

ASIAN PLASTICS

亚洲塑胶工业通讯

NEWS

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Wei Li clears the way for PP baby feeding bottles

Wei Li has made the manufacture of polypropylene (PP) bottles from preforms of the same material possible on its WL-AP03 stretch blow moulding machine. This new development is in response to the increasing demand for PP bottles.

According to Wei Li, polycarbonate (PC), the traditional material for baby feeding bottles, contains a chemical that will release a toxic substance when the bottles are heated up. Manufacturers of baby feeding bottles are thus eager to look for an alternative material that is not considered harmful to children.

PP has emerged as an alternative material. Business manager Maggie Chau said that it is not only a food grade material, but also costs less than PC. Significantly, the transparency of PP bottles has improved which makes the bottles, when filled



with water, as transparent as an empty PET bottle.

Chau also explained that PP bottles are mostly made by extrusion blow moulding, but the neck finish of such bottles are not as good as the neck of injection moulded preforms. Using Wei Li's WL-AP03 machine, PP bottles can

be produced directly from PP preforms with perfect neck finish and improved transparency (pictured top left).

PP bottles can also be used for hot-fill beverages, such as juices and teas, because of the resin's ability to withstand high temperatures. Wei Li expects that the use of PP bottles for such applications will be greatly increased.

At HK Plas, Wei Li was demonstrating a medium WL-AP03 machine for the production of innovative PET packaging (pictured bottom left). Chau said that PET packaging has great potential in the toy industry and the company has received very good response from the toy manufacturers visiting the show, especially those who are keen to do away with their PVC packaging production due to environmental concerns. (210)