ISSNE

#42



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# LESSONS FROM LIFE # 35 ▼ DON'T LET THE OLD MAN IN

When I started writing these essays all those decades ago, I wanted to write to my children, and especially to my grandchildren... so sometime in the future they may want to know who their Baba and Pappou was... so "tada" here's my life, laid out on the inspection table.

Sure, my children THINK that they have known me.... BUT sometimes as a father, as J. Alfred Prufrock used to say "You put on a face to meet the other faces that you meet ".

You try, as my father did, to guide them, to put them on pathways that sometimes they don't want to go down...and you put on a face to do so.

They have seen my temper, multiple times... BUT behind that temper, is a message ...when the message isn't heard... the temper flares .

My father did that to me...IF tempers can be passed down, from one generation to the next ... I certainly inherited his. BUT, I'm even more proud to say, that I inherited his good bits, as well.

(Continued Page 2)

# **ERA POLYMERS: IMPORTANT**

## **NOTICE**

Please stay safe and vigilant.

If you are planning to visit our offices, please check in via the QR Code upon entry. We are constantly reviewing our COVID-19 business continuity plan and are pleased to announce that we are still operational and that all essential staff is on board to continue servicing our clients and business partners.



#### (Continued from page 1)

I resisted him, multiple times, over multiple years, until a Samian princess one day, changed my total perspective on life ... and here I am today .

THEN I listened to him.... And I learnt HIS, Lessons.

BUT along life's journey, you hide bits from your children and grandchildren... so I use this vehicle to communicate with them into the future.

YES, I know that there are more personal ways to achieve this ... but what the heck, who says that I have to follow the "Personal " norms ... At least this way, my staff can also "know" me. Ditto our customers, suppliers, competitors, and anybody else who is lost in the ether.

So, these essays are about who George is, how he became George / Baba / Pappou... just in case .. down the road, they wonder .

So, how do I come up with the topics....?

Lotsa different ways..

Memories, of my childhood growing up, my parents, my family, people who I have met, and at times who I wished that I HADN'T met, who have had an impact on me .

Above everything else in life, it's PEOPLE that I crave.

As Barbara used to sing;

"People who need people... Are the luckiest people"

I need people.

Songs, music, will do it to me... That's one place where Tina and I differ ... she always wants music on...

BUT merely as background noise ... When I fall

in love with a NEW song, I can play it a dozen times, one after the other. It's FRONT noise to me.

The flip side is that TV for me is background noise... It's on.. ...whilst I read my news, have philosophical discussion with Spencer and Moey, about cultural ,and philosophical

difference, between East and West...yada yada , yada .

Movies do it for me ... I'm a sucker for ANY Sci Fi movie ... I've been known even to watch, junky / clunky Japanese SciFi... I never grew out of love for science fiction.

Every now and again, I see a movie, which does it for me.. I see some of the best movies on planes ... in the days when you could fly somewhere... BUT, with a lot of interruptions, of dinner being served, you tend to lose a lot of the continuity...so

when I get home, we watch it again

I saw one... "The Man who new Infinity" ... told the kids and John Eve, and they liked it too.

"Gattica" did it for me, as well.

i.e. Movies with message BUT not too deep ... I'm completely immersed in reality,daily ... I don't want to see it again, on a big screen!

I'm a sucker for any Clint Eastwood movie... going back to his good old Westerns.

I saw one of his, on a flight home, called the "THE MULE". It stars Clint Eastwood, as an old guy who gets a second life as a "mule" for a drug cartel. I think it was filmed when he was about 88 years old!

The song from the movie struck a chord... and as always with these musings.. it got me thinking about OLD AGE.

MY old age.

SO, that become the next, THIS, topic.

AND, as always, I start writing these essays in

"Above everything else in life, it's PEOPLE that I crave."

my mind, over days / weeks ... so I started talking about OLD AGE, to my family ... MY old age .

