

## Half Year Results 2016

David Stirling: Group CEO Gary McGrath: Finance Director



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# Six months to 30 June 2016



Summary

# **Highlights**



Operating profit pre-exceptional items increased by 5%

2% increase in **Group Revenue** to £27.07m (2015: £26.49m)

before tax1 in

line with prior

vear



#### **ZOTEFOAMS**

A world leader in cellular materials technology

Adjusted profit

Interim dividend increased by 3% to 1.85 pence

Group focus on development and investment

Positive sales momentum going into second half of 2016

Significant operational improvements in Croydon, UK facility delivering improved service & reduced labour requirements

**ZOTEK® MUCELL®** Page: 4 **AZOTE®** T-FIT®

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Before amortisation of acquired intangible assets and exceptional items

## **Contents**



Zotefoams is a world leader in cellular materials technology. Using a unique manufacturing process with environmentally friendly nitrogen gas expansion, Zotefoams produces lightweight foams in UK and USA for diverse markets worldwide. Zotefoams also owns and licenses patented MuCell® microcellular foams technology from a base in Massachusetts, USA to customers worldwide and sells T-FIT® advanced insulation.

- 1. Group Overview
- 2. Results
- 3. Business Review

Appendices

## **Group Overview - Locations**



**Zotefoams Midwest** Tulsa, OK, USA Foam cutting

**MuCell Extrusion HQ** Woburn, MA, USA **Licences MuCell** technology to end users

**Zotefoams Plc Croydon UK AZOTE® and ZOTEK®** block foam manufacturing site

**Zotefoams Inc AZOTE AZOTE Asia Limited** Walton, KY, USA **Hong Kong AZOTE®** block foam expansion **Kunshan ZOTEK KingLai** Co Ltd. Key **Zotefoams Operations** Limited Sales Office Phuket, Thailand **T-FIT® Global Sales Office** 

**Sales Joint Venture** 

Kunshan, PRC T-FIT® products manufacturing site

Manufacturing Site

**MUCELL®** Page: 6 **ZOTEK®** T-FIT® **AZOTE®** 

# **Group Overview**

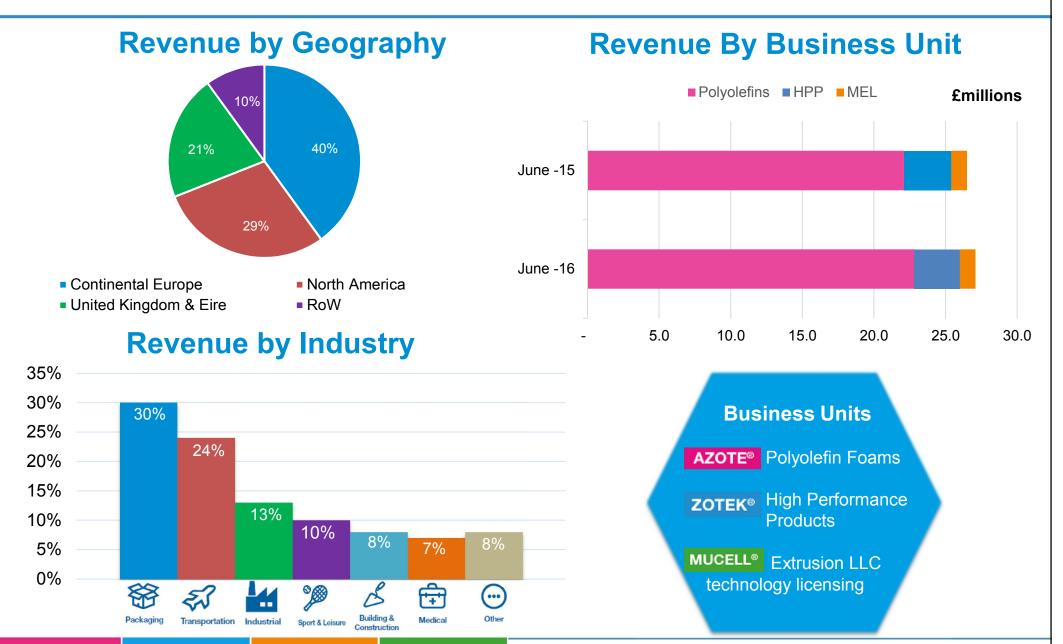
**ZOTEK®** 

T-FIT®

**AZOTE®** 



Page: 7



**MUCELL®** 

# **Zotefoams' Strategy**



Zotefoams' strategy is to expand through a combination of profitable organic growth of our AZOTE® and HPP foams businesses, new customers for our MuCell® extrusion-technology licensing business, and through partnerships or acquisitions in related technologies, products or markets.



