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The Institute of Materials, Minerals & Mining (IOM³) This Institute exists to promote all aspects of the fields of materials, minerals and mining. As a leading authority in the worldwide community it plays an important role in the field of education, information dissemination and in professional development. It has supported this competition since it was first established.

www.iom3.org

The Worshipful Company of Horners The Horners, one of the oldest of the City of London Guild Companies, was first recorded in 1284. Horn is a natural polymer and was moulded into a wide variety of domestic objects. In the 16th century the Horners combined with the (leather) Bottlemakers, but by the end of the 18th century the horners' craft, and thus the Company, had declined. In 1943 it became associated with the plastics industry, an affiliation which gave the Horners' Company renewed vigour and a connection with a modern vibrant industry. With the plastics connection in mind, the Company distributes financial support from its charity funds to scientific education which includes the Design and innovation in Plastics Award.

www.horners.org.uk

Bayer MaterialScience Bayer MaterialScience is one of the world's largest producers of polymers and high-performance plastics. Its innovative developments in coatings, adhesives, insulating

materials and sealants, polycarbonates and polyurethanes significantly enhance the quality of our lives. Raw materials from Bayer MaterialScience are used in products all around us — from roller skates to railways, automotive interiors to surfboards, Blu-Ray Discs and DVDs.
www.bayermaterialscience.com

PlasticsEurope is a leading European trade association with centres in Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Milan and Paris. It networks with European and national plastics associations and comprises more than 100 member companies, producing over 90% of all polymers across the EU. The European plastics industry makes a significant contribution to our welfare by enabling innovation, enhancing quality of life and facilitating resource efficiency and climate protection. Its products save energy in buildings, reduce energy in transport and save scarce resources such as food and water through smart packaging solutions.

www.plasticseurope.org

Cogent Cogent is the expert, employer-led body delivering strategic solutions to the skills needs of the chemicals, pharmaceuticals, oil and gas, nuclear, polymer and petroleum industries. It develops and maintains occupational standards, providing skills solutions and workforce development plans and advice on qualifications. Cogent presents a powerful voice, enabling sector

employers to influence government policy development and shape the outputs of training and education providers. Its research has shown clearly that innovation, productivity and sustainability are ultimately dependent on skills.
www.cogent-ssc.com

PDD Founded in 1980, and based in Hammersmith, West London, PDD provides integrated design and innovation skills, working with organisations worldwide to develop novel products, services and business processes that drive revenues and create competitive advantage. PDD targets markets undergoing rapid change such as those affected by economics, technology, climate and demographics.
www.pdd.co.uk

DuPont DuPont is a science-based products and services company. Founded in 1802, DuPont puts science to work by creating sustainable solutions essential to a better, safer, healthier life for people everywhere. Operating in more than 70 countries, DuPont offers a wide range of innovative products and services for markets including agriculture and food, building and construction, communications and transportation.
www.plastics.dupont.com

Hi-Technology Group The Hi-Technology Group provides total product solutions to the medical, mobility, marine, defence and health and safety sectors via its design, tooling and moulding companies. The business has design, tooling and

moulding facilities in Waterlooville, Hampshire and a production facility in Kocise, Slovakia. The synergy of product design and material selection is at the core of the business success in delivering product to market.
www.hitechltd.com

Brightworks Limited Brightworks is an award-winning UK product design and development consultancy dedicated to helping other companies develop the best products for their customers, their markets and their brands. Brightworks' expertise and experience cover a wide range of industrial design sectors including: medical, telecoms, electronics and packaging, and the company provides a complete range of product design, prototyping and development services.
www.brightworks.co.uk

London Metropolitan Polymer Centre (LMPC) provides an essential resource for designers working with polymers. In addition to standard academic courses covering designing with polymers, LMPC offers a range of easily accessible facilities to support working designers and students. This includes standard and bespoke short courses, consultancy and use of the processing workshop.
www.londonmet.ac.uk/polymers