NIKI and I are synced.. so she immediately picked up my ramblings about old age;

"Dad, you are always talking about growing old  $\dots$  stop it".

I had a similar discussion with the old friends... just recently...  $% \label{eq:linear_problem} % \label{eq:linear_problem} %$ 

BORIS and I go back to our kindergarten days ... as our bodies start to age and creak.. we are always reinforcing to each that... that we must look after ourselves ... easy to say, sometimes harder to do.

FILIP ... in the days before we got our own factory... Filip used to toll for us... He's had some health scares recently which has made him feel very mortal . We've known each other for 35 years... and can't believe where the years have gone...and at our advancing years ... the talk



quickly turns to what aches and pains we have.

LEVENT ... used to be the QC chemist doing the testing on our polymers, in the days before, we had our own factory... So, at the ripe old age, of 40, he went back to University to do a law degree ... nice!

Back to Clint....

The theme song for the movie came about , when Toby Keith asked Clint how come at 88, he has so much energy, so much drive .... And his answer was;

" Because I don't let the old man in "

And, in thought... that's me.

By the time you read this, I will have turned 71.

I have normal aches and pains .. my body hurts most days ... BUT, I'm blessed to have a strong mind (ably assisted by my vitamin intake).

Am I ready to quit, put my feet up, watch the grass grow, smell some roses?

Nah.

I am growing old disgracefully... and the old man will never come in.



## **DON'T LET THE OLD MAN IN**

Here are the lyrics from the theme song

Don't let the old man in
I wanna leave this alone
Can't leave it up to him
He's knocking on my door

And I knew all of my life
That someday it would end
Get up and go outside
Don't let the old man in

Many moons I have lived

My body's weathered and worn

Ask yourself how would you be

If you didn't know the day you were born

Try to love on your wife
And stay close to your friends
Toast each sundown with wine
Don't let the old man in

Many moons I have lived

My body's weathered and worn

Ask yourself how would you be

If you didn't know the day you were born

When he rides up on his horse
And you feel that cold bitter wind
Look out your window and smile
Don't let the old man in

Look out your window and smile Don't let the old man in





And watch this movie clip.

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=yc5AWImplfE

George Papamanuel, July 2021





## **ADRIAN SILVA**

**Urethane Coatings - Sales** 







We are pleased to announce that Urethane Coatings have added a new face to the team. Adrian Silva is an ex-flooring specialist who has a wide range of experience in flooring and coatings. Adrian's experience ranges from soft and hard floor coverings to technical testing and safety compliance. Adrian has already made an impact to the business and is slotting in as a key team-player in the Era Polymers squad. He joins the Urethane Coatings sales-team to assist Simon Lavis and myself as the NSW/QLD Technical Service Representative.

Welcome to the team Adrian and all the best!

George Zavras, April 2021





Introducing Urethane Coatings Floor Cleaner! Call (02) 9666 3888 for details

### TO INFINITY & BEYOND

#### HAPPY, HAPPY 35th BIRTHDAY, TO ALL OF US .

Ladies and Gentlemen,

TODAY, 12 April 2021, we have reached another milestone.. we are 35 years old today. Time to celebrate, time to reflect, time to give thanks.

How to start this? TWO sayings come to mind ... BOTH, probably, Chinese in origin.

"Life is a Long Journey, and we have only just begun" and,

"The journey of a thousand miles (kilometers) begins with a single step"

So, sometime in late February, early March, in 1986, TINA tried and tried, to convince me to start THIS. She would give me 10 reasons, why we should, and I would give her 11 reasons why we should NOT.

I was scared.. scared of the unknown, scared of failure, sacred of "what IF..." Over many nights ,she wore me down.

The last night, of our nightly discussions, AFTER the children went to bed, we finished around 1 am...l finally said ... "YES".

We went to bed... I was still awake at 4 am.

Between 1 and 4 am ... I laid out in my mind EXACTLY what would become, eventually, reality.

