



case study

> Vollrath Company

The Vollrath Company LLC is known for a variety of products used in the food-service industry. Recently, the company scored a hit with the introduction of its Miramar™ line of templates made of thermoset bulk molding compound (BMC).

Templates are inserted into the openings in the stations that display hot and cold foods in cafeterias and buffet lines. Some templates completely cover the station openings so that pots, pans, or bowls can be placed on top of them. Other templates include cutouts of different shapes and sizes in order to hold pots or bowls that are smaller than the station openings.

BMC offers a number of properties that make it an excellent choice for food-station template applications. A composite material consisting of fiber reinforcement in a polymer resin, BMC provides good heat retention and insulation, reducing the energy required to keep food warm and giving users better control of the temperature of food stations. This insulative property also translates into a cool external surface, improving server and consumer safety.

BMC also provides sound dampening properties that help quiet the clatter and banging often heard in cafeterias and buffet lines. In commercial dishwashers, the composite does not fade and resists both scratching and corrosion. And it maintains its excellent properties during extended life cycles in food-service settings.

Perhaps most important to Vollrath, BMC gives the company the ability to add color to its templates. Miramar™ templates come in both black and beige colors, with black being the more popular because it accentuates the beauty of the pans, casseroles, and bowls used with the inserts.

Thanks to the many advantages of BMC, the Miramar™ template line has gotten a “very good” response from customers, reports Vollrath’s Vice President of Marketing, Paul Egbert. “The BMC component has made our Miramar™ Pans and Templates offering one of the most successful products we’ve introduced in recent years.”

engineered for performance

IDI Composites International is the premier global formulator and manufacturer of thermoset molding compounds for custom molders and OEMs. The company provides customized polyester/vinylester-based bulk molding compounds (BMC) and sheet molding compounds (SMC) for the world's most demanding markets, including automotive/truck, electrical, food service, alternate energy, and appliance.

IDI high-performance thermoset molding compounds are lightweight and exceptionally strong, exhibiting better strength-to-weight ratios than most metals. They are also corrosion resistant, creep resistant, and exhibit excellent thermal properties compared to engineered thermoplastic-based products.

Headquartered in a 200,000 square foot facility in Noblesville, IN (USA), IDI has a strong presence in the international thermoset composites market. To support a growing customer base world-wide, the company operates multiple wholly-owned manufacturing facilities in Europe, Asia, and The Americas.



IDI's thermoset BMC offers excellent thermal insulation for hot-food stations, while withstanding repeated sterilization processes.

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