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CONTACT

Prof. dr. sc. Jelena Macan
 University of Zagreb
 Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology
 Marulićev trg 19, p.p. 177
 HR-10000 Zagreb, Croatia
 E-mail: jmacan@fkit.hr

Lego-kocke obilježavaju 55. obljetnicu

Priredila: Đurđica ŠPANIČEK

Krajem siječnja 2013. lego-kocke slave 55. obljetnicu. Na dan 28. siječnja 1958. O. K. Christiansen, osnivač tvrtke *Lego*, sa sjedištem u Kopenhagu, patentirao je kocku *Lego*. Time je postavljen kamen temeljac jednom od najuspješnijih plastičnih proizvoda. Danas svaki čovjek u svijetu ima u prosjeku 80 lego-kocaka.

Godine 1958. O. K. Christiansen razvio je kocku *Lego* s poznatim sustavom povezivanja izbočine i cijevi, koji je i danas osnova za oko 2 700 različitih lego gradbenih elemenata. Ti se gradbeni elementi s kockom kao osnovom mogu kombinirati u bezbroj inačica.

Od 1963. godine za izradbu lego-kocaka rabi se kopolimer akrilonitril-butadien-stiren, ABS. Taj glatki polimerni materijal vrlo je čvrst i ima površinu otpornu na grebanje i ugriz te je fiziološki potpuno neškodljiv. To je važno jer mala djeca rado stavljaju igračke u usta i pri tome ih grizu.

Za njih se izrađuju posebne kocke *Lego Duplo*, koje su dvostruko veće od uobičajenih pa se ne mogu progutati.

Lego-kocke danas se proizvode u Danskoj, Čečeniji i Meksiku. ABS se dobavlja u obliku granula, od kojih se injekcijskim prešanjem pri temperaturi taljevine od 232 °C silom zatvaranja od 1 500 MN i vrlo preciznim temperiranjem kalupa prave vrlo precizni otpresci. Naime, svaki otpresak ima toleranciju od tisućinke milimetra, tako da elementi svih boja i veličina mogu ostati čvrsto povezani i izgrađivati čitave gradove. Lego-kocke koje ne zadovoljavaju ponovno se rastale i oblikuju. Na taj se način smanjuje otpad i čuva okoliš.

Lego-kocke mogu se naručiti u 58 različitih boja i ukupno 9 000 kombinacija boja i oblika. Tijekom godina proizvedeno je više od 600 milijardi lego-elemenata.

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