This is NOT a boast ...

I am an admirer of ISAAC ASIMOV...

And just like his character, Hari Seldon, I laid down, in my mind ... the FUTURE ... Era Polymers.

As Americans like to have a STRATEGY ... for just about everything.

Me too.

MY "strategy", was plotting out the future of our company.

Did I get MY strategy right ... ?

NAH, I ran into Richard Bell, who for a short time, totally derailed the dream. Even POST, R.B. ... obstacles, lots of obstacles, decade after decade, kept popping up all over the place.

AND, just like any GOOD strategies, it HAS TO change, as situations change ... BUT the end point stays, constant.

And as that other saying, that I often use goes; "What doesn't break you, makes you stronger"





IT DID, over and over again.... We got stronger, with each passing year.

I, my family, the team, indeed the whole COMPANY, got stronger, and stronger .

The last bit, was to give this future, a NAME. My father taught me Greek MYTHOLOGY.

On our birth Island of Samos ... they had a Greek God, at the time when these Ionians, ruled the Aegean, the Mediterranean and even the Black Sea ... (H)era. She was Zeus' (Jupiter's) wife!

PERFECT ... NOW, how to give birth to Era Polymers?...

We didn't have a clue... so we approached a lawyer in Burwood, who told us the FASTEST way, was to buy a SHELF company, for \$500. We did ... ATILEC PTY. LTD. Which we rechristened.

We hit the ground running, on April 12th.

AND, as the next page shows ,we made our first sale, on 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 1986. For that month, APRIL, we sold a grand total of \$14,400. The NEXT month MAY, we "killed it ".. we sold \$59,518. We were off.

Just as a sideline, have a look at our selling prices in 1986 ... \$8 / kg... prices haven't increased much, have they ... in many cases they have gone DOWN!

So, how did we get to our 35th year? ALL, because, as I keep on saying;

" We are only as good as the people that we employ... and we employ a lot of very good people "

If it wasn't for YOU, all of you, we wouldn't be here, today.

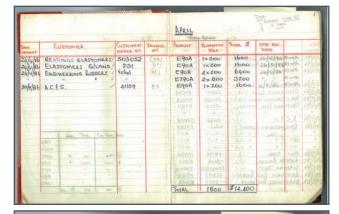
Tina, the family and I, would like to thank all of you, for taking this journey with us.

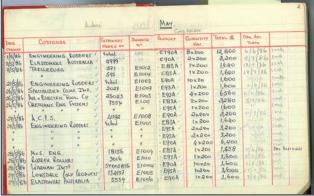
TO INFINITY AND BEYOND.

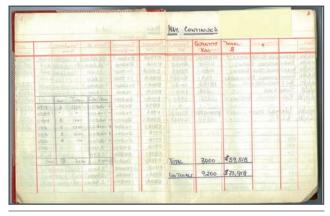
**Best Wishes** 



## **TO INFINITY & BEYOND**







#### ERA POLYMERS BABY NEWS



## CONGRATULATIONS COURTNEY & JONI

BABY SEX: BABY BOY!

BABY NAME: OLIVER DATE: 27th MARCH 2021



#### CONGRATULATIONS JOSIP & SASHA

BABY SEX: BABY BOY!

BABY NAME: OWEN

DATE: 23rd April 2021



# Era Polymers celebrate 35 years!

In 1986 George Papamanuel had a dream, of owning his own Polyurethane business.

With the support of his soul mate and wife Tina Papamanuel, hard work and determination, he realised that dream.

35 years later Era Polymers are still going strong and is still very much a family affair with Alex, Francene, Nicole & Shannon all working in the business.

George's business started off small in his garage and he was always pinching Tina's cooking utensils and crockery to test product. Now George & Tina own Australia's largest Polyurethane Systems
House, employ quality staff
worldwide, operate 6 state of the art
manufacturing facilities (Australia,
New Zealand, South Africa, and
United States) and export to over
86 countries.

