



ROTOTALK StAR 2027

**ANNUAL ROTOMOULDING
CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW**

MARCH 3-5, 2027

Gandhinagar (Ahmedabad), India

**CONVENTIONAL TO
NEW TECHNOLOGIES**

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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Dear StAR Friends –

Warm greetings and sincere appreciation for your continued support and active participation in StAR's initiatives.



In this message I would like to emphasize the importance of continued learning and skills development of your teams to envision new ideas / innovation,

productivity, quality, safety and global competitiveness.

StAR is diligently working to offer the following specials:

- Rotational moulding's "BEST PRACTICES" 8 weekly series webinar by globally renowned Dru Laws from USA -- a unique opportunity for all practitioners of rotomoulding including factory production & quality control personnel.
- **Regional Meet in Pune** – July 8th with excellent program and participation at the **Auto Cluster Development & Research Institute**.
- More exciting regional meets and webinars in the next 4 months.
- **Rotoplas 2026** the global rotomoulding exhibition & conference scheduled for Nov 2026 in New Orleans, USA; StAR members receive membership rates & privileges.
- And of course the StAR 2027 Annual Conference and Trade Show scheduled for early March in Ahmedabad.

Thanks to the StAR Board & Apex members and the Staff for their continued work for the success of our association & industry thru building a stronger, knowledgeable, collaborative and more globally competitive rotational moulding industry in India. I must make a special mention of the leadership being provided by Ravi Kadivar and Umakant Savadakar – thank you !

Looking forward to seeing you all next March --- regards,

RAVI MEHRA
FOUNDING CHAIR, (StAR)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Resilient Industry in a Reshaping World



Asia's plastics processing sector continues to demonstrate exceptional resilience in a world shaped by geopolitical shifts. Supply chains may be evolving, logistics may be unpredictable, and polymer markets may feel the tremors of global uncertainty—but our

industry has responded with agility, innovation, and unity. Across the region, rotomoulders are strengthening local sourcing, adopting smarter materials, and investing in technology that reduces dependency on vulnerable routes. These actions are not just defensive—they are opening new pathways for growth. Demand for durable, sustainable, and design-flexible products is rising, and rotomoulding is uniquely positioned to meet this moment.

StAR remains committed to guiding the industry through this transition. Our focus on technical knowledge, benchmarking, supplier collaboration, and regional networking ensures that every member has the tools to thrive. Upcoming initiatives will deepen our engagement, expand training, and reinforce our collective momentum.

Despite global complexities, the outlook for rotomoulding in Asia is bright. Our markets are expanding, our capabilities are advancing, and our community is stronger than ever.

The Asian rotomoulding sector is not merely navigating change; **we are shaping the next chapter of our industry.** -- Warm regards,

RAVI KADIVAR
PRESIDENT, (StAR)

INSIGHTS FROM INDUSTRY STALWARTS

Mr. Blaise L Costabir, Managing Director, GMI Zarhak Moulders P Ltd.

Born in Mumbai, Blaise Costabir is co-founder of GMI Zarhak Moulders, makers of SHAKTI water tanks and custom moulded technical parts. An MBA alumnus of Asian Institute of Management, he is an industry leader, visiting faculty member, columnist with Heraldo, and passionate traveller, cyclist, and motorcyclist grounded in faith and family.



1) How do you feel about today's rotomoulding industry?

I believe the Indian rotomoulding industry is at an exciting stage of evolution. While water tanks continue to dominate public perception, the industry today is increasingly serving sectors such as infrastructure, agriculture, material handling, automotive, defence, and specialised industrial applications. However, since

since traditionally the manufacturing of water tanks was considered a low-entry barrier business, many got involved in this business locally as it is transport intensive, but considered cost as the only competitive factor. This is still evident today in the form of water tanks made with poor-quality recycled material, thus affecting the perception of rotomoulded products. Having said that, over the recent years, there has been a focus on quality and products other than water tanks.

2) Your journey in this industry and the evolution of GMI?

When GMI Zarhak started rotomoulding way back in 1996, 99 out of 100 roto products manufactured in India were water tanks, compared to the exact opposite in the US at that time. We always believed rotomoulding could be much more than water tanks, and that belief shaped every investment we made. We subsequently expanded into custom and technical moulding, an area that aligned closely with our long - term goals. While making tanks, we focused on what the custom moulding industry would need and built those capabilities, e.g., ISO certifications, JIT in time delivery, traceability, etc. So, when we approached customers, we could showcase not just our ability to rotomould, but also our ability to meet their requirements.

3) The future of the Rotomoulding Industry, especially in India ?