#### **Objective:**

Improve our return on capital employed

#### **Outcome:**

An efficiency improvement programme at our Croydon, UK factory has increased effective capacity and will reduce operating costs in the future. Levels of capital employed will increase with the investment in our KY, USA site planned for commissioning in H1:2017

#### **Objective:**

Develop a HPP portfolio and MEL customer base to deliver enhanced margins

#### **Outcome:**

Sales strongly second-half weighted, gross margins held back by our investment for longer-term growth



# GROUP MARGIN

#### **Objective:**

Improve our operating margin

#### **Outcome:**

Operating margin, excluding exceptional items, increased to 12.3% (2015: 12.0%)

#### **Objective:**

Sales growth in our polyolefin business to exceed twice the average rate of global GDP growth

#### **Outcome:**

Underlying growth, excluding customer destocking, estimated at 4%



## **Contents**



- 1. Group Overview
- 2. Results
- 3. Business Review

**Appendices** 

## **Income Statement**



£ million	June-16	June-15	% Change		
Group Revenue	27.07	26.49	2%		
Gross Profit	8.14	7.94	2%		
Distribution and admin expenses <sup>1</sup>	(5.31)	(4.33)	(23%)		
FX translation gains/(losses)	0.51	(0.44)			
Operating Profit before exceptional item	3.33	3.17	5%		
Net Interest/Joint Venture Loss	(0.31)	(0.16)			
PBT before exceptional item	3.03	3.01	0%		
PBT after exceptional item	2.77	3.01	(8%)		
Tax	(0.52)	(0.62)	15%		
Profit after tax	2.24	2.40	(6%)		
Earnings per share (p)	5.18	5.50	(6%)		
Adjusted profit before tax <sup>2</sup>	3.21	3.19	1%		

- Gross margin of 30.1% in line with prior year (2015: 30.0%)
- Exceptional item relates to restructuring costs at the Croydon plant
- Effective tax rate of 19% (2015: 20.5%), both in line with statutory rates

#### Notes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excludes FX translation gains/losses and exceptional item <sup>2</sup> Excludes amortisation costs of acquired intangible assets and exceptional item

# Polymer (LDPE) Prices





P&L impact up 15% Y-on-Y at the half year

## **Free Cash Flow**



£ million	June-16	June-15	
Operating profit (pre exceptional item)	3.33	3.17	
Depreciation, impairment & amortisation	1.78	1.73	
Working capital	0.34	0.28	
Pension contributions	(0.33)	(0.33)	
Other	(0.18)	0.14	
Cash generated from operations	4.93	4.99	
Tax & interest paid	(0.82)	(0.41)	
Net capital expenditure	(8.00)	(3.37)	
Free cash (out)/inflow	(3.89)	1.22	

- Continued strong cash generation from operations
- High capital expenditure focused on capacity increase and new business opportunities

## **Cash Flow and Net Debt**



£ million	June-16	June-15	
Free cash (out)/inflow	(3.89)	1.22	
Repayment of borrowings	(0.46)	(0.38)	
Dividends	(1.66)	(1.62)	
Other	0.29	(0.14)	
Net cash used	(5.59)	(0.92)	
Net cash at 1st January	5.27	4.63	
Net (debt)/cash at 30 <sup>th</sup> June	(0.32)	3.71	

£ million	June-16	June-15
Net (debt)/cash	(0.32)	3.71
Borrowings	(6.91)	(1.85)
Net (debt)/cash	(7.23)	1.86

• Net debt increase in line with expectations, US expansion planned to be completed H1 2017

## **Balance Sheet**



£ million	June-16	June-15		
Investments in joint venture	0.16	0.34		
Intangible assets	7.22	6.79		
Tangible assets	41.98	29.78		
Net working capital	16.91	16.50		
Retirement benefit obligations	(7.62)	(5.91)		
Deferred tax, net	0.17	(0.40)		
Tax payable	(0.44)	(0.49)		
Net (debt)/cash	(7.23)	1.86		
Total shareholders' equity	51.15	48.47		

- Pension liability increased by £2.4m, following actuarial guidance to reflect current market conditions
- Return on capital employed, including Kentucky investment, 13.9% (2015: 14.9%)

## **Contents**



- 1. Group Overview
- 2. Results
- 3. Business Review

Appendices

# **AZOTE®**



# **AZOTE® Polyolefin Foams**



High quality foams from a variety base polymers all manufactured using the same nitrogen expansion process

AZOTE® foams have better mechanical properties than similar foams made by other foaming methods.

