and Industrial Plastics Institute, which recently inaugurated its International Plastics Center to support all companies related to this industry, including producers, transformation companies and end users, as well as suppliers to the industry, exporters and importers. This center also features an all-year-round exhibition of firms related to this industry.

Some of the most important foreign companies represented in Mexico include:

UNITED STATES WEST GERMANY American Plastics Equipment Arbur Beloid Cincinnati/Sano Conair Bekum Filmaster Berns Goodyear Boy H.P.M. Demag Hyfel Fischer IMCO Mannesman John Brown Reifenhausen Jomar Industries ITALY Micromolder Machinery Amut New Britanic Fluidmec Reed-Prentice Hercole Comercio Sterling Negribossi Vandoor Pantera JAPAN Glaco Nissei ASB Sandreto Toshiba

Barmag Battenfeld

3.1.3 Domestic Production

ofther seeh, for planning out winds Local production of plastics processing machinery and equipment is considered basic and with relatively little diversification, using mostly imported technology. All of the more sophisticated and state of the art equipment is imported, as well as the special applications machinery and accessories.

Plastics production machinery and equipment manufactured locally includes injection, extrusion, blow moulding machinery, peripheral equipment, accessories and molds. In 1990, total domestic production amounted to \$56.4 million, up from \$51.7 million in 1989 (see Table 1). As a result of the 1987 reduction in import duties, imported machinery is competing very strongly with domestically produced equipment. It is estimated that, by 1994, close to 83% of the total market will be of imported origin, while local production will be mostly for replacement purposes and for moulds.

There are only nine major manufacturers of plastics machinery in Mexico. The most important, until recently, were Fabricación de Máquinas, S.A. (FAMA) and Leesona, both manufacturers of