

**COMPLAST KENYA IN JULY**

THE **Complast Kenya** show, organised by Smart Expos & Fairs of India, is to be held at the Kenyatta Conference Centre in Nairobi, from **13-15 July**. This is in part a sequel to the Complast show held in Sandton in November last year.

**EXTRUAFRICA IN POTCH LOOKS AT ALL EXTRUSION TECHNOLOGIES**

THE annual **ExtruAfrica** conference/exhibition takes place at North-West University in Potchefstroom from **31 July-3 August**. Bringing together various extrusion technologies, for the food, snack, pet food, aqua feed and other sectors, the event includes a parallel training seminar. ExtruAfrica provides the platform for the gathering of strategic partners in total or parts of the extrusion value chain 'between the farm gate and the end consumer' say the organisers.

[www.extruafrica.org.za](http://www.extruafrica.org.za)

**MANUFACTURING INDABAS IN KZN, E AND W CAPE**

THE dates for the regional **Manufacturing Indaba** events have been announced. The KZN event takes place at the Durban International Convention Centre on **22 August**; the Western Cape show will be held at Century City in Cape Town on **3 October**; and the roadshow then culminates its SA tour with the Eastern Cape indaba at the Boardwalk Conference Centre in PE on **14 November**.

Organised by the Department of Trade & Industry and Manufacturing Circle, the Manufacturing Indaba is now seen as a direct promoter of intra-African trade with the express aim of putting South African manufacturers in contact with new markets across Africa.

[www.manufacturingindaba.co.za](http://www.manufacturingindaba.co.za)

**PROPAK WEST AFRICA IN SEPTEMBER**

**PROPAK West Africa**, due to take place at the Landmark Centre in Lagos, Nigeria, from **18-20 September**, is set to be the largest edition of the event to date, with over 3,000 visitors expected and more than 150 worldwide brands represented. A wide range of brand groups participated at the 2017 show and are expected back this year, including Dangote, Nestle, Unilever, Lotus Food and Emerald Food & Beverage, as well as a contingent of equipment manufacturers and suppliers, including Kabra and others. Filmatic and Safrique of South Africa are expected to exhibit.



**Organization in full swing**

PLAST 2018, the International Exhibition for the Plastics and Rubber Industries, takes place at the FieraMilano facilities in Rho-Pero from, 29 May to 1 June.

PLAST 2018 will be the preeminent European event this year for the plastics and rubber industry, embracing the whole chain from raw materials to semi-finished and finished products, from machinery and equipment to support services. And, quite rightly, once again this year the fair enjoys the sponsorship of the Italian Ministry of Economic Development.

The international scope of this triennial tradeshow, now in its 18th edition, is confirmed by the impressive numbers of foreign exhibitors and visitors.

With three months to go before opening day, a total of 1,100 exhibitors have registered for PLAST 2018. Of these, 870 are direct exhibitors (one third of them foreign, representing more than 40 countries and growth of 21% in number and 24% in space allocation) and 230 are represented. A total of 52,000m<sup>2</sup> of exhibition space has been assigned.

PLAST reflects the preeminent global

position of the Italian plastics and rubber processing machinery, equipment and moulds industry, which forms the core of the exhibition. Over 70% of national production – which hit a new all-time record value of 4.5 billion euros in 2017 according to figures from the trade association AMAPLAST, produced by 900 manufacturers employing some 14,000 people – is exported.

Italian technology (as well as that produced in Germany, Italy's main global competitor in the sector – indeed Germany tops the list in terms of both foreign exhibitors and foreign visitors at PLAST) is purchased by converters all over the world who require high-tech capabilities to produce large volumes of quality products with optimal precision.

Again this year, PLAST will feature satellite fairs dedicated to three sub-sectors of excellence: RUBBER (in its third edition), 3D PLAST (focusing on additive manufacturing and related technologies, now in its second edition) and PLAST-MAT (first edition, dedicated to innovative plastics).

[www.plastonline.org](http://www.plastonline.org)

**Patent-pending technology for upgrading recycled PET**

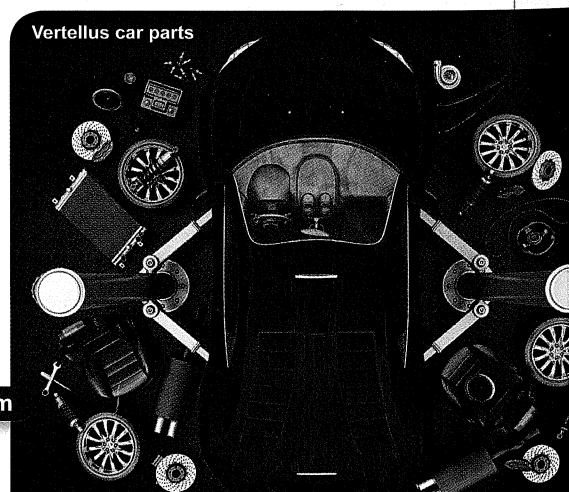
VERTELLUS, a leading global supplier of additives to the plastics and polymer industries, will introduce two innovative technologies for driving increased use of recycled polyester in nylon resins (creating alloys) and enhancing the benefits of recycled PET at NPE 2018, from 7-11 May.

By enabling new alloys and compounds containing these recycled resins to deliver improved properties and processability, Vertellus' new additive solutions will help compounders and OEMs boost sustainability and control costs without sacrificing performance.

The first new Vertellus technology to be highlighted is a novel compatibilizer for creating alloys of recycled polyester and nylon. This technology enables new materials with performance properties similar to those of virgin nylon, but with a significant cost advantage. Key properties are excellent impact strength, tensile strength and flexural modulus. Target applications for these polyester/nylon alloys include office furniture, sporting goods, automotive parts and textile fibers.

Vertellus will also showcase a novel, patent-pending technology for upgrading recycled PET and, potentially, bio-plastics such as polylactic acid (PLA). This new additive is expected to deliver higher clarity and better performance at lower dosages.

[www.vertellus.com](http://www.vertellus.com)



COMING UP