AZOTE® Polyolefin foams are consistent, lightweight & pure

Investment in process equipment, technology, marketing & R&D gives us product and market advantages



Our growth comes from market extension in more mature markets and penetration elsewhere

#### Structure:

Zotefoams has largest market share in UK, EU and North American markets

Value to customer: consistency in manufacturing with performance in end use

Process: core
high-pressure
nitrogen gas
autoclave technology
in UK & foam
expansion in UK
& USA

# **AZOTE® Polyolefin Foams**



High quality foams from a variety of base polymers all manufactured using the same nitrogen expansion process

Sales growth of AZOTE® foams to exceed twice the average rate of global GDP growth

Full manufacturing

presence in KY, USA. Operational

from H1:2017 to

increase global

capacity

Planned "final stage" manufacturing JV in Asia



**Strategy** 

Increased participation (with sales through channel partners) in end-use markets

Product line
extension in specific
sub-segments, where
Zotefoams has a
lower market share

Higher growth markets include

- Construction
- Transport
- Sports & leisure

Technical development of product and process combined with efficiency focus

# **AZOTE® Polyolefin Foams:**Results



#### Revenue

- Underlying volume estimated +4% offset by customer destocking
- Strong performance in UK +9%
- Continental EU volumes -5%
- Asia volumes -25%
- North America +9% volume with added benefit of Zotefoams Midwest
- Positive currency impact

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- Euro-denominated LDPE +12%
- Force majeure impact estimated £0.4m
- Operational efficiency improving service levels and cost base

Polyolefin Foams	June-16 £m		
Group Revenue	22.79	22.09	3%
Segment profit pre amortisation	3.83	4.10	(7%)
Segment profit post amortisation	3.81	4.08	(7%)
Segment profit margin	17%	18%	

# **HPP**



## **HPP: ZOTEK® and T-FIT®**



### High performance foams manufactured from advanced materials

**ZOTEK**® HPP foams are manufactured from raw materials offering enhanced properties

With additional

value added &

existing installed

offer potential for

higher margins

capacity these foams

Properties: fire retardant or having stability at high temperature



**ZOTEK**® portfolio of products at different stages of development and market penetration

T-FIT® advanced insulation manufactured from ZOTEK polymers

Value to
customer:
superior technical
performance, often
replacing "multimaterial"
composite
systems

**Process:** core highpressure nitrogen gas autoclave technology in UK

## **HPP: ZOTEK® & T-FIT®**



### High performance foams manufactured from advanced materials

ZOTEK® PEBA energy management foams primarily for sports ZOTEK® F
fluoroploymer
foams for aviation
remains the largest
market

**ZOTEK® N** nylon foams, market focus in construction, S&L, composites and automotive



T-FIT®
Rebranded (was
T-Tubes®) with
resource focused on
Asia & India.
Product-line
extension into
industrial areas

