

Plastic Manufacturing Ever on the Rise in America

SOUTH BELOIT, IL, USA, April 23, 2014 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Companies like [First American Plastic](#) are perfect examples of the growth that's accompanied the plastic industry since its founding in the late 1800s.

SOUTH BELOIT, Ill. – The world of plastic manufacturing has come a long way since the 1860s — and rapidly growing companies like First American Plastic are proof. While John Wesley Hyatt may not have realized it when he first experimented with cellulose nitrate in the late 1800s, the substance he discovered has since become a major part of everyday life in the United States.

“Today’s plastics are one of the most used materials on a volume basis in U.S. industrial and commercial life,” says PlasticsIndustry.org. “(They are) broadly integrated into today’s lifestyle and make a major, irreplaceable contribution to virtually all product areas.”

The two main types of plastics are thermoplastics and thermosets, the first of which is used to create many of the most common industrial, consumer and commercial products on the market today. What turns the plastic into a useful product is a process called injection molding, a high-production process originally launched in the late 1940s by American inventor James Watson Hendry.

Here’s how injection molding works: manufacturers inject the thermoplastic into a mold where it can set and form into the size and shape desired. While the process is fairly simple in concept, it offers a wide range of advantages, like higher production rates, lowered labor costs and reduced waste. And today’s businesses are increasingly moving their injection molding back to the United States, to companies like First American Plastic, to experience further benefits like lowered freight costs, faster turnaround times, easier face-to-face meetings and quicker access to inventory. Choosing to do plastic manufacturing within the U.S. means freed-up resources, lower lag times, and more convenience when making product adjustments or changes.

“American plastic manufacturing provides all kinds of benefits to American companies,” said Steve Erickson, a vice president at First American Plastic. “You no longer have to deal with the international hassles that come from a manufacturer that’s overseas. It’s much simpler to communicate, make changes, view samples and so on — not to mention cheaper and more efficient in the process.”

This increasing push for onshoring shows that American plastic manufacturing is booming — and there are other evidences in place, too. 3D printing is a hot trend in the plastics industry today, being used for everything from military equipment to medical devices. Network World says 3D printing is “the hottest new technology on the IT landscape,” offering further proof that American plastic manufacturing continues to grow.

ABOUT FIRST AMERICAN PLASTIC MOLDING ENTERPRISE

First American Plastic Molding Enterprise (<http://www.firstamericanplastic.com>) is a custom provider of [thermoplastic injection molding](#) manufacturing solutions for companies throughout most industries. They operate two facilities in the United States. Its enterprise headquarters in South Beloit, Ill., is a 39,000-square-foot facility located 75 miles northwest of Chicago; its Ocean Springs, Miss., facility covers 22,000 square feet and is located near Biloxi on the Mississippi Gulf coast.

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