Despite this growth and achievement George has always remained true to the business philosophy, Business is people doing Business with PEOPLE. Many of his customers have become his friends.

While Era Polymers offers a Global Reach, it remains important to Era Polymers that our customers get great service locally.
Congratulations George & Tina! To the next 35 years and beyond!







## CONGRATULATIONS SVEN & HONG

BABY SEX: BABY GIRL!

BABY NAME: LECEN WANG



## **ERAPOL™ HIGH PERFORMANCE CAST ELASTOMERS**

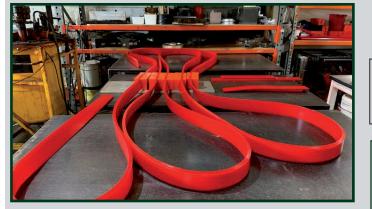
WHEN ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER

Dominic Pearsall - Era Polymers QLD

QLD customer asked for a high performance (wear resistant) cast elastomer system that was 75A in Shore A hardness for a conveyor belt skirting application. Additionally, the chosen system required a fast pot life and quick de-mould time to make for an efficient high output production process.

This was achieved using Erapol ET83A pre-polymer which is already a fast reacting TDI-PTMEG pre-polymer in conjunction with fast curing liquid curative Eracure AH41 processed through a Polytec EMC DG-103 machine.

The resulting individual lengths of urethane were then spliced together to make a long length of PU skirting that can be coiled up to make it easy to transport and use on site.



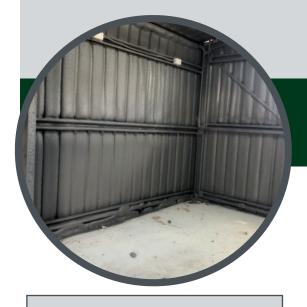


Coiled PU conveyor skirting (18M lengths) ready for transport.

For more information:

Please visit www.erapol.com.au

Or contact us on **+61 02 9666 3788** to talk to one of our Technical Business Managers



**RS241 GREY** 

# ECOFOAM™ RS241 SPRAY FOAM INSULATION

Polyurethane spray foam has long been used as an effective insulation product being easy to spray in place to provide a monolithic coating system with no gaps hence providing excellent insulation properties.

In this example, our QLD spray foam insulation contractor applied the spray foam to a chicken shed. This keeps the hens comfortable and productive by maintaining a cool environment in the summer and nice and warm environment in the winter.

The spray foam was pigmented to a nice charcoal colour by adding a small amount of black pigment to the spray foam system for a pleasant on the eye cosmetic appeal over the galvanized steel metal shed structure.

## **ERA POLYMERS | SAMOS POLYMERS**



**Peter Woodfield - Safety Officer** Era Polymers Pty Ltd

Era Polymers is committed to the health and safety of all its employees, customers, contractors and other visitors when they are present on our sites. To this aim, during April this year, a group of 15 employees from our Era Headquarters and R&D centre and from our Samos Manufacturing facilities undertook first aid training with Paul from Catch Training. They were trained in the DRSABCD method of CPR (Danger, Response, Send for help, Airway, Breathing, CPR and Defibrillator) and other first aid treatment techniques, such as those for burns, snake bites, musculoskeletal injuries and cuts and abrasions. All staff reported feeling much more confident in their roles as First Aid Officers after the training and are all now serving Era in their different areas of Era and Samos's facilities.















#### A TRIBUTE TO ANZAC DAY

With their hair a little whiter, their step not quite so sure

Still they march on proudly as they did the year before.

Theirs were the hands that saved us, their courage showed the way

Their lives they laid down for us, that we may live today.

Fathers, sons and brothers, together they fought and died

That we may live in peace together, while at home their mothers cried.

When that final bugle calls them to cross that great divide

Those comrades will be waiting when they reach the other side.