Increase
Penetration of
existing market
such as aviation &
clean-room
insulation

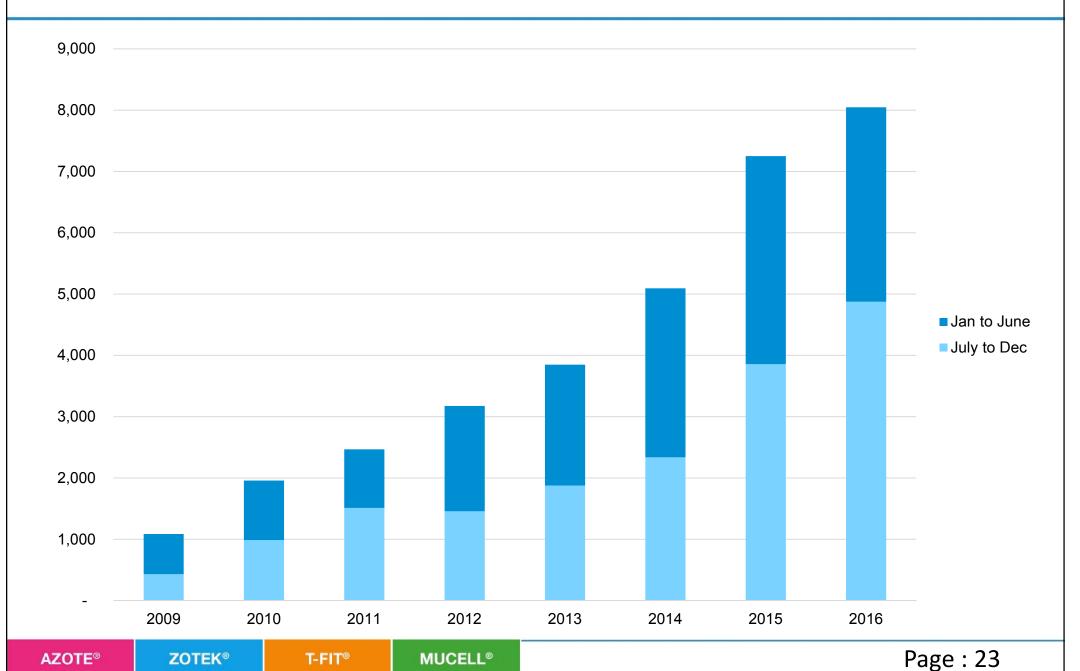
Value Chain:

KZKL (China JV)
investment to
manufacture T-FIT®
product range

New Opportunities responding to market pull

# HPP Results: Sales History 12 months ended 30 June





## **HPP Results**



#### Revenue

- H1:2016 sales impacted due to timing
- 12 months to 30 June 2016 2016 £8,046k (2015: £7,251k), 11% growth
- Strong second half with full year 2016 "orders + invoiced to date" for ZOTEK® technical foams ahead of 2015
- Very encouraging initial orders from sports & leisure

НРР	June-16 £m	June-15 £m	% Change
Group Revenue	3.17	3.39	(7%)
Segment profit pre- amortisation	0.30	0.67	(55%)
Segment profit post amortisation	0.30	0.67	(55%)
Segment profit margin	9%	20%	

#### Costs

- Fixed costs increased to support sales opportunity
- Cost increases in T-FIT® insulation due to delayed start-up in China and extension of product range

### Margin

- HPP is a portfolio of products, some of which are below break-even revenue
- Cost growth ahead of anticipated revenue growth later in the year

# MUCELL®



## **MuCell Extrusion Business Model**



**MUCELL®** technology is a remarkable patented process that creates "micro-bubbles" in the core of plastic parts or products

MEL licenses technology for continuous foaming

Intellectual

developed internally

and licensed-in

where appropriate

property:

Portfolio of patents and know how



Market size: very large

Process: easy to retrofit to existing equipment. Uses  $CO_2$  or nitrogen. Both are inert, environmentally friendly gases

Value to licensee: saving of material cost & environmental benefits (less plastic, fully recyclable, no chemical additives) Payment model: MEL takes a share of savings over the life of the contract

## **MuCell Extrusion**



**MUCELL®** technology is a remarkable patented process that creates "micro-bubbles" in the core of plastic parts or products

Focus of activities towards a limited number of segments with high potential, mainly in consumer packaging



Machinery sales are enabling technology

Consumer packaging:

- 1. thin film
- 2. plastic sheet
- 3. bottles

**Strategy** 

Continued investment in Intellectual Property in both product and process

Leverage: addressing markets through channel partners where possible

# MuCell Extrusion: Results



#### Revenue

- Further 11 lines installed at licensees bringing total installed base to 99
- Co-operation with The Dow Chemical Company related to 2016 Rio Olympic Games
- Strong order book for H2:2016 buoyed by largest ever single order in excess of £1m for Japanese customer

MEL	June-16 £m	June-15 £m	% Change
Group Revenue	1.11	1.01	10%
Segment loss pre amortisation	(0.24)	(0.22)	(9%)
Amortisation	(0.16)	(0.15)	(6%)
Segment loss post amortisation	(0.40)	(0.37)	(8%)

