

RMCER Day at BITS Pilani - Goa Campus – July 21, 2020:

RMCER - Rotational Moulding Center for Education and Research (RMCER) is a joint venture between Society of Asian Rotomoulders (StAR) and BITS Pilani, an eminent technical university in India. The RMCER core-committee [five committee members each from StAR and BITS] met in the morning under the co-chairmanship of Prof. G Raghurama [Director of BITS] and Ravi Mehra [StAR Founding Chairman]. Three international advisors to RMCER Ceylal Basal, Prof. Marek Szostak and Martin Spencer also attended this meeting. Special invites from Queens University Belfast (QUB) Dr. Peter Martin [Director PPRC], Dr. Mark McCourt and Jitendra Seregar [Ph.D.]. The discussions proceeded with strategies for generating financial resources for the operation of center, the urgent need to equip the center with SOTA rotational moulding machine & related capabilities, and some necessary lab testing equipment. It was decided to form two subcommittee for the machines and other related equipment, that were to issue their recommendations report in 3 months. The session ended with financial commitments to support the center from Director of BITS, Ravi Mehra and Ashish Baheti. Next selected Labs tour was conducted for all participants from the StAR member companies; followed by lunch at institute's guest house.

In the afternoon a two hour session engaged over 80 attendees that included all industry attendees present, international & QUB guests and a large number of interested students, from undergraduates to Ph.D. It began with the lightening of lamp followed by invocation hymn, and Director Raghurama welcoming all participants. He pointed out the BITS strength to engage multi-disciplinary work / research for innovative ideas re RMCER's development. Ravi Mehra introduced the RMCER to the participants with its vision and objectives and how the industry can be benefited by this center. Prof. Suil Bhand discussed BITS role in RMCER and his ideas about the functioning of the center. Asish Baheti, convener of RMCER, motivated the students with his own entrepreneurial achievements in rotomoulding. Dr. Sachin Waigaonkar gave an account of past and present activities of RMCER. Dr. Peter martin from QUB gave insights into the functioning of Polymer Processing Research Center (PPRC), their program specific for rotational moulding and research projects. The international advisors also expressed their views and gave their best wishes towards development of the center. Ashish Baheti then stressed the need fund raising for this center. The session then was opened for discussions and Q and A from all. The enthusiasm amongst the students in asking questions and seeking information varied from PIAT to selecting the process for becoming creative and successful entrepreneur. The positive energy & enthusiasm was felt all around !



Core Committee Meeting



Lamp Lighting



Afternoon Open Session.