



**iapd**

international association  
of plastics distribution

## media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **IAPD Launches Pipe, Valves and Fittings Training Program**

OVERLAND PARK, KS – The International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD) has launched the [Pipe, Valves and Fittings \(PVF\) Certificate Program](#) for plastics distribution industry professionals.

The IAPD Education Committee and Pipe, Valves and Fittings Common Interest Group (PVF CIG) have collaborated to offer plastics distributors a training program focused on the plastic pipe, valves and fittings distribution industry in an effort to help educate and evaluate their industry knowledge. The PVF Certificate Program introduces the basic principles of industrial and commercial piping systems and describes how plastic materials of construction affect the applications and design of such systems. IAPD contracted [Dick Birch](#), the former director of sales and marketing for the Flow Control Division of Hayward Industries, a manufacturer member of IAPD, to create the course materials and 100 multiple-choice question exam with the Education Committee and PVF CIG acting as a review board during the development process.

“The demand for plastic piping systems is continuing to grow year after year,” said Stephanie Neugebauer, IAPD Education Committee Chair. “The biggest obstacle to the successful application of plastic piping systems is education. Whether you are an engineer, contractor, distributor or end user, you have to understand your application and the materials that are best suited to making your project work. In more cases than ever before, the best material for your piping project is plastic! Resin formulations and manufacturing processes are more technically sophisticated now than ever before. Plastic piping systems are the better choice versus metal in many applications. Our members know this and they have been asking for educational content from IAPD for some time now. We are excited to answer their request with the new PVF Certificate Program and hope to see members use it right away. This educational offering will serve to not only improve the individuals selling polymer-based piping systems but it will help to ensure the growth of this market segment through quality distribution.” Other PVF-related educational content from IAPD include [e-training webinars](#) and articles from industry experts such as David Chasis and Dick Birch in [The IAPD Magazine](#).

[Click here](#) to learn more about IAPD’s Pipe, Valves and Fittings (PVF) Certificate Program and enroll today.

## About IAPD

The International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD), established in 1956, brings together distributors, manufacturers, manufacturers' representatives, fabricators, recyclers and service providers in an environment which encourages a free flow of ideas and information that help members build their businesses. Every program and service we provide is designed with the simple goal of helping our members increase profitability. Membership in IAPD is an affordable business investment. IAPD provides training, connections with customers and suppliers and information about developments that impact the industry. What makes IAPD unique is a commitment to educating customers and other key end-users about plastics. In other words, IAPD works with members to build the demand for plastics. Central to this effort is the reinforcement of the value of distribution. For more information, visit [www.iapd.org](http://www.iapd.org).

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