There is a good future for rotomoulding in India, given the China plus one strategy. Global players are looking at India for sourcing; the products being moulded today were not seen a few years ago; and many new applications will come into play. However, the need is going to be for moulders who can offer the right quality, keep costs under control, and deliver at the right time.

There is also a lot of scope for ancillary activities. There remains a shortage of high-quality cast mould manufacturers, and knowledgeable pulverising facilities that can offer consistent colours, specific additives, and testing facilities. The opportunity is real, but it will favour companies that can consistently deliver global standards of quality, reliability, and innovation.

4) What's your advice to the next generation of Rotomoulders?

My advice is simple: never compete only on price. Compete on quality, service, innovation, and reliability. Customers may initially choose the lowest price, but they stay with suppliers who solve problems and add value. Sustainable growth comes from profitable business, not merely from volume. There is enough business available. Focus on creating value, charge a fair price, deliver consistent quality, and build a profitable enterprise. Profitability is what ultimately enables growth.

5) Any other matter, which you would like to talk about ?

Beyond manufacturing technology, digital tools, AI-driven monitoring, paperless systems, and professional management practices can significantly improve efficiency and competitiveness. If Indian rotomoulders can combine manufacturing excellence with professional management and modern technology, our industry can become a globally respected sourcing destination.



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6 Manufacturing Sites across 3 Continents



Mr. Jacob Joe Chiramel, Managing Director, Carris Pipes & Tubes



Mr. Jacob Joe Chiramel is a mechanical engineer from REC Surat, followed by a Diploma from Jamnalal Bajaj, Mumbai. He spent years working with Consolidated Pneumatic Tools, Hawkins and Ralli Wolf in Mumbai, but he had an urge to build something of my own. That urge led him to a small rotomoulding setup in a village near Cochin in Kerala, during the mid-1990s.

1. How do you feel about today's rotomoulding industry?

I would describe it as a quietly maturing industry rather than a flashy one - and that's not a complaint. Rotomoulding has earned its place by doing a few things extremely well: large, hollow, structurally sound products like water tanks, sewage tanks, and bins that simply can't be made as efficiently any other way. That core demand isn't going anywhere, especially in a country like India where water security and decentralised storage are only becoming more important.

What excites me is how the industry is evolving — better process control, growing use of recycled and bio-based polyethylene, and a slow but real shift toward data-driven, monitored production, in an industry once seen as fairly low-tech.

That said, I would urge rotomoulders across the country to push that change faster. We need to embrace technology and a genuinely data-driven approach — monitoring cycle parameters, tracking quality metrics - rather than relying on experience and intuition alone. Equally important is treating world-class manufacturing practices as a baseline, not an aspiration. The industry that builds these habits now will be best placed to compete, both domestically and internationally.

If there is a challenge, it's that cycle times remain long — but I see that as our strength, not a weakness; it's exactly why we serve niches other processes can't touch.

2. Your journey in this industry and the evolution of Carris?

My path here wasn't linear, and I think that's been an asset. I did my Mechanical Engineering from REC Surat, followed by a Diploma from Jamnalal Bajaj, and then spent years working with Consolidated Pneumatic Tools, Hawkins and Ralli Wolf in Bombay. But there was always an urge to build something of my own. That urge led to a small rotomoulding setup in a village near Cochin in Kerala, during the mid-1990s - modest, but ours.

The real turning point came from an unexpected direction. Employee unrest in Kerala pushed us to look at Tamil Nadu - not by grand strategy, but by necessity. What started as a forced move ended up opening the Tamil Nadu market for us directly, and taught us something fundamental: water tanks are bulky and expensive to transport, so being close to your regional market is the whole game. That insight eventually took us to Vijayawada as well, giving us a presence across Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh. From that single unit, Carris has grown into the largest water storage tank manufacturer in South India, and the second largest nationally, operating across rotomoulding, injection moulding, and extrusion at a meaningful scale, with a presence well beyond water tanks — sewage tanks, SS tanks, crates, pallets, iceboxes, difference boxes, and custom moulded products, all under ISO, FDA, and ISI certification.

It's been a journey of turning constraints into strategy — and that's the part I'm most proud of.

3. The future of the rotomoulding industry, especially in India?

I am genuinely optimistic about India's trajectory here. Water storage and sanitation infrastructure are still being built out across large parts of the country, and rotomoulded tanks remain the most practical, durable answer to that need - alongside growing demand from agriculture, logistics, and defense applications.

