25 years Inspired by Innovation and Excellence



Polymer Char was founded in 1992 by Dr. Benjamín Monrabal with the vision to develop the CRYSTAF technique into a commercial and fully-automated instrument. Dr. Monrabal came from a 22-year career at The Dow Chemical Company, where he had been appointed Associate Scientist for his technical contributions made to the polyolefin research community, among the most significant ones was the invention and patent of CRYSTAF.

After the first commercial unit was sold to a chemical company, it soon gained acceptance among the market, and other techniques that provide important and unique information on the microstructural characterization of polyolefins followed as a result of a large investment in R&D. The invention of the groundbreaking and later patented technique, CEF, and a highly-innovative approach to high-temperature GPC are among the Company's most significant accomplishments. Fast forward 25 years and Polymer Char has developed a total of 13 instruments engineered to provide a holistic picture of polyolefins while minimizing the manual work and time of analysis through automation.

Along with the development of the instruments, a Consulting and Analytical Services Unit evolved as well. Today, in addition to expert consulting, Polymer Char's laboratory offers every technique available as an instrument in the form of Analytical Services. The company has a worldwide presence with instruments installed in more than 25 countries across North and South America, Europe, Middle East, Asia, and India. Analytical Services are also provided to over 35 countries serving a broad and diversified customer base of polymer producers and processors, government laboratories, contract research institutes, analytical and testing laboratories, academia, and tyre and rubber manufacturers.

With an already solid portfolio of technologies and services, the company is now building the ultimate platform of solutions with the introduction of a line of accessories carefully designed to facilitate the routine work in a polyolefin characterization laboratory. These, just like every other instrument developed, are the result of many years of experience and most importantly, from listening to our customers. Polymer Char prides itself in identifying unfulfilled needs in the market and delivering innovative pieces of equipment to solve them.

These first 25 years have brought many accomplishments, all driven by a spirit of continuous improvement and customerorientation, which will continue being reinforced in the future as new technologies are pursuit.



Our History: The First 25 Years

Establishment of Polymer Char by Dr. Benjamín Monrabal

1992



1993

The first CRYSTAF 100 unit is acquired by a chemical company in South Korea





Dow Chemical patents CRYSTAF and licensees Dr. Monrabal as the inventor Development of an IR Detection technology in collaboration with a Research Institute



Development of CEF, a new technique for chemical composition distribution

The International Conference on Polyolefin Characterization (ICPC) is founded

2005



2006





Development of a new and more sensitive Infrared Detector, IR5 MCT Development of an automated CFC in collaboration with Mitsubishi Chemical

Launch of PREP C20, a column-based system for large-scale fractionation

A new line of instruments for QC is launched with the introduction of CRYSTEX QC











2013

Expansion of the QC line with three new instruments: IVA, CRYSTEX 42 and GPC-QC

Polymer Char



1996

Development of the TREF system, and PREP mc2 in collaboration with BASF

Launch of the stand-alone infrared detector IR4

Development of CRYSTEX in collaboration with Solvay Polyolefins in Belgium

1999





2000

The Analytical Services Unit is consolidated with a wider range of techniques

Launch of GPC-IR, the most comprehensive GPC system for polyolefins

2007



2009

Launch of the GPC One Software and the interface Data Unit 200

Launch of EFS for a safer,

faster, and cleaner filtration



GPC-IR is recognized by C&EN Mag. as the 5th most notable Instrument in its category





Launch of LabAID, a line of products designed to facilitate daily lab operations

Lab

by Polymer Char

of polymer samples 2015





LabAID

2016

Launch of SHT, to improve

health and safety levels

when handling solvents

Polymer Char celebrates its 25 Year Anniversary

2017



The International Conference on Polyolefin Characterization (ICPC)

The International Conference on Polyolefin Characterization (ICPC) was created in 2006 to fulfill the need of an international platform specifically focused on Polyolefin Characterization, since most of the existing Polyolefin conferences deal with catalyst and reaction engineering.

Organized by Polymer Char, the Conference covers different topics for the characterization of polyolefin microstructure, suitable for both new and experienced researchers working in the industry and academia. The ICPC is organized every two years in three different locations: Texas, USA (2006, 2012), Valencia, Spain (2008, 2014), and Shanghai, China (2010, 2016).

The ICPC scientific committee is comprised of: Dr. Benjamin Monrabal (Polymer Char, Spain), Dr. Colin Li Pi Shan (The Dow Chemical Company, USA), Prof. João Soares (University of Alberta, Canada), Prof. Minoru Terano (Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Japan), and Prof. Dujin Wang (Institute of Chemistry of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, China).

The 7th edition of ICPC will take place in Houston, TX, USA in 2018.



6th ICPC, Shanghai, China, 2016



ICPC venues (held every two years at each location):