floor covering the entire plastics value chain from raw material suppliers to plastics producers, compounders, converters, as well as distributors and consumers, T-PLAS 2019 was the platform of choice for India-based plastic gear manufacturer, Suba Plastics Pvt Ltd. As a first-time exhibitor at T-PLAS, Mr PVBP Sarma, Vice President of Operations, said: “We have received a lot of companies looking to explore joint ventures and



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partnerships with us; and for that, it has been a fruitful first-time participation for us.”

Reiterating T-PLAS’ appeal as the best-in-class trade fair in the region is Mr Francis Lee, Sales Director (APAC) of Liaoning Aihai Talc Co Ltd, another first-time exhibitor at T-PLAS. He said Thailand is a hotspot for businesses in the plastics industry due to the country’s reputation as one of the leading plastics manufacturers in Southeast Asia. “It is important for us to exhibit at a trade fair that has significant presence in Southeast Asia, and T-PLAS is that show for us. We have generated a lot of sales enquiries just from a few days at this exhibition,” he added.

### Forward-looking and industry-relevant conferences:

#### ▪ Medical Plastics Engineering Symposium

The 2nd Singaporean-German Symposium on Medical Plastics Engineering, a joint collaboration between The Technical University of Munich (TUM) and Messe Düsseldorf Asia, supported by academic partners, Chulalongkorn University of Thailand and National University of Singapore made its debut at the exhibition. The conference featured international industry experts and academia presenting topics that included scientific works to keynote lectures on sustainability and the circular economy. For Dr Markus Eblenkamp, Chairman of MedTech – Institute of Medical and Polymer Engineering, TUM, the co-staging of the symposium with the exhibition created good synergy and a professional and conducive environment for healthy discussion. “It is an important platform to widen our perspective and identify pressing topics of the future,” he said.

“The response has been extremely good. We had a full attendance for each session. The symposium covered a number of topics which are broad and deep at the same time. From the questions that the attendees raised, to the exchanging of contacts at the end of the presentation re-emphasises that the sessions were both helpful and relevant. This fits very well with the mandate of T-PLAS 2019,” added Professor Seeram Ramakrishna, Professor and Director of Mechanical Engineering at the National University of Singapore.

#### ▪ Inaugural Specialty Plastics Conference with Borouge, Plantic-Kuraray, Polyplastics, PolyOne

The regional conference featured speakers from some of the plastics sector’s biggest brands, including Borouge, Plantic-Kuraray, Polyplastics and PolyOne. Moderated by Mr Stephen Moore, from plastics market research firm Townsend Solutions, the conference was attended by more than 60 visitors from 11 countries. Sharing his optimism at the successful staging of the maiden conference, Mr Ahmed Al Mehairi, VP Marketing Center for New Business Development from Borouge said: “The response for the conference has been very positive, and this platform is excellent in educating the different stakeholders who will proceed to become ambassadors, and in turn spread the word on plastics sustainability to the people including the policy makers.”



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T-PLAS forms part of the **Global Gate** brand under the Messe Düsseldorf Group and draws from the expertise of the world's leading plastics trade fair – K, held in Düsseldorf. The next edition of T-PLAS will take place from 22 – 25 September 2021, at BITEC, Bangkok.

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### About Messe Düsseldorf Asia

As a full-service trade fair organising company, Messe Düsseldorf Asia offers a comprehensive international trade fair portfolio focusing on machinery and plant engineering, to medicine and health. Having established Singapore as the centre of operations in 1995, MDA is well-positioned in Southeast Asia and is today one of the leading and most influential trade fair organisers in the region.

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

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