

HISTORY

Plastic Produkter

A small History over Plastic Produkter AB

Est. 1919

Plastic Produkter is one of Sweden's oldest plastic companies, founded by Sven Tobiasson. It was established in Estonia in the 1910s and, due to the owners' flight, relocated to Sweden in 1945, shortly after the end of World War II. Since then, the company has been involved in numerous advanced projects.

In the 1950s, Plastic Produkter produced plexiglass windows for the cockpit of the Swedish Saab-produced fighter aircraft, the "Flygande Tunnan" (J29).



Figure 1 "Flygande Tunnan" in 1950s.

Ten years later, in the 1960s, Plastic Produkter developed and delivered operating incubators for the heart transplants performed by the world-famous physician, Dr. Christian Barnard.



Figure 2 The heart transplants operation i 1960s.



Figure 3 Dr. Christian Barnard

During the 1960s, Sven Tobiasson collaborated extensively, with the Swedish King, Gustaf VI Adolf, on the protection of antiques in the public areas of the royal palaces.

The National Heritage Board (Riksantikvarieämbetet) became a customer of Plastic Produkter, leading to the use of plastic to protect Stockholm Palace in the city and Drottningholm Palace, the current residence of the ruling King, Carl XVI Gustaf.



Figure 4 The Swedish King, Gustaf XVI Adolf and the founder of Plastic Produkter AB, Sven Tobiasson.

In the 1960s, Plastic Produkter also developed and manufactured complete production lines for etching circuit boards, entirely in PVC plastic.

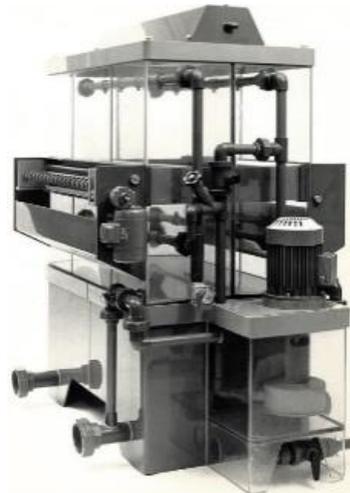


Figure 5 The production lines for etching circuit boards in PVC (1960s).

The renowned photographer, Lennart Nilsson, engaged Plastic Produkter in the development and manufacture of his first light-conducting lens for photography inside the human body.



Figure 6 The famous photographer, Lennart Nilsson.

Incubators for premature infants, were developed by Sven Tobiasson, as were the transparent boxes in which newborns are placed at hospitals.

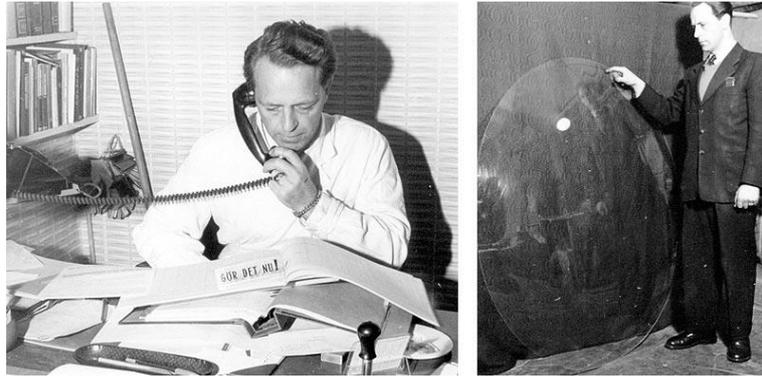


Figure 7 Sven Tobiasson, the founder of Swedish Plastik Produkter AB, in the late 1940s.

