



## **SPI CLASSIFICATION OF INJECTION MOLDS**

### **GENERAL NOTES**

The following classifications are guidelines to be used in obtaining quotations and placing orders for uniform types of molds. It is our desire, through these classifications, to help even out inequities in the plastics molding quote system and eliminate customer disappointment.

It is strongly recommended that mold drawings be obtained before construction is started on any injection mold. Even though parts may seem simple enough to not warrant a mold design, a drawing showing sizes and steel types will pay for itself in the event of mold damage.

As the applications of plastics become more sophisticated, so must mold designs. When designing a mold for a difficult part there are resources available to the moldmaker and molder to confirm the best mold design. For these designs it is recommended that a computer aided flow and/or cooling analysis be performed. These programs may help determine the best mold design, saving time and cost of design rework.

These classifications are for mold specifications only and in no way guarantee workmanship. It is very important that purchasing agents deal with vendors whose workmanship standards and reliability are well proven.

Mold life, because of variations in part design and molding conditions, cannot be guaranteed. [We] will attempt to give approximate cycles for each type of mold excluding wear caused by material abrasion, poor mold maintenance and improper molding technique.

Maintenance is not the responsibility of the moldmaker. Normal maintenance, such as replacement of broken springs, broken ejector pins, worn rings, or the rework of nicks and scratches should be borne by the molder. Mold rework costs should be closely considered when deciding which classification of mold is required.

This document does not constitute a warranty or guarantee by the Society of Plastics Industry, Inc., or its members for the classifications or specifications set forth herein.