



An editorial in December cries out for an end-of-the-year review. Or an outlook for the year ahead. For me personally, a very special year is drawing to a close. On December 1, I celebrate my first anniversary of joining **Kunststoffe**. A turbulent year lies behind us. I have traveled far less than I personally would have liked – in keeping with the regulations in force at the time.

Nevertheless, it was a great year for me! I was able to explore new topics for myself, make new contacts and completely immerse myself in the world of plastics. All with the support of a wonderful editorial team. In summer and fall, it was a huge pleasure at last to make on-site visits to customers or attend face-to-face events again.

Everything Remains Different

But now, at this moment, as I write these lines, it looks as though we will still have to remain patient. Though, quite honestly, I'm happy that, for us in the **Kunststoffe** editorial team, up-to-date articles about infection statistics or regulations are not our issue. We can forget about medical and political statements and keep to the hard facts in the fields of injection molding, extrusion or materials. In this edition, you can find articles about the digital twins for injection molds, trends in materials handling or CO₂ reductions through the use of recycled materials or bioplastics.

Analogous to the Covid rule of three – vaccinated, tested or recovered – in the editorial team we have developed our own rule of three for authoring our articles. We want our texts to be substantial, intelligent and credible.

Stay optimistic!

Susanne Schröder

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