



## Key Process Innovations Announces Issuance of US Patent

Key Process Innovations announced the issuance of US Patent No. 9,535,051 which covers kpi-dry™, a method for measuring and recording real time environmental conditions at target shell locations during the shell building process.

This technology was developed by Julie Markee as a tool for investment casting foundries to reduce variability in their shell room. Prior to its inception, there was no way to know if drying was causing variability in shell building process. With the introduction of kpi-dry™, shell room personnel now have the ability to monitor shell dryness in those hard to dry areas of the mold and make adjustments in real time to optimize shell drying.

Dale Wurster, Vice President of Sure Cast stated, "In this industry, everyone questions what is dry and that is because there was no real way to measure dryness especially on the inside of the mold. Other methods indirectly measure dryness, this device measures it directly."

This means no more guessing as to whether the mold is dry – just monitor temperature and relative humidity and apply the next coat when it reaches

the targeted setpoint. It can also help establish the optimal shell building sequence for those hard to dry parts and store the data for future reference. This will reduce scrap and process development time and ultimately allow foundries to make more money.

Shannon Patrick, Plant Manager and Co-Owner of Wisconsin Precision Castings shared, "kpi-dry™ was able to help us truly see what was happening during the drying process which is something that you can't normally see. Using this tool highlighted variations in our drying process which we are in the process of correcting. This is a tool that we will continue to use in the future. "

Julie Markee has over 24 years of manufacturing experience and has worked in the investment casting industry for the past 13 years. She has built an excellent reputation for identifying and resolving complex technical problems while enhancing organizational performance. She is currently serving as member of the Investment Casting Institute's Board of Directors. To learn more about kpi-dry™, contact Key Process Innovations at (360) 975-8110 or [julie@keyprocessinnovations.com](mailto:julie@keyprocessinnovations.com) or visit [www.keyprocessinnovations.com](http://www.keyprocessinnovations.com).



## Blayson Strengthens Their Team

Blayson Olefines Ltd is delighted to announce that they have strengthened their team with the recruitment of Kevin Heard as Technical Representative.

Kevin joined Blayson from Doncasters Chard where he spent 20 years working in various departments including radiography and most recently in the wax room as a wax process engineer.

Kevin will be a key member of the interface team between Blayson and customers, arranging wax trials, troubleshooting and introducing new materials to the market place.