On technology, the most significant shift underway is the move toward electrically heated machines and moulds, replacing the gas and diesel-fired ovens that have powered this industry for decades. Electric heating gives tighter temperature control, better product consistency, and a smaller environmental footprint — I expect it to become the industry standard in the coming years.

There's also real opportunity for India to move towards more technical and challenging products apart from tanks — boats, kayaks, fuel and AdBlue tanks — though very few Indian manufacturers have gone there seriously yet.

Sustainability and regulation will reshape the industry just as meaningfully. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is fast becoming central to how manufacturers think about sourcing and end-of-life management, alongside growing use of recycled and bio-based resin and tighter quality standards. For manufacturers willing to invest in these areas, the next decade in Indian rotomoulding looks genuinely strong.

4. What's your advice to the next generation of rotomoulders?

My advice to anyone entering this industry today is simple: fly above the current generation. Don't measure yourself against where the industry stands right now — measure yourself against where it needs to go next.

That means chasing relevance over scale. Some of our most important decisions weren't grand strategic bets; they came from listening closely to what the ground was telling us. Read those signals, and let them change your direction when needed.

Invest in your people and your process discipline as much as in your machines, and diversify thoughtfully - it's what's made us resilient through different market cycles. Every generation that settles for repeating what came before falls behind; the ones who shape this industry's next chapter will be the ones willing to fly above it.

ROTATIONAL MOULDING BEST PRACTICES WEBINAR SERIES

Starts 17th July 2026

8 Exclusive Sessions with Dru Laws (USA)



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- Interpretation of Indian Perspective by Industry Experts

Registration Fee

StAR Members: ₹5,000 + GST (18%) per receiving station
Non-Members: ₹15,000* + GST (18%) per receiving station

**Excess Fee of Rs.10000 can be applied towards Membership, if Joining StAR Before 30 Sept. 2026*

SCHEDULE

📅 8 Fridays, Starting
17 July 2026

🕒 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM (IST)

💻 Live on Zoom

Register Now and Book

Your Seat

[Click Here:](#)

ROTOPLAS 2026

GLOBAL ROTOMOULDING TRADE SHOW & CONFERENCE

An ARMO Event by ARM, USA - Brings the Rotomoulding World to
New Orleans - Nov 17 to 19, 2026

Rotoplas is traditionally the largest rotational molding meeting in the world.

Registered Exhibitors:

Approx. 65 companies representing every segment of the rotomoulding supply chain: includes raw materials,, machinery, moulds, automation systems, colourants and additives from major regions of the world namely: USA, Canada, **India**, China, Italy, Beldium, New Zealand and more View the exhibitor list.

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Please visit www.rotoplas.org for further information.





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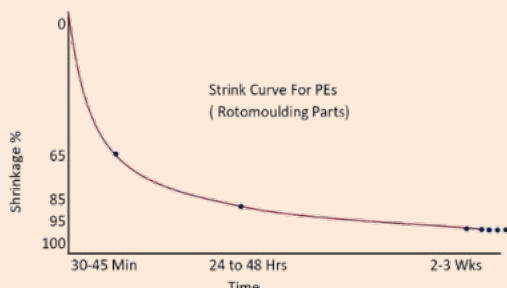
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HELPFUL INFORMATION

Shrinkage and Dimensional Assurance of PE parts: “Practical Pointers for long term dimension-tolerances assurance”

Polyethylenes (PEs) most commonly used materials in rotomoulding are Crystalline Polymers and exhibit significant and variable shrinkage. Therefore, special attention is necessary when verifying and validating a mould / part for dimensional tolerances.



- Polyethylene parts keep shrinking over time [days] after moulding, as shown in the chart.
- Total shrinkage of PEs is in the range of 2.5 to 3.5%; even greater variations can occur based on PE grades, design & processing.
- Most shrinkage ~ 70% occurs within 30 to 45 minutes after moulding, while the part normalizes to room temperature, unrestricted.
- Next the parts shrink to ~ 85% of total shrinkage in the next 24 to 48 hours after moulding.
- Parts continue to shrink reaching ~ 95% of total shrinkage in the following 2 to 3 weeks.
- New mould qualification - verification must address the above reality for dimensionally tolerance parts.
- Dimensions checked on an as moulded part will only exhibit ~ two-thirds of total shrinkage; by the time customer receives the remaining one-third shrinkage of shrinkage would have taken place.
- Your dimensional quality control needs to be based on continuing longer term shrinkage. Best would be to develop data and relationship between dimensions for AS moulded parts Vs parts after 2 to 3 weeks, which is what the customer receives.
- **NOTE:** the part shrinkage can be accelerated by putting the parts through a properly developed oven heating “annealing” cycle; generally, temps of 65 to 80 C, and time duration of 8 to 24 hours. This needs to be developed for individual products, assuring ~ 95% of shrinkage has taken place.