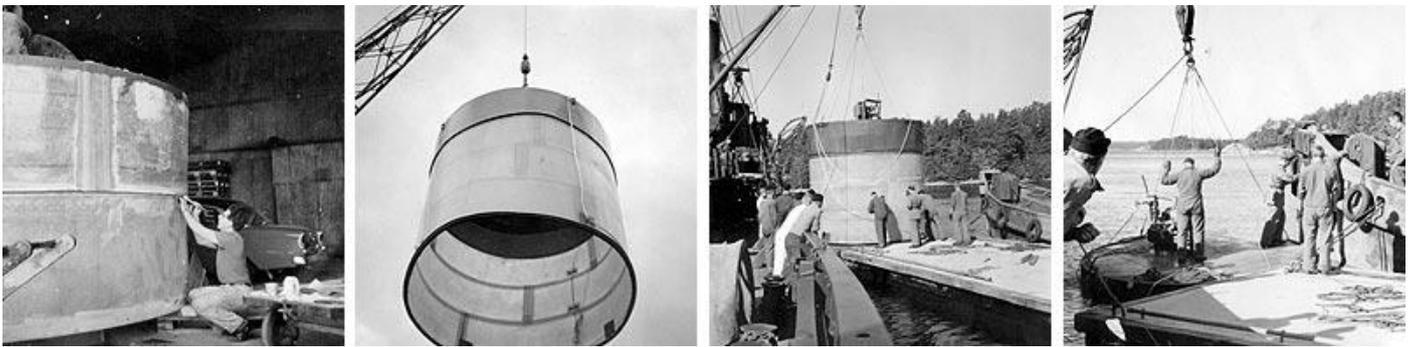


Figure 8 Marine diesel depots, "Float Tank", for the Swedish Defense Forces in 1950s.

In the 1950s, Plastik Produkter also produced interior details for offices, shops, and department stores. Some of these products are still part of the company's product range today and remain highly regarded.



Figure 9 Mailboxes for Sophia Hemmet 1950s.

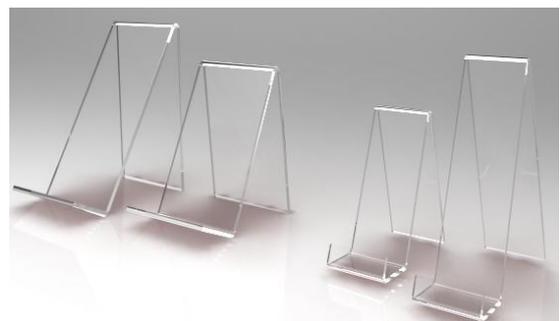


Figure 10 Bookstands in different sizes.

During the 1960s, plastic decorations were created for various television programs, including the iconic "Tiotusenkrönsfrågan" (The Ten Thousand Kronor Question) on Swedish Radio and TV, where contestants sat in isolated plexiglass cages made by Plastic Produkter.



Figure 11 Nisse Strinning, 1917–2006.



Figure 12 End table in plexiglass made by Plastic Produkter in 1960s. The photo taken in an antique shop in Skåne 2007.

Since the 1960s, collaboration with AGA has been a significant part of the company's activities, particularly in the 1970s, when Plastic Produkter manufactured all lantern glasses for offshore lighthouses and lightships. This also led to a natural collaboration with the Swedish Maritime Administration (Sjöfartsverket) for repairs of damaged glass and various development projects.

In the 1970s, Plastic Produkter became involved in design and product development. In the field of dental care, a successful design was created for Jordan Toothbrushes. Interior solutions for banks also became a significant part of Plastic Produkter's operations during the 1970s. Collaborations with SAC" the architects of Sparbankerna" led to solutions for handling cash between cash registers, back offices, and display solutions for forms in bank branch public areas, resulting in a range of "standard details."



Figure 13 Manufacturing in 1986.

In the late 1970s, the famous "Godisstöveln" (Candy Boot) was developed by Sven and Anders Tobiasson, which is still used today to sell loose candy worldwide. Medtech products such as "plastic uterus" for New York Hospital, were developed. Plastic aids for school biology and physics labs were produced in collaboration with Esselte Studium.

At the beginning of the 1980s, Sven Tobiasson passed away, and his son Anders Tobiasson took over the business.

In the early 1980s, the company focused on design, leading to the development of three different product ranges: signage and display products for store interiors, bathroom interior details, and sales systems for loose candy and unpackaged bread. Major customers included Karamell Kungen, KF, and ICA.



Figure 14 Design study for contact lenses' container.



Figure 15 A sales display for breads (1980s).

Products for bathrooms sold well at NK Badrum and Svensk Tenn. In the mid to late 1980s, acrylic glass home furnishings were in high demand. Plastic Produkter manufactured tables, shelves, pedestals, and chairs, primarily exporting these products to Northern Europe.

The company also produced technical products such as gamma-ray conductors for the sawmill industry, used for measuring log density for Ångpanneföreningen (ÅF)/Iggesunds Bruk.

As one of the very first smaller industrial companies in Sweden, Plastic Produkter invested in laser technology in the late 1980s. Customers included Philips and Whirlpool, with a focus on manufacturing panels for microwave ovens.

The early 1990s were marked by development and production for medical technology companies, including Pharmacia, Engström, Siemens, Röntgenteknik, Karolinska Institute, and the Swedish Defense Medical Center. Products included, laboratory aids, compression plates for mammography, X-ray radiation testers, test series for development at the Karolinska Institute, and operating trays for trauma surgery under actual conditions, for the Swedish armed forces.



Figure 16 A tray for instrument handling, in trauma surgery in 1990s.

