



NEWS

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WHITE MAGIC: A tool to support science teaching in schools is launched

The EPS Packaging Group has developed a White Magic education box to assist the teaching of science in schools.

The White Magic box contains some items that will be familiar in the kitchen, such as steamers and liquidisers, alongside moulds and supplies of raw material.

Teachers and pupils will be able to get hands-on experience of making a moulded expanded polystyrene ball, recycling and testing the conductivity of different materials.

The White Magic box has already been tested by education experts as Tony Pruchniewicz, Chairman, the EPS Packaging Group explains: "We demonstrated the White Magic education box to staff of three specialist science schools and an Advanced Science Teacher.

The demonstration was held at British Plastics Federation, each of the visiting teachers and a technician had the opportunity to use the material to make a moulded ball and to test out theories about recycling.

The response to the White Magic box was very positive. The guests found it engaging and exciting and were delighted to have a tool that helped to bring science into the real world.

Lesley Kitching, Head of Science, St Augustine CofE Secondary School: "It is great, the experiments are fun for pupils and we can link them to industry and the new approach to science."

Jan Williams, Advanced Science Teacher, North Lincolnshire: "It is a versatile resource and it is wonderful to see industry linking with schools and supporting our endeavours to make science relevant and fun."



Each participant was given a White Magic box to use in their own school or college and asked to help the EPS Packaging Group. Tony Pruchniewicz says: "We have asked them to advise us on how White Magic helps teachers to deliver the national curriculum. As every White Magic box will contain a teachers' information CD, we knew it was vital get input

for these from the experts."

Schools in England and Wales can order a White Magic education box for £45, the charge will help the EPS Packaging Group recoup part of the cost of each box so that they can be distributed as widely as possible. The Group hopes not to have to refuse any school that requests a box. The Group plans to hold a

demonstration in Scotland in the autumn term so that it can provide notes suitable for the Scottish curriculum and supply schools in Scotland too.

■ **The EPS Packaging Group will start delivering to schools in September 06, orders can be placed by email to info@eps.co.uk or tel: 020 7457 5022/5014.**



Everyone had the opportunity to make a moulded EPS ball

Local MP opens the first EPS Recycling point in Staffordshire



L-R: Doug Davis, Councillor, Mark Smith, Next-tec Ltd, David Kidney MP and Ralph Cooke, Deputy Leader, Stafford Borough Council.

David Kidney MP and several high-ranking council officials opened the first expanded polystyrene (EPS) recycling point in Staffordshire on Friday 12th May 2005 at the premises of EPS Packaging Group associate member, Next-tec Limited.

Next-tec specialises in the design and manufacture of equipment to facilitate

the recycling of expanded polymers such as EPS. David Kidney, MP, commented: "It is brilliant to see a local company that has invented, developed and is manufacturing cutting edge technology within the Staffordshire area.

"I have seen the technology in action and it is astounding. The recycling point is a fantastic idea; it helps support local business and has a positive impact on the

environment. It is vital that we recycle plastics in our modern world."

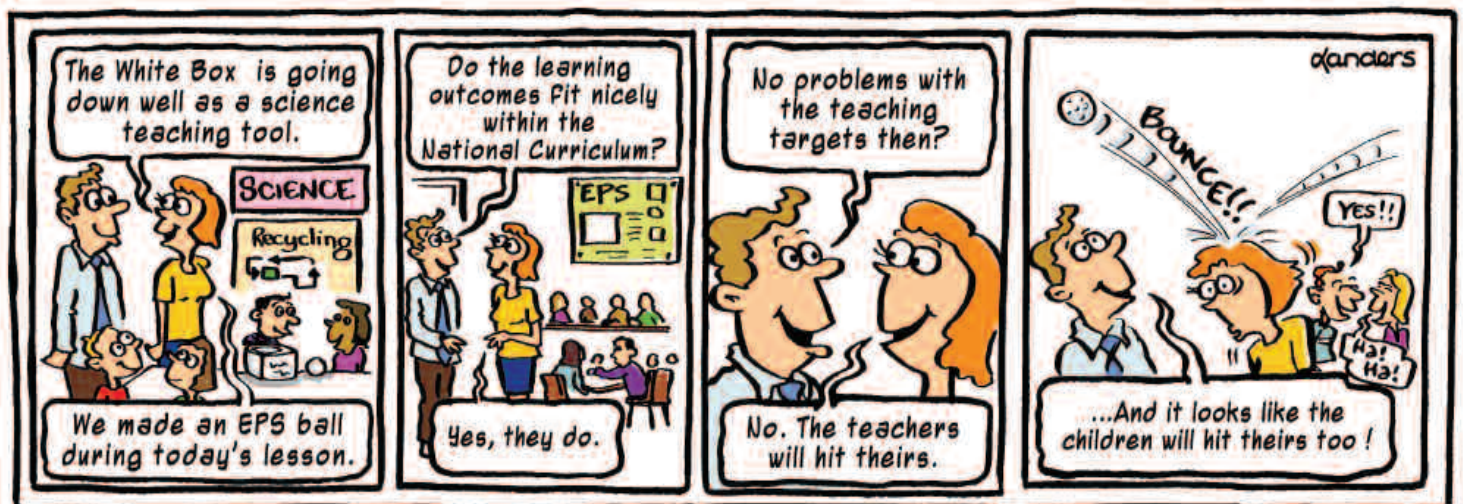
Mark Smith, Sales and Marketing Director, Next-tec added "We will use the EPS packaging collected to continue to develop and improve our machines; making them even more effective in the future and for corporate demonstrations.

"We have also opened talks with Staffordshire Council with a view to placing a large skip at the local amenities recycling centre. If the Council agrees to participate, it will be the first local authority in the UK to take such a step."