For any comments or queries, please contact:
maramehra@aol.com

Controlling Dimensions in Rotomoulded Parts Practical Points for Better Dimensional Consistency

Dimensional control in rotational moulding is achieved through a combination of **good design, controlled cooling, and disciplined processing practices**. Key practical points are:

- **Start at the design stage**
Designers should understand **rotomoulding process capability and material shrinkage** so that specified tolerances remain practical and achievable.
- **Ensure uniform cooling**
Uniform cooling across the entire part is one of the most important requirements to minimise **warpage, distortion, and dimensional variation**.
- **Control cooling method and mould release point**
Cooling strategy and the exact **release temperature/timing** strongly influence final dimensions. Selection and consistent application of **release agent** also play an important role.
- **Control shop-floor environment**
Since cooling often occurs in open atmosphere, **ambient temperature and humidity** can affect cooling rate and dimensional repeatability.
- **Use cooling fixtures where necessary**
Cooling fixtures are widely used to maintain **critical dimensions, flatness, and geometry** during shrinkage.
- **Apply internal pressure during final cooling**
Controlled internal pressure in the final cooling stage can help improve **dimensional stability and reduce collapse**.
- **Continue pressure support after demoulding if required**
For critical applications, internal pressure may also be maintained **after part removal** to retain geometry.
- **Avoid introducing stress through fixtures**
Cooling fixtures should support the part without excessive restraint, otherwise **residual stress and later deformation** may occur.

Understanding the Cooling and shrinkage is the key for controlling dimensions.

For any comments or queries, please contact:
umakant@phychem.com



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StAR Activities

- StAR continues to promote industry collaboration, knowledge exchange, and technological advancement through:
- Regional Meets across India
- Webinar on “Sustainable Rotomoulding” conducted on April 29, 2026 with Ronny Ervik, Senior Consultant at Norner Research AS, Norway, as the speaker.
- Best Practices Webinar Series by Dru Laws (8 Weekly Sessions) – starting on July 17, 2026. The series offers a valuable learning opportunity for the entire rotomoulding community, including production, quality assurance, quality control, and other factory personnel.
- StAR is actively helping members in their registrations for Rotoplas 2026 in New Orleans, USA, scheduled from November 17–19, 2026.
- StAR 2027 Conference & Trade Show in Gandhinagar, bringing together rotomoulders, suppliers, designers, and industry professionals for technical sessions, exhibitions, networking, and business development opportunities.
- StAR circulated *RotoWorld* featuring vibrant pictorial coverage of the StAR 2026 Conference and Trade Show, organized by StAR from February 2–4, 2026, in Delhi-NCR. The issue also highlights the planned activities of StAR for the year 2026.
- StAR circulated *WeRoll* (issue 5 & 6) featuring articles and new innovations in rotomoulding design.

For any further details, please contact Executive Director,
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HDPE Powder Market Outlook to 2035

According to the latest IndexBox report, the global HDPE powder market is expected to witness sustained growth through 2035, driven by increasing demand from rotational molding, pipe and tank coatings, and emerging additive manufacturing applications.

Global consumption, estimated at around 3.8 million metric tons in 2025, is projected to grow at a CAGR of 4.8% during 2026–2035, reaching an index of 158 by 2035 (2025=100).

Key growth drivers include:

- Rising demand for rotomolded water storage tanks, marine products, and automotive components.
- Increasing investments in water and wastewater infrastructure worldwide.
- Rapid expansion of industrial 3D printing and additive manufacturing applications.
- Growing use of corrosion-resistant linings and lightweight plastic alternatives.

Asia-Pacific remains the largest market, accounting for over 50% of global demand, led by China, **India**, and Southeast Asia. Capacity expansions in Asia and the Middle East, supported by feedstock advantages, are expected to strengthen global supply.

However, the industry faces challenges from volatile ethylene prices, environmental regulations, and increasing competition from recycled HDPE materials.

Overall, the market outlook remains positive, supported by long-term infrastructure investments, technological advancements, and expanding end-use applications.

Source: [IndexBox Report on HDPE Powder Market](#)

ARMO & AFFILIATES CORNER

BPF Networking Day

July 1-2, 2026, Nottingham, England
www.bpf.co.uk

ROTOPLAS 2026 & ARM, FALL Conference

Nov. 16-19, 2026, New Orleans, LA
www.rotomoulding.org

ARMO General Conference

Sept. 26-28, 2027, Baveno, Italy



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