







PRINCIPLES OF POLYMER PROCESSING



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Second Edition

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Regarding the cover: The five bubbles contain images that represent the five elementary steps of polymer processing. The bottom image is a picture of the Thomas Hancock masticator, the first documented processing machine, developed in 1820. This image was originally published in the book *Thomas Hancock: Personal Narrative of the Origin and Progress of the Caoutchouc or India-Rubber Manufacture in England* (London: Longman, Brown, Green, Longmans, & Roberts, 1857).

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Series Preface

The Society of Plastics Engineers is pleased to sponsor and endorse the second edition of *Principles of Polymer Processing* by Zehev Tadmor and Costas Gogos. This volume is an excellent source and reference guide for practicing engineers and scientists as well as students involved in plastics processing and engineering. The authors' writing style and knowledge of the subject matter have resulted in an enjoyable and thoughtful presentation, allowing the reader to gain meaningful insights into the subject.

SPE, through its Technical Volumes Committee, has long sponsored books on various aspects of plastics. Its involvement has ranged from identification of needed volumes and recruitment of authors to peer review and approval of new books. Technical competence pervades all SPE activities, from sponsoring new technical volumes to producing technical conferences and educational seminars. In addition, the Society publishes periodicals, including *Plastics Engineering, Polymer Engineering and Science*, and *The Journal of Vinyl and Additive Technology*.

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Susan E. Oderwald

Executive Director Society of Plastics Engineers

Preface to the Second Edition

Tremendous science and engineering progress has been made in polymer processing since the publication of the First Edition in 1979. Evolution in the field reflects the formidable contributions of both industrial and academic investigators, and the groundbreaking developments in rheology, polymer chemistry, polymer physics, life sciences and nanomaterials, in instrumentation and improved machinery. The emerging disciplines of computational fluid mechanics and molecular modeling, aided by exponentially expanding computing power are also part of this evolution.

As discussed in Chapter 1 of this Second Edition, polymer processing is rapidly evolving into a *multidisciplinary* field. The aim is not only to analyze the complex thermomechanical phenomena taking place in polymer processing equipment, *per se*, but to quantitatively account for the *consequences*, on the fabricated polymer products. Thus, the focus of future polymer processing science will shift away from the machine, and more on the product, although the intimate material-machine interactions in the former are needed for the latter.

Consequently, this edition contains not only updated material but also a significant restructuring of the original treatment of polymer processing. First, we deleted Part I which discussed polymer structure and properties, since the subject is thoroughly covered in many classic and other texts. Second, in light of the important technological developments in polymer blends and reactive processing, new chapters on Devolatilization, Compounding and Reactive Processing, and Twin Screw and Twin Rotor-based Processing Equipment are introduced. These processes are widely used because of their unique abilities to affect rapid and efficient solid deformation melting and chaotic mixing.

However, the basic philosophy we advocated in the First Edition, which was to analyze polymer processing operations in terms of *elementary* and *shaping* steps, which are common to all such processing operations, and thereby unifying the field is retained. We have continued our attempt to answer not only "how" the machines and processes work, but also "why" they are best carried out using a specific machine or a particular process. In fact, we believe that this approach has contributed to the fundamental understanding and development of polymer processing in the last quarter-century, and to the change of focus from the machine to the quantitative prediction of product properties.

As with the First Edition, this volume is written both as a textbook for graduate and undergraduate students, as well as resource for practicing engineers and scientists. Normally, a two-semester course in needed to cover the material in the text. However for students who are familiar with fluid mechanics, heat transfer and rheology, it is possible to cover the material in one semester.

To enhance the usefulness of the Second Edition for both students and practitioners of the field, an extensive Appendix of rheological and thermo-mechanical properties of commercial polymers, prepared and assembled by Dr. Victor Tan, and for teachers, a complete problem Solution Manual, prepared by Dr. Dongyun Ren are included. For all it is hoped that this Second Edition, like the First, proves to be a useful professional "companion".

We would like to acknowledge, with gratitude, the role and help of many: foremost, the invaluable assistance of Dr. Dongyun Ren, who spent almost three years with us at the Technion and NJIT/PPI, assisting with many aspects of the text preparation, as well as the Solution Manual; and Dr. Victor Tan, whose expert and meticulous work in measuring and gathering rheological and thermo-mechanical polymer properties provides the data needed to work out real problems. In addition, we wish to thank our colleagures, and students, who have influenced this book with their advice, criticism, comments, and conversations. Among them are David Todd, Marino Xanthos, Ica Manas-Zloczower, Donald Sebastian, Kun Hyun, Han Meijer, Jean-Francois Agassant, Dan Edie, John Vlachopoulos, Musa Kamal, Phil Coates, Mort Denn, Gerhard Fritz, Chris Macosko, Mike Jaffe, Bob Westover, Tom McLeish, Greg Rutledge, Brian Qian, Myung-Ho Kim, Subir Dey, Jason Guo, Linjie Zhu and Ming Wan Young. Special thanks are due to R. Byron Bird for his advice and whose classic approach to Transport Phenomena, inspired our approach to polymer processing as manifested in this book.

There are others we wish to mention and recall. While they are no longer with us, their work, ideas, and scientific legacy resurface on the pages of this book. Among them: Joe Biesenberger, Luigi Pollara, Peter Hold, Ally Kaufmann, Arthur Lodge, Don Marshall, Imrich Klein, Bruce Maddock, and Lew Erwin.

We wish to thank our editor, Amy Byers, our production editor, Kristen Parrish, the copy editor Trumbull Rogers, and the cover designer Mike Rutkowski. We give special thanks to Abbie Rosner for her excellent editing of our book and to Mariann Pappagallo and Rebecca Best for their administrative support.

Finally, we thank our families, who in many respects paid the price of our lengthy preoccupation with this book at the expense of time that justly belonged to them.

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