Written by Ken Bunker

# Let's Celebrate!







# GLOBAL REACH WITH FAMILY VALUES





















## MAJOR EVENT - ERA POLYMERS 35TH ANNIVERSARY



### LUNCHTIME BIRTHDAY SNAPS AT SAMOS POLYMERS



## **PUT A CLAMP ON IT! ERAPOL ECP50A**

#### Safe & secure: Progressive Polyurethane Products, Surrey, Canada

How big are wind turbines? Wind turbines come in a variety of sizes, depending upon the use of the electricity produced. A large, utility-scale turbine may have blades over 50 metres long, meaning the diameter of the rotor is over 100 metres – more than the length of a football field.

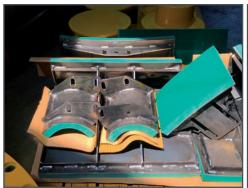
Now imagine being responsible for the safe transportation of the blades... all 50 metres of each one. Progressive Polyurethane Products (PPP) in Surrey, B.C. Canada affords its customers the safety and security in supplying the clamps needed for such a delicate job.

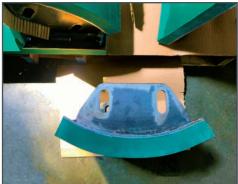
How? PPP uses **Erapol ECP50A** to make clamp pads to hold windmill blades securely during transportation. PPP's customers prefer the urethane pads because they are non-marking, can be made in custom shapes, absorb vibration, and are extremely durable and tough.

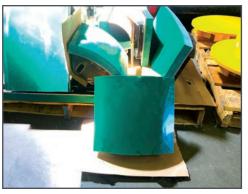
For more information on Erapol products

Contact Era Polymers:

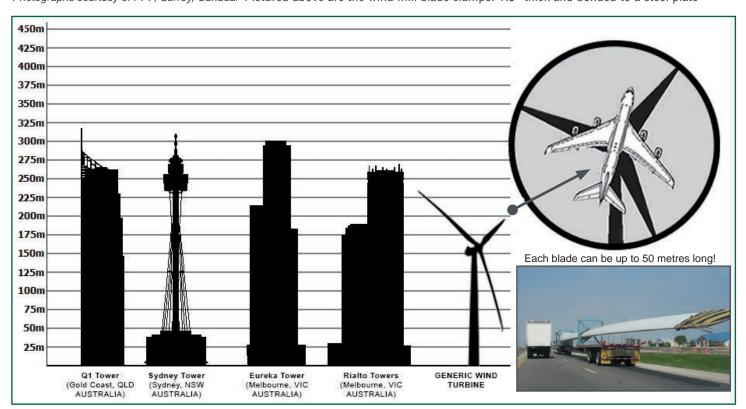
**Telephone:** +612 9666 3788. **Email:** erapol@erapol.com.au







Photographs courtesy of PPP, Surrey, Canada. Pictured above are the wind mill blade clamps: 1.5" thick and bonded to a steel plate



## THE NAME'S BOND....ERABOND

**ERABOND METAL** is a high strength single coat primer system for bonding liquid urethanes to most metal substrates. Extensive evaluation has shown the adhesion of the ERABOND METAL primer is superior to many other primers currently used in the industry.

When bonding Polyurethane to Metal the critical factors are SURFACE PREPARATION and PRIMER.

#### **SURFACE PREPARATION**

Metal should be blasted to Near White - Class 2.5  $\,/\,$  SP 10  $\,/\,$  NACE #2  $\,/\,$  SA 2.5

It should then be solvent washed to remove any debris and primer applied as soon as possible.

#### **PRIMER**

Era Polymers offer a highly effective metal primer marketed as ERABOND METAL. It is a single component Phenoxy Primer that we manufacture locally.

It is low viscosity for easy application by Brushing or Spraying.