#### Costs

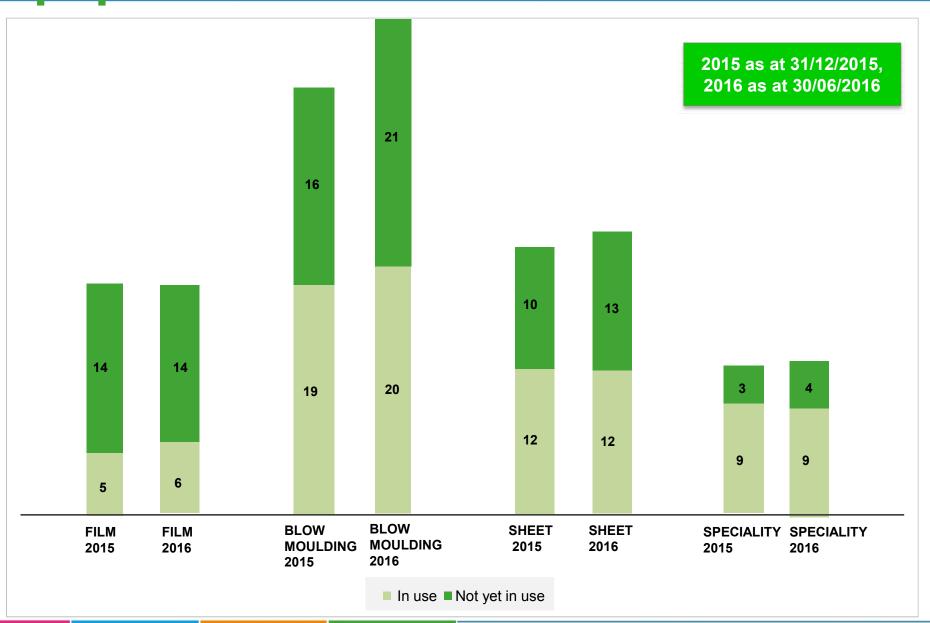
- Investment maintained to support growth
- Development of technology continues to be a priority

#### **Growth Potential is a function of**

- Number of lines
- Category
- Timing
- Utilisation factor

# MuCell Extrusion: Equipment Base





AZOTE® ZOTEK®

T-FIT®

MUCELL®

Page : 29

Business Review : Other



# **Group Investment**

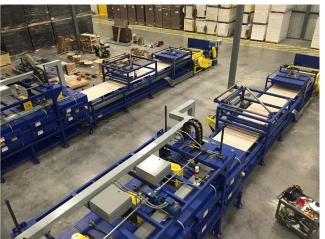


Autoclave technology used for both AZOTE® and ZOTEK® foams. Investment in Kentucky & Croydon capacity based on demand expectations.



Kentucky, USA investment in capacity scheduled for commissioning H1:2017





New sites in Oklahoma, USA operational. Kunshan, PRC expected to be operational from Q3:2016

Committed further specific investment in Croydon, UK, low-pressure autoclaves linked to expected growth in ZOTEK® foams

# **NEW - 3D Foaming**



#### FLEXIBLE AND EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGY FOR HIGH-VOLUME 3D SHAPES

## **UNIQUE TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENT**

- 3D foaming of the initial non-foamed shape allows efficient utilisation of raw materials and reduction (or elimination) of processing after the foaming step.
- Particularly suited to higher-cost polymers with complex 3D foam shapes where material yield loss is high value on conversion from cuboid sheet.
- Currently under development with pull-through from specific market opportunities.



# Kentucky, USA Investment



### GLOBAL CAPACITY EXPANSION ON EXISTING FREEHOLD SITE

### FURTHER INVESTMENT & REAFFIRMATION OF PLANNED START-UP

Project scale extension by adding a second high-pressure autoclave

- Underpins investment in KY site
- Ability to deliver additional core gassing capacity at relatively short notice
- On-site in KY mid-year 2017 but no plans to commission at this stage

#### Increased Investment

- Capital Investment in this project now expected to be c\$30m
- Increased expenditure mainly due to second autoclave but with some impact due to delayed start-up

