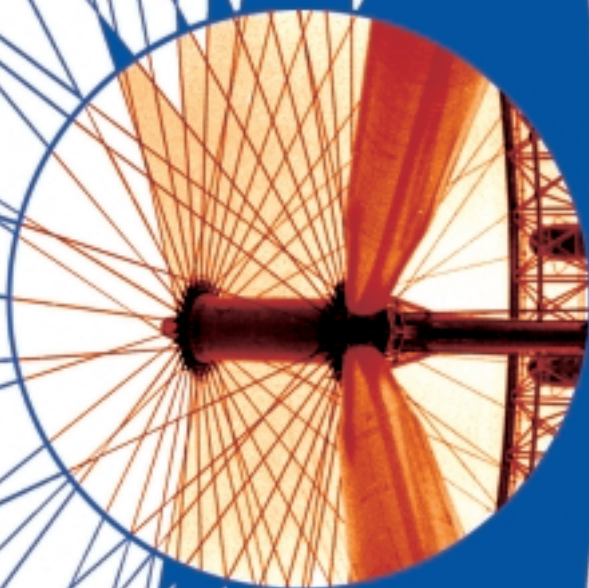


technical@ppma.co.uk

TECHNICAL SUPPORT



PPMA

FOR MEMBERS

Technical support for PPMA Members

One of the major benefits of PPMA membership is the wide range of technical support that is available to members. Some of these services are reactive, answering members' specific enquiries, but most importantly the PPMA is also proactively engaged on behalf of its members helping to shape legislation, writing standards, liaising with Government departments and the European Commission as well as talking to machine user trade organisations, putting forward PPMA members' points of view.

Health and Safety

Health and safety is a key concern for both PPMA members and their customers and with the introduction of the new European derived legislation it has become an increasingly complicated subject.

The PPMA works closely with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) on a series of projects and also meets the safety officers of major machinery user companies on a regular basis, in particular at the Food Equipment Suppliers and Users Health and Safety Committee and the Health and Safety in Bakeries Liaison Committee.

The PPMA has published a series of booklets and information sheets on health and safety issues (**available on the website www.ppma.co.uk**) and regularly includes articles in *Machinery Update* and the members only news-sheet *Technical Update*.

E-mail technical@ppma.co.uk with your specific enquiries.

Safety Standards

The PPMA has been actively involved in the drafting of machinery safety standards since 1988. Technical advisors employed by the PPMA chair the BSI shadow committees responsible for standards for both food processing machines (BSI/MCE/3/5) and packaging machines (BSI/MCE/3/3) and so they are well placed to answer questions and influence the direction of these and other European (EN) standards.

PPMA members and advisors are currently helping to draft standards for the following machines:

- Bakery equipment
- Meat processing equipment
- Food processing machines
- Wrapping machines
- Pallet load securing machines
- Group and secondary packaging machines

The following published standards have been produced with the help of PPMA members and advisors:

BS EN 415-1	Safety of packaging machinery – terminology.
BS EN 415-2	Safety of packaging machinery – pre-formed rigid container packaging machinery.
BS EN 415-3	Safety of packaging machinery – form, fill and seal machines.
BS EN 415-4	Safety of packaging machinery – palletisers and depalletisers.
BS EN 453	Dough Mixers.
BS EN 454	Planetary Mixers.
BS EN 1673	Rotary Rack Ovens.
BS EN 1674	Dough and Pastry Brakes.
BS EN 12041	Moulders.
BS EN 12043	Intermediate Provers.



E-mail technical@ppma.co.uk with your specific enquiries.

Contractors' Passports

Contractors are increasingly required to carry passports when they visit their customers, to demonstrate that they have received appropriate safety training.

The PPMA is working closely with passport scheme organisers to establish a cross industry passport that is accepted by all of the major companies, so that PPMA members do not have to carry several passports to suit different industries and clients.

www.ppma.co.uk

The PPMA website now includes a 'members only' area which PPMA member companies can access with their own individual password.

The members area includes a great deal of technical information, including:

- Latest drafts of standards
- Minutes of relevant technical meetings
- Lists of useful standards
- Information about new legislation with hyperlinks to relevant websites
- Information sheets in PDF format
- Technical publications in PDF format

Statistics

Reliable market information is essential for strategic planning, as well as being a 'health check' on the various component parts of the sector. The PPMA purchases statistics from various sources including Customs and Excise. As well as information gathering, the PPMA provides interpretation and assessment on imports, exports and domestic trade. These documents are available to members in the PPMA's library at New Progress House. In addition the PPMA publishes its own detailed survey on the trade in most of the machinery supplied by PPMA members.