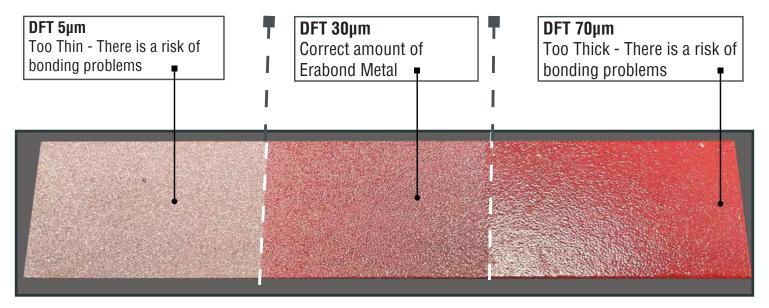
Optimal Dry Film Thickness (DFT) is 20-40µm. We have covered some blasted metal below with different thicknesses to show what it should look like after priming.

**ERABOND METAL** can also be dipped or spray applied.

#### PRODUCT SPECIFICATION

Appearance
Brookfield Viscosity at 25°C (cPs)
Solids Content (%)
Flash point (°C)
Specific Gravity at 25°C
Theoretical Coverage
Recommended DFT
Shelf Life
MEK content

A red or clear liquid 150-250 25 5 0.90 13m<sup>2</sup>/Kg (12m<sup>2</sup>/L) 20 - 40µm 12 months <50%



#### **Features**

- High Performance
- Low Viscosity
- Single Component
- Can be Brush, Dip or Spray Applied

- Temperature Tolerant (-45°C 180°C)
- Good Chemical Resistance

For more information contact **Era Polymers** on Tel: 02 9666 3788 or email erapol@erapol.com.au



# HE LIGHTER SIDE

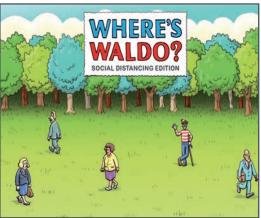


When someone's talking about chemistry and you remember salt is sodium chloride



You are in a dark room with a box of matches. Nearby are three things: a candle, an oil lamp and a log of firewood.

Which do you light first?

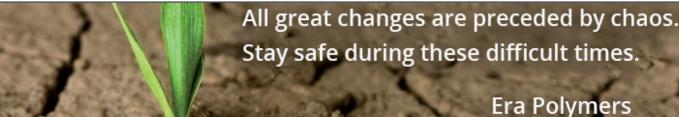




Science is simply the word **WE USE TO DESCRIBE** A METHOD OF ORGANIZING OUR CURIOSIT

HOW TO PROPERLY GREET SOMEONE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK





## WHAT'S MOVING IN MACHINERY?

**LATEST** 

#### STICK 'EM UP!

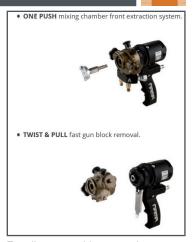
Introducing the new GAMA HT Black Gun | Air Purge Spray Gun

The HT Black Gun introduces a breakthrough in technology with the one push patent pending system that allows you to remove the mixing chamber independently - without the need to extract the gun block like in other traditionally designed guns.

The HT Black Gun also offers the new twist & pull lock system to enable a fast and easy gun block disassembly.

Era Polymers now offer the well developed the HT Black Gun. It is light, easy to handle, intuitive and with the fastest maintenance system available on the market today

Technical specifications	
Maximum Output 1:1:	18 kg/min
Minimum Output 1:1:	1,5 kg/min
Maximum Working Pressure	240 bar
Air Pressure Required	6-8 bar
Weight:	1,25 kg
Dimensions:	21,4 cm x 10,8 cm x 16,5 cm



For all your machinery needs or more information about this product, please call our Machinery Department:

Contact: Josip Salopek Tel: (02) 9666 3788

Sydney · Adelaide · Brisbane · Melbourne · New Zealand · Singapore · Malaysia · United Kingdom · USA · South Africa



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**EQUIPMENT AGENCIES** 









OTHER AGENCIES