Councillor Doug Davis said "The opening of the recycling point is endorsed by Stafford Borough Council as a major contribution to the culture of recycling in the Borough."

The EPS Packaging Group has pioneered the opening of a network of accredited EPS recycling points throughout the UK. Tony Pruchniewicz, EPS Packaging Chairman said: "It is fantastic to see Next-Tec opening this addition to our recycling network.

"EPS packaging plays an important role in protecting high value items in transit and providing safe packaging for fresh food. It is incredibly lightweight which helps to reduce energy consumption and as this recycling point demonstrates EPS can be efficiently recycled into new and useful products."



RECYCLING UPDATE

Waste Exchange Services

On the Wilton International site at Redcar, Waste Exchange Services Ltd (WES) operates a plastics and chemicals recycling plant that has been recycling plastics since January 1999.

As one of the leading plastics recyclers in the UK, WES recycles expanded polystyrene packaging into a clean pellet that can be supplied in natural or off-natural colour — depending on the quality of the material available.

“EPS is a key feedstock for us,” says James Donaldson, Managing Director, Waste Exchange Services.

“We run it through a large machine that has the capacity to process one tonne an hour — with the right quality material.”

“We export the reprocessed EPS to California, The Lebanon and France, as well as supplying UK customers. We can handle just about any EPS, including packaging that is ‘contaminated’ with dampness such as fish boxes, boxes with paper labels and even boxes with small amounts of wood in them.

“We will pay a competitive rate for clean EPS, but for fish boxes and other more difficult EPS the commercial value is lower.”



James Donaldson, Managing Director, Waste Exchange Services pays a competitive rate for clean EPS

■ **WES regularly takes EPS from four large organisations and it will take one-off deliveries of compacted or un-compacted EPS. It needs 40 tonnes to run its EPS re-processing line and it has a great deal of storage**

space, so if you have EPS packaging that could be recycled and you would like to discuss this please contact Chris Hanlon, WES on 01642 442 080 or email info@wasteexchange.com

EPS boxes star at glamorous press event



EPS fish boxes played a starring role at the recent worldwide press launch for Scarface, the latest release from Vivendi Universal Games.

THA UK Ltd, who produced the event, placed bottles of champagne in the EPS boxes and floated them in a swimming pool. Male models retrieved the boxes, and the champagne, for the 200 journalists from 28 countries who attended the event.

Not surprisingly, journalists who attended the launch voted it the ‘best event ever’ and it was certainly an unusually glamorous day out for a Styropack fish box.

Report from our new Chairman

On 7 June 06, at the EPS Packaging Group meeting in South Wales, Tony Pruchniewicz of LINPAC Moulded Foams, became the new Chairman, taking over from Gavin Birnie, Styropack.

"I am really pleased to have been asked to take on this role for the EPS Packaging Group," says Tony. "Gavin left the Group in a very good position and the industry has thanked him for the work he has put in on our behalf.

White Magic Education Box

"The Group is very active on a number of projects. The White Magic Education Box, which started in Gavin's era, has just been launched. We are all very excited about this project. The response to it has been very positive from the teaching staff who came to our demonstration.

"Also, Dr. John Nunn from the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) has just agreed to join our pilot and will be advising us on ways to use the box to teach the physics curriculum in schools. Dr. Nunn is planning to use the White Magic box at a childrens' physics summer camp he is attending in August."

Design Initiative

"The EPS Packaging Group is also running a design initiative. Our aim is to bring EPS — with its incredible versatility and strength —



Tony Pruchniewicz, Chairman of the EPS Packaging Group

to the attention of emerging designers to generate new applications for this amazing material.

"We will be launching an EPS design competition in September; it will challenge designers to look at EPS with fresh eyes and to come up with original product designs in EPS

that take the material into completely new areas.

"Our work on this has led to a thrilling collaboration between the EPS Packaging Group and leading UK Designer, Tom Dixon, who is making an innovative chair out of moulded EPS for the London Design Festival in September 2006.

"You can find out more about this in the next issue of EPS News when we will be reporting on this initiative in more detail."

Group Update

"The Group has taken on Anthony Roberts as our new Group Executive. Anthony is already working at the BPF and will be providing additional support to the EPS Packaging Group with

particular responsibility for the White Magic Education Box. Please feel free to contact Anthony with any general queries about EPS, recycling or any of our other projects, his telephone number is 020 7457 5014.



Anthony Roberts, Group Executive, EPS Packaging Group

Consultant appointed to increase recycling

The EPS Packaging Group, is pleased to announce that Jonathan Watson, based in Milton Abbot, Devon has been appointed to act as Consultant on its behalf.

"Jonathan will be looking into the recycling of EPS across the UK for us. We are already very successful, thousands of tonnes of EPS are already recycled by businesses each year in the UK," explains Tony Pruchniewicz, Chairman, EPS Packaging Group.

"We have asked Jonathan to contact EPS recyclers, compile recycling rates of EPS for 2005 and to provide us with a strategic overview of the EPS recycling sector. With his input we hope to find new ways to increase



recycling rates.

Jonathan Watson is ideally placed to take on this new role; he has a great deal of manufacturing experience in the packaging and EPS industry and he was one of the

founding members of the Nortel European packaging council.

For six years Jonathan was the development manager at Rosslite in Torpoint, Cornwall, an EPS packaging manufacturer that has since been taken over by SCA Tuscarora. He is currently working with a number of other organisations in the product and construction side of EPS.

"I am looking forward to this new challenge immensely. I hope to help drive the already high recycling rates of EPS even higher," says Jonathan Watson. "The Group is a great example of an industry pulling together to increase recycling and to promote this amazing material."