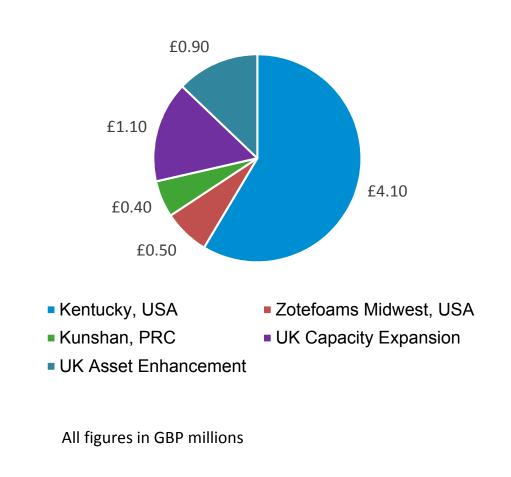
# **Capex Investment**



An international business delivering significant growth through organic expansion and leverage of our unique technologies

#### **INVESTMENT TO SUPPORT GROWTH**

- Investment over 4 sites globally
- Kentucky, USA main focus
- Two business start ups
- UK balance of capacity increase and asset enhancement (capability, safety, replacement, environment)



# **Current Trading and Prospects**



In our AZOTE® Polyolefin foams business, where customers are predominantly based in the UK and continental Europe, the softening of orders experienced in June 2016 has continued into July 2016, whereas demand for August 2016 looks strong by comparison to previous years. The recent devaluation of Sterling against both the USD and Euro is positive for the business, as approximately 80% of our revenues are denominated in these currencies, however most raw materials are bought in Euros and our US operational costs are in USD, therefore giving a partial natural hedge. The trading impact of Sterling devaluation will benefit us a little for the remainder of this year, with a more significant positive impact during 2017 when our financial hedges at higher rates have expired. We expect the costs of LDPE for the remainder of the year to be at a similar level to the first six months. In our HPP business, orders plus invoiced sales for **ZOTEK®** technical foams currently exceed 2015 sales. In T-Fit® insulation products, where the order book is typically shorter, we anticipate growth in the second half of the year from a strong pipeline of bids. In MEL we have a record order book by value and a significant number of quotations out to potential customers, but the number of machines currently on order is below the record levels seen at this time last year.

## **Outlook**



We enter the second half of the year with a good order book, a strong product portfolio, growth expectations in all business units and the benefits of the weaker Sterling. Whilst recognising the significant uncertainty resulting from the macro-economic backdrop, the Board remains confident in the prospects for the business.

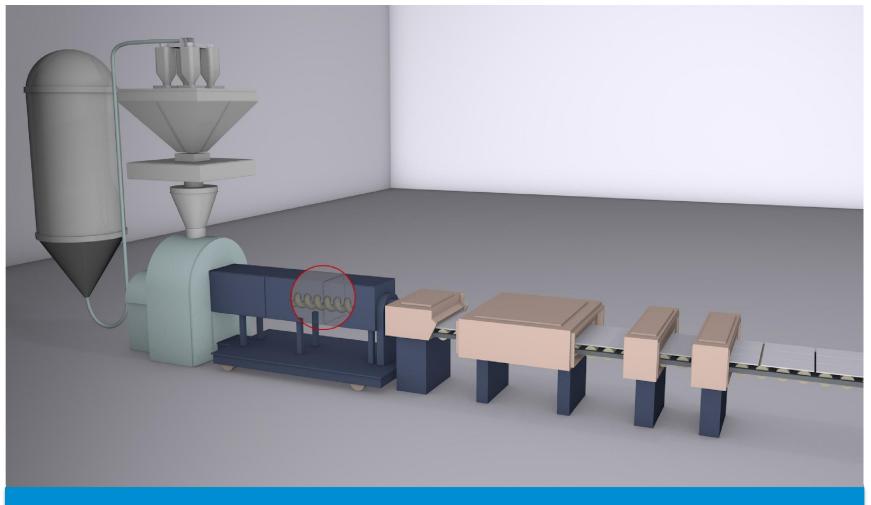
# Appendices (\*)



