

MODERN PLASTICS

September 2008

WORLDWIDE

THE GLOBAL PLASTICS MAGAZINE

www.mpw.plasticstoday.com

No stopping innovation

Also inside:

Moldmaking: Off the shelf

Extrusion: Wider lines,
thinner layers

Design: Flow analysis
smooths the stream

IPF 2008: Focusing on Japan

Q&A: Bill Kushmaul

Plus: New machinery,
materials, and more



THERMOSETS PROCESSING

Better blending in less time

In order to reduce its blending time for the melamine resin/wood-flour/pigment compounds it processes as the world's leading supplier of hard plastic melamine school furniture, Melsur Corp. (Birmingham, AL) converted its 12 mixers to SD 512 MS ribbon blenders with intensifier bars, all from this manufacturer and all working in concert with 12 of the manufacturer's attrition mills.

Each of the 32 color variations, 30 products, and custom designs must be blended individually, a process that can take up to four hours, depending on product. Simply increasing mixing speed was not an option because it created friction and heat, causing the resin to degrade. The ribbon blenders with integral intensifier bars proved the solution, cutting blending time by 25%.

The intensifier bar is mounted at the midpoint of the mixing vessel and is located beneath, and



Melsur molds chairs faster after revamping its blending equipment.

perpendicular to, the blender shaft. The bar's action is especially valuable when mixing melamine, wood-flour, and pigments, as melamine and pigments tend to agglomerate, making them difficult to disperse through wood-flour, and the flour, in turn, does not flow freely and has a fairly high angle of repose. The ingre-

dients contain less than 5% moisture, and consist of particles up to 60 mesh (250 μ m). The intensifier bar is a shaft fitted with stainless-steel fingers that agitate material being propelled into the area by the ribbon elements.

Munson Machinery Co. Inc., Utica, NY, U.S.A.; +1 315-797-0090; www.munsonmachinery.com

RM
RACE MOLD GROUP
DIECAST • INJECTION
MACHINERY • SERVICE

think
RACE

Professional Plastic Injection Mold

- Home Appliances
- Computer Parts
- Automobile Parts
- Gas Assistance Systems
- Various Hot Runner Systems

RACE MOLD

4F, No. 657-1, Chung Cheng Rd.,
Hsin Chuang City, Taipei 242, Taiwan
Tel: +886-2-2902-9071 Fax: +886-2-2902-9072
E-mail: race@racemold.com.tw
[Http://www.racemold.com.tw](http://www.racemold.com.tw)