

# Gracious Living Corporation

Stewardship Ontario's Sustainability Summit  
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# Gracious Living Corporation – Woodbridge Facility



# About Gracious Living

- Established 1980
- Leading Canadian Manufacturer of Injection Molded Products and Extruded Products.
- Injection Molding – 76 Injection Molding Machines ranging 40-3000 Ton.
- Injection Molded Products - Resin Furniture, Storage Solutions, Housewares, Pet Products, Lighting Solutions, Electronic goods, Recreational Products, Custom Molding and a lot more.
- Extrusion – 50 Extrusion lines
- Extrusion Products - Decking, Railing, Window Blinds, Outdoor Products, OEM.
- Custom division – OEM producer and custom molder with experience in a variety of plastics and product. These include infrastructure, automotive & construction industries, government.
- Located in Woodbridge - Head Office and Injection Plant 1,000,000 sq ft.  
And in Mississauga – Extrusion Facility of 150,000 sq ft.
- Customers – Over the years we have worked with all the retailers of North America, to name a few – Canadian Tire, Wal-Mart, Home Depot, Sears, Costco, Loblaws, Lowes, Rite Aid, Target , Shopko, Toys R Us, and many more.

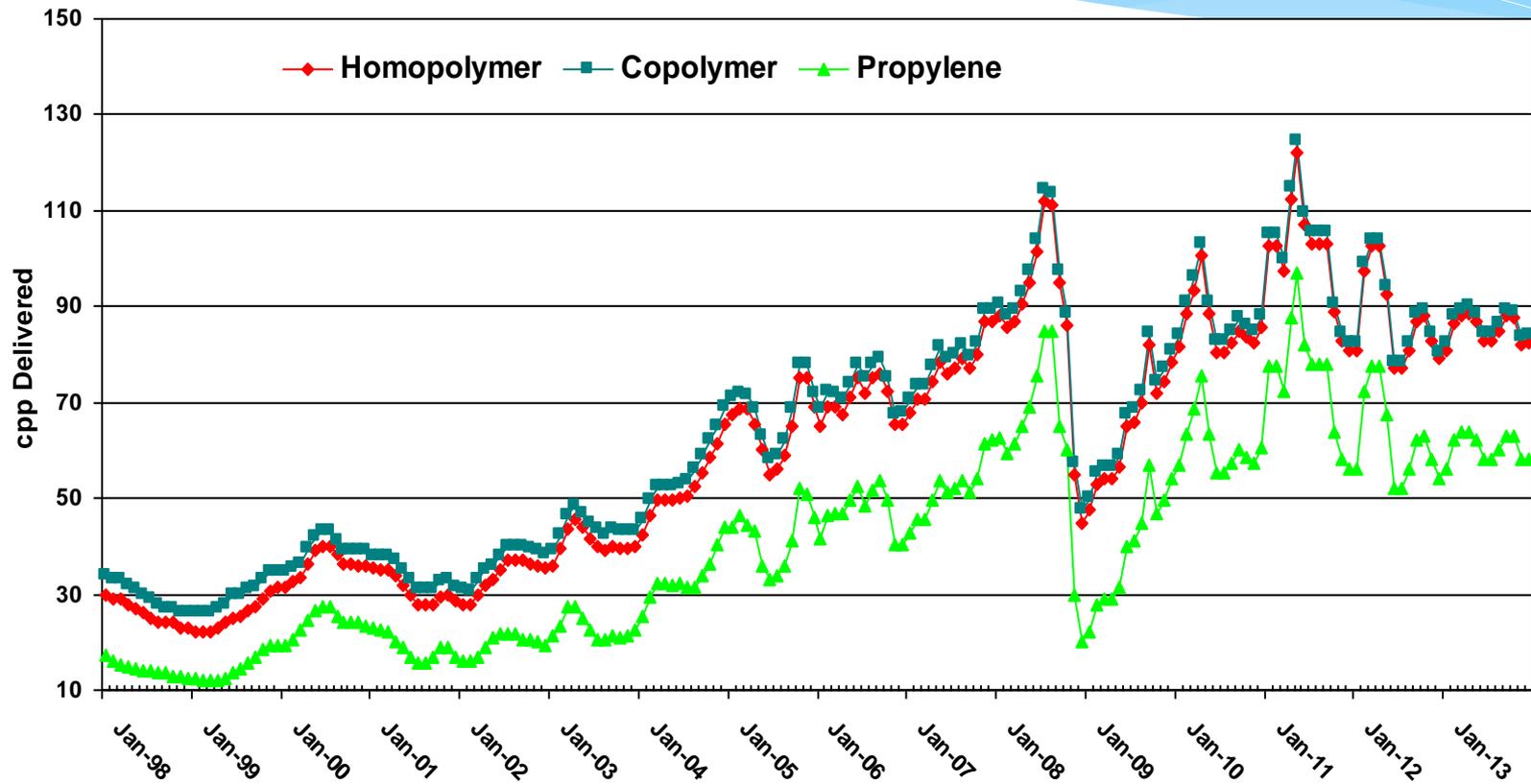
# Our Product Depth



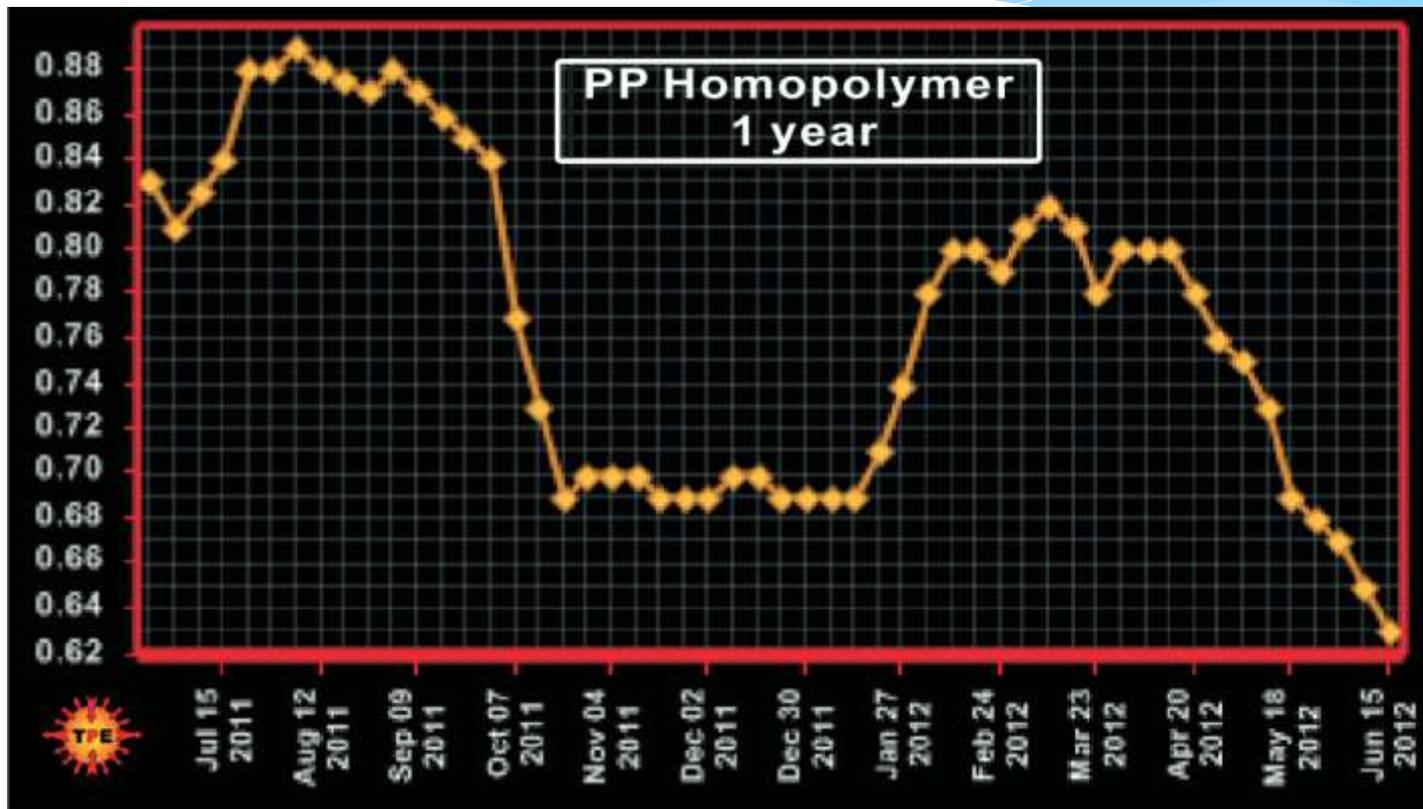
# Keys to Plastics Industry and why Recycle Plastics