E-mail statistics@ppma.co.uk with your specific enquiries.

Machinery Research

The PPMA takes an active role in helping to set up and manage research programmes which can benefit PPMA members. Typically these research projects will be partly funded by the Government and involve research associations like PIRA and PERA, leading universities like Imperial College and the University of Bath working with a group of PPMA members.

Current research projects:

- The interaction between packaging materials and packaging machinery
- Food processing machinery research
- Use of virtual reality for on-machine instruction manuals
- Planned maintenance

E-mail technical@ppma.co.uk with your specific enquiries.

Technical advisors

The PPMA calls upon the services of several experts for advice on technical issues in particular:

- **Ian Frame** Machinery selection and statistics
- **Ron Fuller** Food machinery safety
- **Martin Keay** Machinery safety, standards and legislation
- **David Marks** Legal metrology

The work of the technical advisors is co-ordinated by Emma Corney at the PPMA through who initial contact can be made.

E-mail technical@ppma.co.uk with your specific enquiries.

Employment Legislation

When you have got a tricky employment issue and you need quick access to expert advice, then another service that the PPMA provides for its members is telephone advice on Employment Law, Tax, VAT, Payroll, and Commercial Legal issues, such as disciplinary procedures and the implications of the working time regulations.

This advice is provided by IRPC. You need to quote your special account number to get access to this service.

PUWER

The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations known as PUWER regulate the selection, purchase and maintenance of machinery and so are of particular importance to PPMA members.

PPMA advisors are currently working with the HSE to produce a guidance document to help machinery suppliers and users to understand when PUWER applies and when the Machinery Directive applies.

E-mail technical@ppma.co.uk for more information.

New Legislation

The PPMA monitors the progress of new legislation that is relevant to PPMA members. This activity enables us to identify if it will affect members, collect members views on the proposals, try and get legislation changed if necessary and finally to help members understand the new legislation.

The PPMA is currently monitoring and engaging in the progress of the following legislation:

- Climate change levy
- Machinery Directive 3rd Amendment
- Measuring Instruments Directive

E-mail technical@ppma.co.uk with your specific enquiries.



Technical support for PPMA Members



Technical Update

Technical Update is a newsletter sent exclusively to PPMA members that deals with current technical, legal and safety issues. Typically it is published every 3 months or when relevant issues arise.

Back copies are available on the PPMA website www.ppma.co.uk

PPMA Food Group

The PPMA has recently set up a special interest group for members supplying equipment to the food industry.

This group meets four times a year to hear and discuss presentations on technical, legal and commercial developments in the sector.

E-mail technical@ppma.co.uk for more information.

Training and Education

Recruiting high calibre engineers is a problem for the whole of the UK engineering sector, but particularly difficult for manufacturers and suppliers of processing and packaging equipment.

To try and address this problem, the PPMA has helped to set up and now sponsors a course in packaging machinery at the University of Bath, one of the best departments of mechanical engineering in the country. It is hoped that PPMA members will offer placements to students on this course.

E-mail technical@ppma.co.uk for more information.

Seminars

It is increasingly important for companies to keep up to date with the latest legislation, standards and technology shifts. The PPMA organises a series of seminars and training courses, which provide the latest information on current areas of development, interest or concern.

Some of these training courses are reserved specifically for PPMA members who, in addition benefit from reduced rates for seminars open to the general industry.

E-mail technical@ppma.co.uk with your specific enquiries.

Consultancy

While the PPMA can offer a wide range of expert advice to its members this will usually take the form of telephone or e-mail advice. If you require more detailed assistance, the PPMA is happy to recommend specialist consultants some of whom have special rates for PPMA members.

E-mail technical@ppma.co.uk for more information.

Technical publications

When issues arise, the PPMA publishes technical publications, aimed specifically at providing essential information to members.

Current titles include:

- *European Machinery Legislation in 2000*
- *PPMA EMC Code of Practice*
- *PPMA Year 2000 Advice to members and customers*
- *Minimising dust in bakeries*
- *Health and safety in liquid food plant*

The European Machinery Legislation booklet is regarded as essential reading for those involved in the supply or use of processing and packaging equipment as it is a short and concise guide to current legislation.

More details of these publications, some of which are available in PDF format can be found on the Association's website www.ppma.co.uk

The PPMA Library

A dedicated reference library exists at New Progress House containing details of legislation, training courses, directories, exhibition catalogues, seminar notes and video training library.



New Progress House
34 Stafford Road, Wallington
Surrey, SM6 9AA, UK
tel: +44 (0)20 8773 8111
fax: +44 (0)20 8773 0022
e.mail: technical@ppma.co.uk
website: www.ppma.co.uk