## **Zotefoams Process**



Stage 1: High quality extrusion and cross-linking of solid polymeric sheet

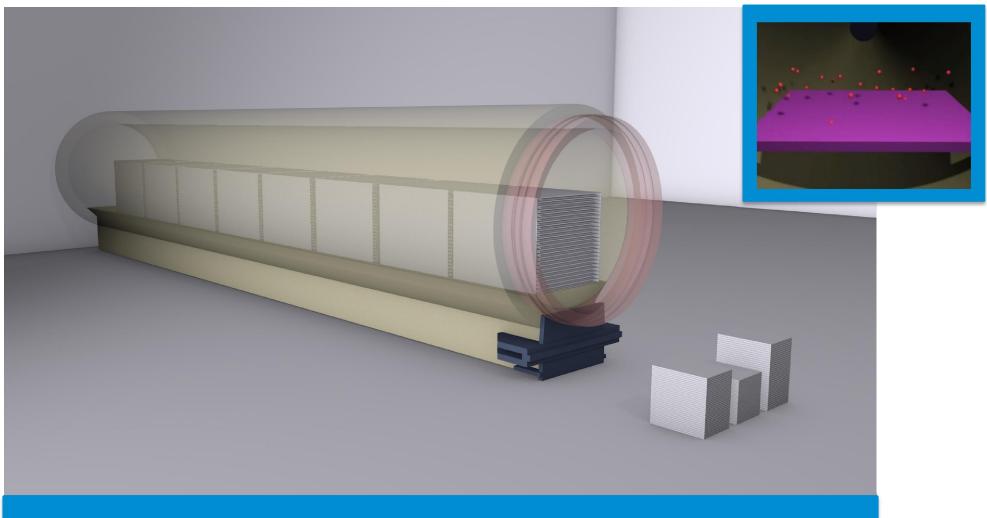


Base resin and additive ingredients are fed into an extruder. This produces a wide, continuous sheet of crosslinked plastic, from which precise size slabs are cut.

## **Zotefoams Process**



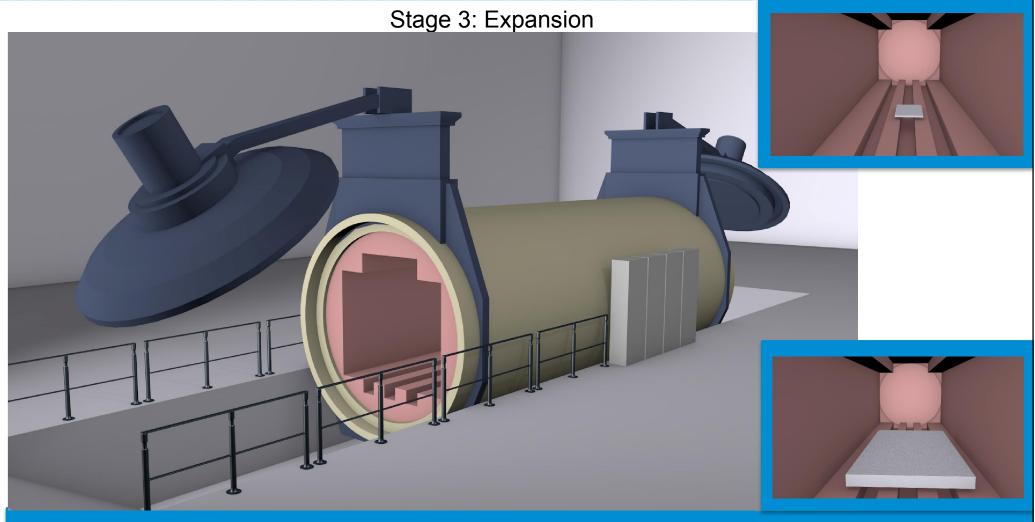
Stage 2: Impregnation and saturation



The extruded slabs are loaded into a high pressure autoclave. The plastic is heated above its softening temperature and subjected to a high pressure dose of pure nitrogen.