SL (Stockholm Public Transport) was also a significant customer, for which Plastic Produkter developed and manufactured various protective solutions for antennas on trains and installation systems for leaking coaxial cables in the Stockholm metro system.

Design and construction solutions for the electronics industry, shells for electronic devices, floor cleaning machines, data mice, components for ventilation systems, development and design for the pharmaceutical industry, light fixture glass for elevators, trains, boats, and airplanes, shells for radar antennas for military and civilian vessels, and once again, display solutions for department stores and retail chains, were among the products and services provided.

The 2000s were marked by development and design, including packaging solutions for both large and small companies, including Masterfoods, ABSOLUT, and Vin & Sprit AB.



Figure 17 A candy packaging for Masterfoods (2016).

The company also focused on how to manage empty packaging, developing a system for reducing the waste volume of plastic bottles by 90%. Used throughout Sweden, through collaboration with Reducera AB.



Figure 18 Surgical Instruments.



Figure 19 A fixation device designed for brain surgery and radiation therapy (2017).

The 2010s involved significant development and production of technical components for mobile antennas, solar energy systems (Ångströmlaboratoriet) University of Uppsala, surgical instruments, educational sampling systems for healthcare, and much more.

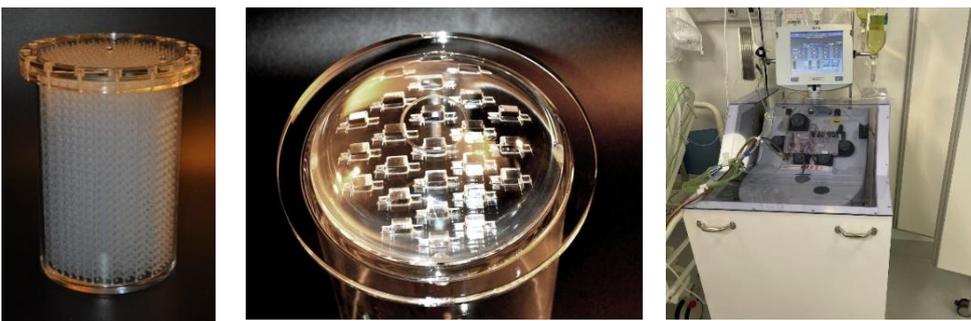


Figure 20 Our Medtech Products in 2020s.

Through the covid-19 Pandemic. Aerosol protection hoods for surgery, cough protection for shops and visors in big quantities. Our “VISOR -21 SYSTEM” is certified for CE2 level.



Figure 21 Our face shield “VISOR 21 SYSTEM”.

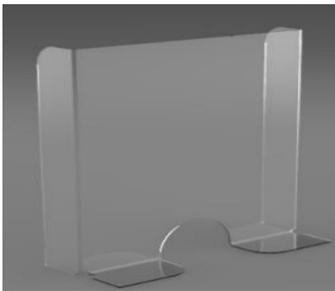


Figure 22 Standard cough protector.



Figure 23 Specially adapted cough protectors for receptions (2021).

Collaboration with artists has been significant over the years. Gert Marcus, a legend and nestor in constructivist art, was happy to work with us since the 1970s. Francoise Ribeyrolles, Pye Engström, Jin Sook So, Kajsa Holmstrand, Einar Höste, Tomas Nordberg, Christo, Cheryl Akner Koler, Johanna Karlsson, Dick Clevestam, Maja Spasova, Mikael Richter, Arman, Palle Torson, Carouscha Streiffert, Anders Krisar, Pål Hollender , Lars Erik Falk, Merylin Girow, Lenke Rothman, Magnus Malmsten, Yinka Shonibare, Anna Sörensson and others, are some of the internationally known artists who have returned over the years.



Figure 24 “Wasa in a Bottle” by an artist, Yinka Shonibare (2012). A 3m-high-bottle with model encasing a model of the Swedish warship Wasa, which sank in 1628.



Figure 25 A collaboration with an artist, Anna Sörensson. Sundbyberg, Stockholm (2020).

Artists, art museums, art galleries and private collectors are also repeated customers of Plastic Produkter AB. It can be anything from manufacturing the entire work of art to framing exclusive works.

Today, the company is run by Marika Bergendahl and Anders Tobiasson.

Through product development, construction, design and manufacturing, we ensure that the customers' ideas become physical products, that they are production-friendly, durable and practical. With our long experience and knowledge in the industry, we usually know what is feasible, already at the idea stage.

Our work continues as usual, to help inventors and company development departments, to find a solution through our experience, in production, development and design. We have been able to help with several product ideas, on the way to commercialization.

<https://www.plasticprodukter.se/>

(Edited: November 18, 2024)

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Allt inom plast och produktktion sedan 1919