

CV

Erkki Laiho

Erkki Laiho graduated from the Polytechnic of Pori in the chemical engineering department 1968.

After his military service he was hired as **production engineer** for Pekema Oy, who was starting the first polyethylene plant in Finland. Pekema's young engineers received their plastic and process education in the USA and in Belgium at the license giver's plants 1970-71.

Laiho had responsibility for the training of production supervisors and he belonged to the start-up team of the LDPE-plant in Porvoo, 1972.

Laiho moved to the Extrusion Coating group in Pekema's technical Centre department 1974 starting as a **technical service engineer**. In the TS-hall at that time the start-up of the new very versatile coating pilot line took place and Laiho got some useful "hands on" education.

When Pekema Oy was merged with Neste Oy a very strong expansion period started.

Also Erkki Laiho's job and functions expanded as well as customer contacts. Titles and responsibilities from **TS.manager** –via **Application Manger**-to **Market Development Manger** changed, too.

When the fusion of Statoil's and Neste's polyolefin business Borealis occurred 1994 Laiho continued in Porvoo and in his latter carrier he was responsible for technical service and market development in the whole Borealis group. Although in some time of Laiho's carrier he acted as **Group leader** for all extrusion application, his work and hobby has always been extrusion coating.

Laiho retired from Borealis at the beginning of 2009, but he continued his work life in Baritec Oy as Technical Service and Market Development Manager. At this time specialties like barrier polymers and adhesive plastics entered in his product portfolio and also other coatings, lamination glues, and bio plastics, which are used in paper/board converting and in the packaging area were Laiho's responsibility. However the customers and contacts were the same as in Borealis times.

He retired "finally" in October 2012 and established EhoPlace Oy.

Erkki Laiho has many patents, has written numerous articles and has been co-author in many books handling packaging and plastics. He is also a well-known lecturer in seminars and conferences in this area.

He has been very active in the European TAPPI PLACE Committee being the Committee Chairman for five years (2002 – 2007). Laiho has also been board member in the Finnish Packaging Association and in Association of Packaging Technology and Research (PTR).