

**CURRICULUM VITAE  
MARK STRACHAN**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Business Address:

Global Thermoforming Training Int.  
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**PROFESSIONAL PROFILE**

My career in the Packaging Industry started in 1982 while serving my apprenticeship as an Electronics Engineer for Metal Box South Africa. Soon after I started my own plastics blister manufacturing business (PacMark Plastic Industries CC) in my garage. The company quickly grew to a prominent plastics blister packaging business which later included the production of plastic cups for the airline catering business (South African, British, Lufthansa and American Airlines)

My hunger to learn more about the plastic industry led me to Europe where I held Engineering and Production Management positions at large plastics packaging manufacturing firms with the intention to gain valuable hands on experience in both the thermoforming and extrusion processes. I later moved to the USA where I worked with numerous thermoforming and extrusion machinery OEMS such as Commodore Machine Company, Berlyn Extruders and Sencorp Systems in Massachusetts, as their Thermoforming and Extrusion Product Specialist. I was responsible for all new developments, commissioning and training of their customers around the world.

During the past 36 years, I have gained valuable hands-on experience in the Plastics Thermoforming and Extrusion Industry. Increased demand for my hands-on assistance, together with my desire to impart this knowledge, led to the formation of my own Training/Consulting business, Global Thermoforming Technologies Inc. I have since been presenting hands-on “Thermoforming Boot Camp” and advanced Interactive training courses to thermoforming, extrusion and resin manufacturing companies worldwide.

**EDUCATION**

Cape Peninsula University of Technology, Cape Town, South Africa  
BSc Electronics Engineering  
December 1986

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Global Thermoforming Training International Jupiter, FL**

- **Director**
  - Offering In-House, hands-on training seminar for Extrusion and Thick and Thin Gage Thermoforming
  - Plant setup
  - Product Design and development (Solidworks)
  - Legal services – Expert Witness
  - Plant and Machinery Audits

### **First Quality Packaging Solutions, LLC**

Riviera Beach, FL

October 2013 – 2018

- Sr Technology Director
  - Responsible for new Plant setup and ongoing Product Development
- Developed state of the art products for high volume Inline extruded thermoforming equipment

### **Paulson Training Programs, Inc.**

Chester, CT

October 2012 – 2013

- Developed content for Interactive Digital Thermoforming Training program for CD-ROM and on-line courses. Now offered by Paulson Training Programs, Inc. a leading plastics industry training provider

### **uVu Technologies, LLC**

Boca Raton, FL

November 2011 – 2012

President

- Manage uVu Technologies' various divisions:
  - ToolVu – Thermoforming process monitoring systems
  - uVu Tech – Thermoforming product development laboratory
  - uVu Digital Solutions – Software development
- Implement Thick and Thin thermoformed product solutions based on specialized expertise in thermoformed product development throughout the product development lifecycle:
  - 3D design
  - 3D printer prototyping
  - Prototype tooling
  - Final tooling design
  - Implementation
  - Training
  - Ongoing support

### **Mullinix Packages, Inc.**

Miami Lakes, FL

June 2009 – December 2010

General Manager

- Successfully turned around a recently acquired, previously unprofitable, plastics food packaging facility by improving production efficiencies and increasing product sales
- Developed new thin-walled thermoformed products wrapped in removable paper sleeves for yogurt, soups, puddings and similar food products

