

ASIAN PLASTICS

亚洲塑胶工业通讯

NEWS

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ISBM a clear winner for Wei Li

HONG KONG Wei Li Plastics Machinery, a Hong Kong-based machinery manufacturer says that it has been able to tap a new market — thanks to a clarifying agent for polypropylene (PP) resin from Milliken. The new resin has enabled the company to find a new application for its injection stretch blow moulding (ISBM) machine.

With the use of resin clarified with Millad 3988 from Milliken Chemical, Wei Li's machines have been manufacturing clear PP bottles for hot-fill food and beverages (see APN, May 2001, page 32). From January through June 2001, the new application has boosted the company's sales by 50 percent compared with the same period last year.

Wei Li's WL-CP03 two-stage ISBM machines are flexible enough to produce 10 ml – 20 litre bottles made of PP, PET, PMMA and PC.



Wei Li's ISBM machines can now manufacture clear PP bottles

“We did not make machines specially for producing clear PP bottles because in the past, we could not find suitable PP resin

in our local market,” said Maggie Chau, Wei Li's business manager. “And, our clients had the incorrect perception that PP bottles were all poor in transparency when compared to PET.”

As a result of Milliken's resin-clarifying agent, companies which originally planned to use hot-fill PET can now make use of Wei Li's machines as a cost-effective alternative. Wei Li is now targeting the market for hot-fill jars and bottles used for food and beverages such as tea, juice, soy sauce and tomato sauce.

According to Chau, hot-fill tea beverages are becoming popular in China and Hong Kong. For hot-fill purposes, these beverage producers, especially the small- and medium-sized ones, can now use the lower cost PP bottles rather than the more expensive special grade PET bottles.

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