## **Zotefoams Process**

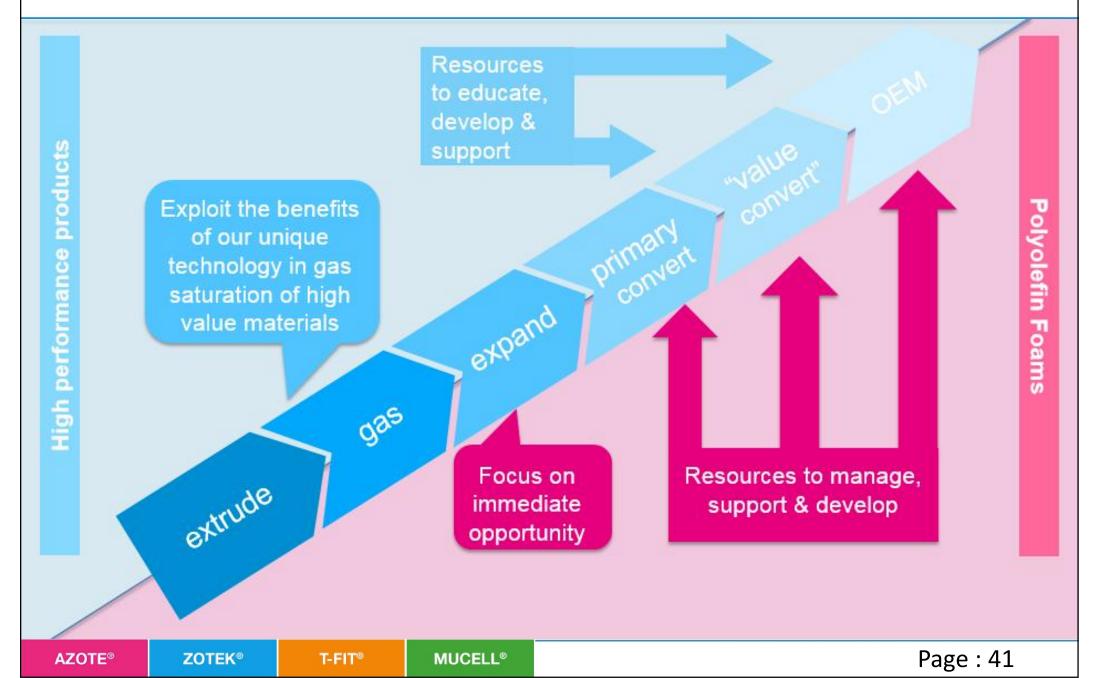




The nitrogen charged slabs are loaded into a low pressure autoclave. The material is again heated above its softening temperature under a moderate air pressure; then the pressure is removed. Without the pressure, the nitrogen expands, physically foaming the soft plastic in a uniformed fashion.

# Value Chain / Strategy





# **Financial History**



£million	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Group Revenue	53.9	48.9	44.6	47.2	44.2	39.9	31.8	34.8	31.6	30.1
Revenue Growth	10%	10%	(6%)	7%	11%	25%	(9%)	10%	5%	7%
PBT (excl exceptionals) Exceptionals PBT (incl exceptionals)	6.0	5.3	3.9	5.8	5.5	4.7	3.2	3.9	3.4	2.7
	-	(1.3)	-	-	-	0.6	(0.5)	-	-	(1.1)
	6.0	4.0	3.9	5.8	5.5	5.3	2.7	3.9	3.4	1.6
Cash generated from operations Capex (incl intangibles)	8.4	6.0	6.6	6.3	6.1	7.2	7.0	5.8	4.8	4.7
	9.1	7.6	4.2	3.7	3.1	2.7	3.4	1.4	2.7	2.6
Net (funds)/debt Gearing	1.6 3%	(2.4)	1.1 3%	0.6 3%	(1.9) -	(1.9)	0.4 2%	1.2 4%	1.7 6%	1.4 6%
Basic eps (excl exceptionals) Dividends (incl proposed)	11.1p	10.7p	8.0p	11.8p	11.8p	10.2p	6.8p	8.3p	8.0p	5.4p
	5.60p	5.45p	5.30p	5.20p	4.90p	4.65p	4.50p	4.50p	4.50p	4.50p

## **Market Information**



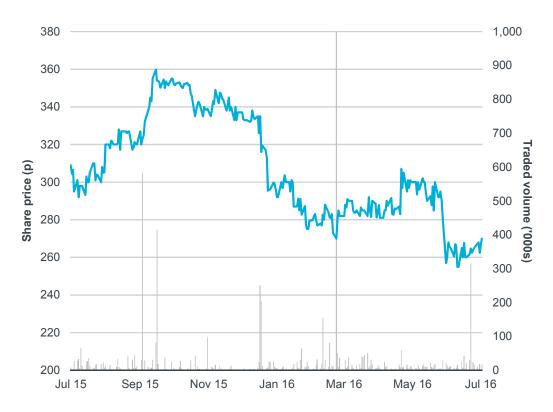
Share price 265.0p (29/07/16)

Market Main Market

Ticker ZTF.L

Market cap. £117.7m

Ord. shares in issue 44,414,440



#### \* Source: Investec Investor Relations (30/06/16)

## **Shareholder Profile\***