### **Global Thermoforming Technologies, Inc.**

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

February 2005 – 2009

President

- Conducted hands on thermoforming training at clients worldwide
- Assisted client companies with product designs and launches, start-ups and special projects; successful product designs/launches including:
  - Fisher & Paykal Refrigerator and home appliances
  - Nestlé Dibs
  - Rich Products whipped topping
  - Kroger Foods cottage cheese
  - Horizon Organic yogurt
  - Kozy Shack rice pudding
  - Neco Foods (Publix) soup cups
  - Braun Ear Temperature Probe
  - Bayer – Medical Devices
  - KAZ – Medical Devices
  - Costco – Packaging
  - Walmart – Packaging
  - Amazon-Packaging
- Assisted food packaging manufacturer client (Tech II, Springfield, OH) in implementing North America's first in-mold labeling thermoforming facility
- Trained thermoforming and extrusion operators of several large thermoforming companies on ongoing basis, including:
  - Mullinix Packages, Inc. – Ft Wayne, IN
  - Tegrant Corp., Alloyd Brands – DeKalb, IL
  - Tech II, Springfield, OH
  - Precision Plastics Packaging, NY
  - Fabrikal, Kalamazoo, MI
  - Brentwood, PA
- Commissioned and installed extrusion and thermoforming facilities, e.g., yogurt and ice cream cup manufacturing plant utilizing extrusion, thermoforming and paper sleeve wrapping processes

- Consulted clients regarding: manufacturing plant setup, machinery surveying and installation, training program development, new product development and production efficiency evaluation

### **Zade Pack**

Miami Lakes, FL

February 2003 – 2005

Vice President of Engineering

- Commissioned grade-A/AIB facility for production of polypropylene yogurt cups, including:
  - Designed layout of production area to ensure efficient production flow pattern
  - Installed and commissioned sheet extrusion line
  - Installed and commissioned cup thermoforming machinery
  - Installed paper sleeve wrapping machinery
  - Installed all compressed air, electrical, and cooling water systems
  - Oversaw all machinery safety certifications (OSHA/TUV/UL)
  - Trained Zade Pack staff on all aspects of material handling, blending and extrusion, thermoforming, safety and quality control
  - Coordinated with customers to ensure successful launch of new products
  - Managed daily production of sheet and cups
  - Planned machinery maintenance and repair

### **Commodore Machine Company / Automated Plastics Group**

Miami, FL

2002

Contractor (contracted from Commodore Machine Company)

- Commissioned expanded polystyrene extrusion line
- Commissioned thermoforming machinery
- Trained Automated Plastics Group staff on all aspects of extrusion, thermoforming, safety and quality control

### **Paulson Training Programs, Inc.**

Chester, CT

2001 – 2002

Thermoforming Training Author

- Authored new Thick gage and Thin Gage interactive thermoforming training program interactive CD-ROM offered by leading plastics industry training provider

**Berlyn Extruders, Inc.**

Worcester, MA

December 2001 – February 2002

- Wrote extrusion operating manuals for Berlyn EPS foam extrusion lines
- Wrote Berlyn Extruder extrusion manual required for CE safety compliance of extruder supplied to United Kingdom-based customer

**Commodore Machine Company**

Rochester, NY

August 2000 – June 2002

Machinery Division Engineering Sales Manager

- Responsible for engineering sales and marketing and representation at trade shows
- Trained customers on EPS extrusion and thermoforming processes
- Authored machine manuals for new generation machinery
- Lead technical sales support, commissioning and training related to extrusion and thermoforming machinery
- Assisted in commissioning foam tray manufacturing plants in Ghana, Africa and Miami, Florida

**MGA Consulting, SA**

Cape Town, South Africa

1999 – 2000

Training Consultant

- Wrote and presented thick gage thermoforming training lectures to Frigidaire and Whirlpool
- Rebuilt VTM thermoforming line for Expanded Polystyrene Trays

**Outline Plastic Technologies**

South Africa

1999 – 2000

Contractor

- Designed and built prototype mold and thermoformed parts for 8' sailing dinghy for Walker Bay Boats (Canada)
- Installed and commissioned rebuilt thermoformers and new product range
- Installed and commissioned new factory services
- Trained operators and assisted with new product developments
- Gained valuable experience in the extrusion and thermoforming of thick gage materials (HIPS, HDPE, PP and Acrylic)
- Designed and vacuum formed large illuminated signs for BP and Shell Gas Station
- Designed and thermoformed illuminated signs for point of sale displays for Budweizer and Coca Cola
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