

Perfecting Plastics

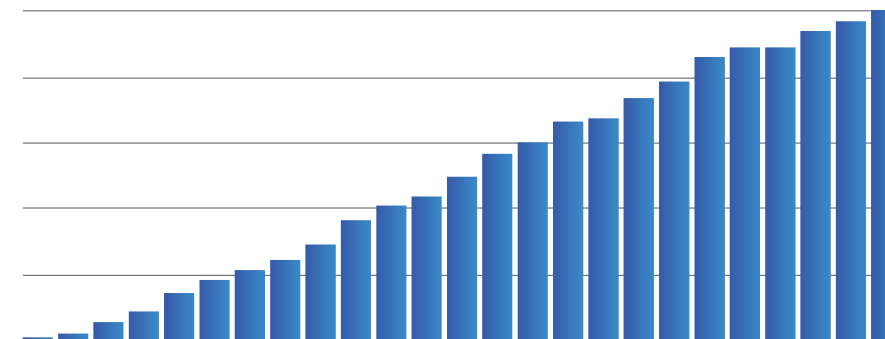
THE STORY OF HAMILTON PLASTICS, INC



With a few dollars in his pocket, Harshad Shah left India and moved to the United States with a dream. His goal was to create a plastic barrier that would improve the shelf life of food and medical materials. After furthering his education in Chicago, Shah worked with the research and development department for Glad® products at Union Carbide. After this, Shah relocated to Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he worked for a plastics firm in Dalton, Georgia. With his passion for research, Shah purchased a testing lab in 1983 to provide testing and consulting for plastics packaging, leading him one step closer to his ultimate goal of creating top-notch products while saving consumers' money. In 1986, dream became reality, and he established Hamilton Plastics, Inc. Since its creation, Harshad Shah has grown the business each year due to his commitment, leadership, and strong core values. Today the company boasts 32 years serving the plastics industry and a massive 300,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility covering 20 acres on Amnicola Highway.

From the outset, Shah founded his company on three pillars: quality, loyalty, and personal attention. He carries these values with him through every aspect of his work, whether it's building relationships with customers, the quality of his products, or the relationships with his employees. When walking through the facility, Shah is met with smiles and hellos from everyone he passes. His employees also take these values to heart as they continue to strive for top-quality products delivered with top-notch service.

Today Hamilton Plastics, Inc. designs, manufactures, and markets a wide variety of products, from can liners to high-performance barrier films used in food, medical, home, and industrial markets. The product range now includes anything from converter grade products for metalized balloons and cotton ball packaging to dunnage bags and infectious waste bags. In addition to the standard line of products, Hamilton Plastics, Inc. also has the ability to create custom products, in keeping with Shah's core value of personal attention. Using special polymeric formulations and cutting-edge co-extrusion technology, the company can manufacture customized





HARSHAD SHAH
President, CEO

products using blends of metallocene, octene, hexene, HMW-HDPE, and EVA co-polymers.

With all of its products, Hamilton Plastics, Inc. is dedicated to providing ongoing research and development. The company's state-of-the-art lab and manufacturing facility continuously work together to ensure the highest quality products are provided to meet the unique needs of clients at industry-leading, cost-advantageous prices.

With over 40 years of experience in research and manufacturing plastics, Shah ensures products meet expectations throughout the entire 24/7 production process. Quality controls and measurements from raw materials to finished products allow for product quality to be continuously monitored. Using an in-house laboratory, incoming raw materials are tested along with finished products to ensure all quality and safety specifications are met. Real-time quality is built into every step of production. Each machine operator is given a list of criteria to measure against to certify the material is produced impeccably at every step of the process.

As a core value, quality extends beyond just products for Harshad Shah. The little waste that is left over from plastic production is recycled. Hamilton Plastics, Inc. has the ability to recycle up to 8 million lbs. of plastic annually. The can liners the company produces are made from this recycled material.

Shah's commitment to his core values has been recognized throughout his career, as Shah has been awarded many honors for his commitment to the community and dedication to his employees, as well as his leadership. In 2003, Shah received the Spirit of Innovation Award, followed by the 2004 Small Business of the Year Award. He has also received 2008 Chattanooga Area Manager of the Year and the 2011 Better Business Bureau's Torch Award. Also in 2011, Shah was awarded the Americanism Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution, an award given annually to 12 naturalized citizens nationwide. In 2013, Shah was inducted into the UTC College of Business Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame.



In addition to the success of Hamilton Plastics, Inc., Shah has been involved with the construction and management of several hotels. Since 1991, he has helped manage and develop 14 hotels. These include: Marriot, InterContinental Hotels, Days Inn, and Comfort Inn. Not stopping with hotels, in 2006, he helped organize CapitalMark Bank and Trust. In his spare time, Shah has served on the boards of CapitalMark Bank and Trust, Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce, Allied Arts, Baylor School, Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga, YMCA Youth Foundation, AmSouth Bank, Chattanooga State Community College, First Tennessee Bank, an Indian community association, and Memorial Hospital Health Foundation.

Not only has Shah broadened his career, but he has also given back to the community in a variety of ways. He created the Shah Foundation to help Chattanooga Girls Leadership Academy, Chambliss Center for Children, many Indian worship centers,

and several other organizations. As a 20 year veteran of the Rotary Club, Shah has assisted with several non-profit projects. The most recent project included building water systems for schools in the Dominican Republic. He also assisted his brother in beginning his own business, Phoenix Plastics, Inc. In addition to this, Shah built a science center in his hometown in India and dedicated it to his father's 100th birthday. The center provides improved education opportunities and boasts increasing graduation rates each year.

Shah imparted this same value of education to his three children. He along with his brilliant wife Ulka instilled the values of education, quality, loyalty, and personal attention in their children as well. All three children attended the Baylor School and Vanderbilt University. Shah takes pride in his children, their success, their families, and his five beautiful grandchildren.

Today, Hamilton Plastics, Inc. is nearly debt free, and the company is planning

a \$5 million expansion which will include a nine-layer co-extrusion plant. This new plant will produce plastics to create a prolonged shelf life for produce products, peanuts, and cheeses. Across the Southeast, it holds one of the top rankings in the plastics industry. Across the U.S., the company ranks among the top 75 in the plastics industry. Shah attributes his success to his three founding pillars: quality, loyalty, and personal attention. He treats people like family, constantly seeks to improve the quality of his work, and continuously nourishes the relationships he has formed throughout his career. These factors and more have allowed Hamilton Plastics, Inc. to become a leader in the industry for value-added film and flexible-packaging products in the food, medical, home, and industrial markets. For more information about Hamilton Plastics, Inc. visit the website www.hamiltonplasticsinc.com or contact hshah@hamiltonplasticsinc.com.