

Silver Trophy at Plasticon Awards 2012

The design and development capabilities of L&T's Electrical & Automation earned rich recognition at Plasticon Awards 2012, when its Plastics Leaf Spring for Changeover Switch was declared recipient of the Silver Trophy in the 'Innovative Plastics Product Design' category. The award was presented at the 6th Plasticon

ceremony held at Le Meridian, New Delhi on February 1, which was the curtain raiser event of Plastindia 2012 the 8th International Plastics Exhibition Conference, the second largest fair in plastics in the world with participation from 40 countries.

The awards instituted by Plastindia Foundation are sponsored by stalwart plastics industries and institutions. The jury comprising well-



Mr. Prashant B. Vairagi, AGM - Plastics Technology, SDDC receiving the Silver Trophy from Mr. Warren William Wilder, President - Polymers and Cracker Sector, Reliance Industries Limited (right) and Mr. K. K. Seksaria, Honorary Treasurer of Plastindia Foundation and Managing Director, Uma Plastics Ltd. (center), both Guests of Honour at the event

known experts in a variety of fields related to plastics and related industries assess entries on criteria like uniqueness, creativity, innovation, safety & energy conservation in manufacturing and usage, recyclability, reusability, environment friendliness etc. Thermoplastic Polyurethane (TPU) was selected by E&A as the material for Leaf Spring in Changeover Switch-Disconnector because of its excellent flex life and noise abatement, high resistance to abrasions, cuts / tears, oil, corrosion, recyclability. After thorough product evaluation, which involved intensive testing, TPU has been implemented in four different frame sizes of Changeover Switches and total production of all frames has now crossed 100000 numbers.

In addition to recyclable thermoplastics being a step towards E&A's goal of developing 'Green Switchgear Products', some of the other resultant benefits are light weight, faster production rate due to thermoplastic injection moulding process, 25% cost savings through improved margins on the product.