

**PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION**

## Energy-Efficient Compressed-Air Dryer Delivers Improved Performance with 3D Drying Principle

**Riviera Beach, Florida, July 23, 2012** – Comet Plastic Equipment LLC introduced the 3DX Series dryer to the North American plastics processing market today. Its design is unique in the dryer industry and is based on a newly developed 3D compressed air principle that efficiently manages batch drying fluctuations caused by residual moisture. The 3DX Series also provides unmatched flexibility for changing production requirements, ease of use and maintenance features, plus its energy-efficient compressed air technology minimizes operating costs.

The stainless steel 3DX-Series is completely modular and comes in five standard base hopper sizes so the operator can easily adapt to different materials, shot weights or changing production conditions. Using hopper extensions and an extender ring system, over 30 different size configurations are possible. Base hopper sizes range from 7 to 92 litres (10 to 129 lbs). This flexibility allows the user to individualize their drying requirements using only a few base modules and hopper extensions.

A split version is also available in which the dryer hopper is separate from the control air module. Because the heater is inside the dryer hopper, an insulated cable between the dryer hopper and the control air module is not required.

### 3D Drying Principle

The development of the 3D principle was based on analyzing every drying factor and how to address these factors to ensure the effective drying of each individual resin pellet. The 3D



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principle addresses three process parameters: isolation of the material from environmental factors (thermal decoupling); precision temperature control; and consistent and thorough air distribution via a multi-ring-jet system and sensor-controlled compressed air flow.

The advantages of the 3DX dryer include:

- Completely isolating the material by creating a thermal barrier between the interior and exterior of the hopper
- An integrated ring-jet system with multiple rings of air streams, providing even and consistent drying throughout the hopper
- An optional diffuser in the bottom part of the dryer that allows air to flow downward into the hopper, providing drying of even free flowing powder. This can be used alone or in combination with the ring-jet system for maximum air-flow throughout the hopper.
- Sophisticated, adjustable sensors inside the material hopper that ensure exact process monitoring and control of compressed airflow so every resin pellet is uniformly dried
- A compressed air control module, with display and control functions, that efficiently handles the material during the entire drying process. There is no contact between the module and the process environment because of a multiport I/O interface.
- A large, movable control display that swivels, is easily readable from up to 20 feet away and may be positioned on the hopper or other parts of the machine for optimal viewing
- Infinitely variable adjustable hopper sensors, integrated in the control system of the dryer, to ensure exact filling of the dryer hopper
- Selectable compressed-air control modes: normal and expert. The expert mode is designed for materials that are difficult to dry (e.g., TPE, high-temperature thermoplastics such as PEEK, filled materials, etc.)
- High-quality stainless steel components and PTFE parts, making the 3DX dryer ideally suited for clean-room applications
- Simple construction that enables easy accessibility and maintenance

Additionally, the 3DX can be mounted on the machine or mounted on a stand together with a

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feed throat hopper loader (both controlled by the centralized control system) for quick-change capabilities.

For over 40 years, Comet Plastic Equipment, LLC has provided innovative solutions to plastics processors to support improved productivity and profitability. Products include a complete range of drying, blending, conveying, bulk handling, oil and water temperature control, and mold monitoring equipment. The company's commitment to providing superior service spans everything from simple replacement parts to large-scale installations.

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