1. Resin is typically two-thirds the cost of plastic products (depending on the product this may range anywhere from 50-75%)
2. In general, most of GLC's injection molded products are made from Polypropylene (PP). PP is a derivative of either crude oil or natural gas.  
Crude Oil/Natural gas      Propylene Monomer      Polypropylene
3. Our two main environmental goals include:
  - (i) sustainability – when we recycle plastics we prevent the further extraction of crude oil or natural gas.
  - (ii) keep our land clean – when we recycle we divert waste from entering the landfills
4. Extreme volatility in the resin market (also see next two slides)- through using recycled content in our manufacturing process, we are able to achieve much better price stability which allows us to confidently quote retailers and develop new programs.

# Historical and Forecasted Polypropylene (PP) Pricing



# Polypropylene Homopolymer Pricing



# Gracious Living's Sustainability Activities and Recycling

1. Recycle & re-uses all of all internal scrap products
2. Extensive usage of post industrial material & post consumer material.
3. Largest converter of post consumer polypropylene into Housewares products in Canada.
4. Developed Eco line of products with significant % of post consumer & post industrial materials
5. Developed blue bins made of 70% post consumer - originated in Ontario
6. Blue Planet program with Canadian Tire Corporation nationwide (launched January 2011)
7. Co-operate and working closely with Stewardship Ontario (SO):
  - (a) Our mutual goal - Utilize as much Ontario post consumer material as possible
  - (b) Developed the Blue Bin together with minimum 70% post-consumer material
8. Co-operate and working closely with Ontario Tire Stewardship:
  - a. Goal - Research & develop ways to utilize maximum amounts of rubber crumb from post consumer tires originating from Ontario. Our goal is to include between 10% and 40% of this material into our products.
9. Worked and researched environmental solutions with Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO), Ontario Ministry of Agriculture , Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), Clean Farms and Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES).

# Gracious Living Sustainability Activities and Energy

1. Completed Lighting Retrofit:
  - Retrofitted entire facility and warehouses from metal halides to T8 fluorescent
  - Removed 594 old fixtures (455 W) and installed 452 new T8 fixtures (6 packs and 4 packs).
  - Estimated annual savings - 900,000 Watts
2. In process of installing 500 KWH rooftop solar generation system.
3. Participated in Demand Response - Phase 1
4. Currently participating DR3. Committed to curtail 500 KWH.
5. Currently working with Power Stream on replacing mid-sized Injection Molding machines

# Benefits of Using Recycled Material

1. Develop and expand the usage of materials that are relatively stable in price and quality
2. Sustainability – refrain from further usage of natural resources (natural gas or crude oil) and divert plastics from the landfills.
3. Develop new lines of products that are tailor-made to the specific properties of the post-consumer resin we intend to use
4. Maintain local production and employment

# Challenges of Using Recycled Material and Next Steps

1. Our goal is to increase the usage of recycled materials in consumer products up to 50 million pounds per year
2. Expand into additional lines of product.
3. Increase the content level of post-consumer materials in current products – shelving, totes, baskets etc.
4. Continue to partner with various organizations for future product developments.
5. Improve material properties - increased melt flow of material, which will allow higher PCR content, as well as get into additional products.
6. **Our main future challenge is to educate and create consumer awareness and demand for products manufactured using post-consumer material.**

# How Can We Improve?

1. Educate the public to utilize where possible products that are not clear or translucent.
2. Give preference to Made in Canada products and those manufactured using Canadian plastic waste.
3. In public tenders for plastic goods require minimum levels of Canadian PCR (preferably Ontario).
4. Encourage producers to produce products that are made from single types of resin. As an example, do not mix in one product PE and PP.

**Ultimately, our long-term goal is for Ontario to maintain its leading role and being the flagship of North America when it comes to recycling:**

- **We should strive to achieve 100% conversion (we will have to allow incineration).**
- **We should close landfills**
- **We should pass laws that require PCR content in various products at various levels.**
- **Examples – conversion levels in Europe, minimum PET content in bottles in Europe, and CIF tender for Blue Bins**

# Gracious Living

## Solutions for environmentally-friendly living.

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