

Success Story

IKA®

IKA® Laboratory Reactor For formulation of emulsions and compounds

Improved efficiency in the laboratory and
easier transfer to bulk production

– Mark Ghafoor, BASILDON
Technical Manager

THE CUSTOMER

Basildon Chemicals is a UK based specialist manufacturer and formulator of silicone emulsions and compounds. The Company is focused on the consumer markets of pharmaceutical, personal care, and food, as well as supplying certain niche industrial markets such as surface coatings, car care and agro-chemicals.



In April 2011, Basildon Chemicals was purchased by the KCC Corporation of Korea. This creates a partnership which opens up new opportunities for both companies. In this partnership, KCC gains a company with a history of over 40 years of excellence in silicone emulsification and long running industry acceptance.

Basildon has gained the backing of one of the world's fastest growing primary silicone manufacturers, with great ambitions for expansion over the coming years.

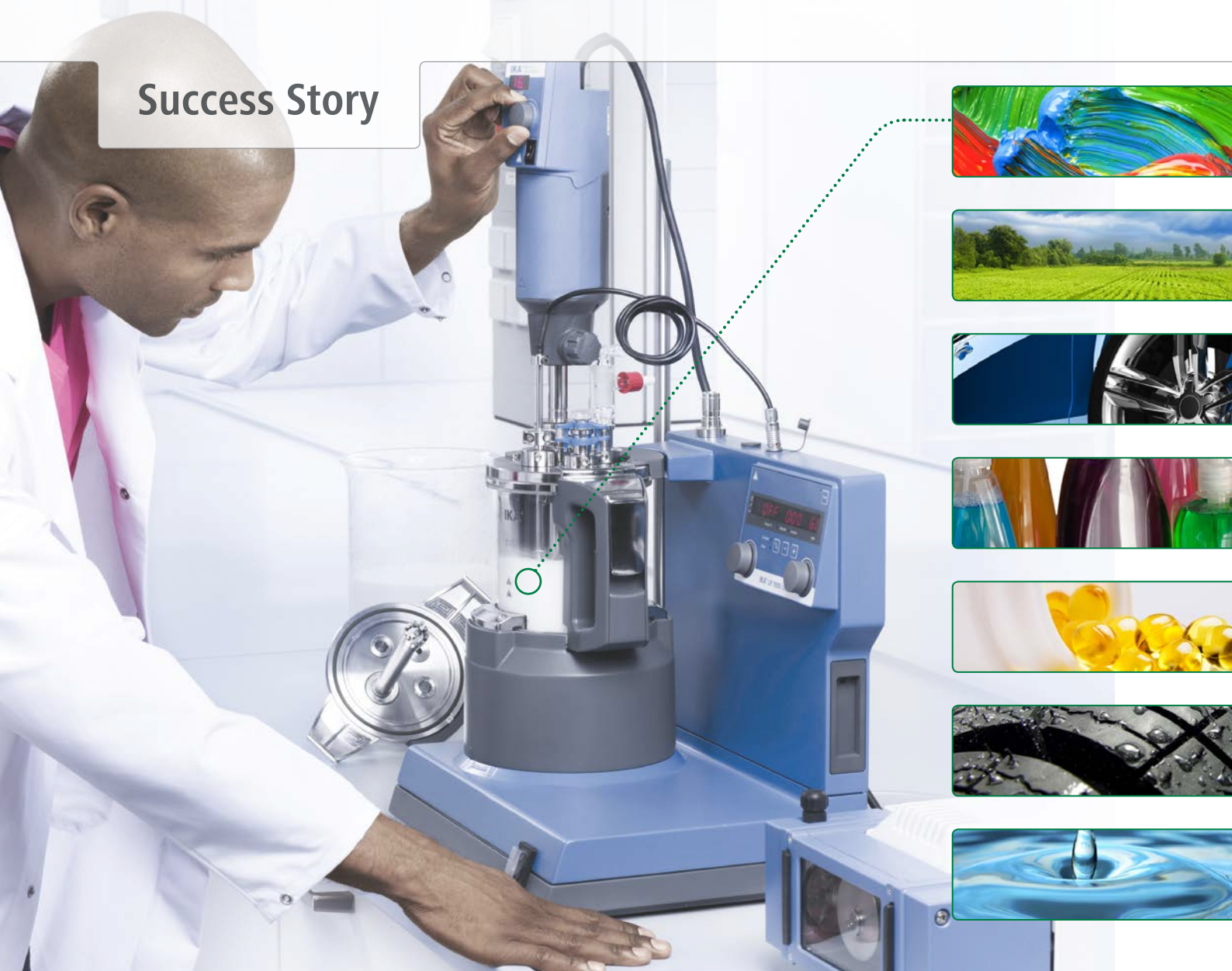


KEY FEATURES WE PARTICULARLY LIKE ABOUT THE IKA® LR 1000 LAB REACTOR:

During product scale-up from laboratory to pilot/full scale production a significant amount of time can be saved, if the correlation between laboratory reactors and production vessels is clearly understood. We have worked closely with IKA® on various different agitator configurations to ensure we get the best results in terms of consistency and reproducibility. This has allowed us to have clear understanding of this correlation. This has allowed us in many cases to scale-up directly from the laboratory to 2000 kg – 4000 kg scale with excellent results.

The design of the LR 1000 reactor has been very well thought out. The footprint of the unit is very compact. This coupled with the integrated heating plate means very little bench space is taken up.

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THE CHALLENGE

In order to assess the suitability of the LR1000 laboratory reactors two development scientists spent time working in Staufen with the IKA® R+D team in order to assess the suitability of the LR1000 lab reactors for manufacturing our varied range of products.

THE SOLUTION

Over a period of several days we were able to trial some of our most difficult and complex processes on the equipment. In all cases we were extremely pleased with the outcome. As a consequence of these trials we purchased 2 reactors. Since then we have purchased an additional 2 units which will take the number of units in our laboratory to 4.

We have been using the LR 1000 vessel for over 12 months and continue to be impressed with the quality of the LR 1000 reactors. Additionally we have also been equally impressed with the technical support and service we have received from the IKA® team.

