

AST TO SPEAK AT ANTEC IN APRIL

Tom Knight, AST's System Monitoring Development Engineer, will be among the speakers to present a technical paper at the SPE ANTEC Annual Technical Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Tom's paper is titled "Listening to Your Mould Using Advanced Mould Monitoring Technology", which focuses on the value of data that can be collected from an electronic mould monitoring device such as AST's **CVe Monitor**. Tom will share reports collected from the CVe Monitor and demonstrate what they tell us about the tool's construction quality, moulding efficiency and preventive maintenance effectiveness. Then a tool's maximum output will be determined using actual moulding results and the findings will be compared to the output that would be expected by the tool's owner.

Tom will present his paper on Tuesday, April 23, as part of the SPE's Mold Making and Mold Design Division's program. Click **HERE** to register for ANTEC and view the complete technical program. Click **HERE** to learn more about AST's CVe Monitor System.



AST will present a technical paper on the value of collecting comprehensive mould data using the CVe Monitor System at ANTEC on April 23. Click **HERE** to join us there.

DFM TAKES RISK OUT OF MULTI-SHOT

AST's General Manager Andre Eichhorn wrote in his latest Injection World Magazine article how a Design for Manufacturing (DFM) service helped significantly reduce costs on a multi-component moulding project for the casing of a mobile phone.

The phone manufacturer required the case to have a soft feel and a very good grip. Costs were also very important as the expected volume/year was calculated to 2 Million units. Two production scenarios were considered and benchmarked prior to the start of the project. The 1st scenario was to apply some soft paint to the moulding in a post process and the 2nd one to use the multi-shot technology.

While the capital cost are higher on tooling and moulding equipment, an overall saving of about €120.000,- / year was calculated by using the multi-shot solution due to eliminating the labor intensive post process.

Read the complete article by clicking **HERE**.



AST continues its article series in **Injection World Magazine** with a focus on how DFM and related analyses can take not only risks, but costs, out of multi-shot moulding projects.

DID YOU KNOW?

Last month we discussed the importance of determining the correct mould clamping force for better long-term mould life and reduced cycle time. Here, we share a real-life example.

A medical customer experienced issues with mould wear and venting in a complex 16-cavity production mould. A tooling design and processing review was completed by AST. This highlighted some improvement in mould performance but also highlighted a significantly higher than necessary mould clamping force. After optimisation it was possible to reduce the clamping force by 50%, which gave a direct reduction in cycle time of 0.3 seconds from 14.3-seconds by reducing the machine 'lock-up' time.

Using the correct clamp force also allowed the tool to vent correctly and extended the mould maintenance interval from 50,000 cycles to 150,000 cycles.

Overall there was a direct cost saving from reduced maintenance and improved cycle time of €50,000/year.