
Blow Molding Handbook

2nd revised Edition

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HANSER

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to reveal the surfaces of the mold cavity in which they are prepared.

Choice of LHM products, to a greater extent than for other materials, can be difficult and always exist to optimize the use of LHM as new and useful materials are being developed continually and providing future trends in the plastics industry. Selecting the right plastic involves tasks such as setting up performance requirements, choosing and adapting the process to be used, and understanding the requirements of a specification, purchase document and work order. Given the wide variety of properties of the different plastics, some types meet high performance requirements, such as long time creep resistance, fatigue endurance, high α and β relaxation, the use of some other plastics is volume and cost driven.

Plastic components are eroding the market for traditional materials, particularly in packaging applications. In the last few decades, since the introduction of PET and PC squeeze bottles for washing liquids, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) for milk and fruit squash bottles, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) for beverage bottles, and others, there have been rapid advances, not only in the variety of plastics, but also in the characteristics and range of materials available.

Industry Size

Injection molding is the largest plastic processing technique worldwide for manufacturing plastic products in the plastics industry (Fig. 22.2), accounting for 40–45% of