

## Press release

**KRAIBURG TPE to launch hot water compounds compliant to the KTW-BWGL standard**  
**Waldkraiburg, October 2023**  
Page 1 of 4

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KRAIBURG TPE is launching THERMOLAST® DW compounds for seals and sanitary components in contact with hot water that meet the evaluation criteria for plastics and other organic materials in contact with drinking water established by the German Environment Agency (KTW-BWGL)

### **Non-cross-linking TPEs for cold, warm and hot water**

**KRAIBURG TPE is about to launch an innovative new technology: Thermoplastic elastomers (TPEs) for applications in the drinking water and sanitary industry that are in compliance with the strict KTW-BWGL standard, which will become binding for TPEs from March 2025 as well. These outstanding compounds are intended to be used for seals, sealings and components such as showerheads and meet all relevant requirements in the European Union for final products that come into contact with cold water, warm water and, for the first time, hot water.**

Waldkraiburg, 17 October 2023 – The new Hot Water TPEs in the THERMOLAST® DW series presented at Fakuma 2023 will replace the previous DW and DW/CS products. They are not only regarded as being the first compounds of their kind for hot water applications, but also make KRAIBURG TPE the only supplier of non-cross-linking TPEs in this market segment.

“Our trendsetting new Hot Water TPEs already meet the requirements of the KTW-BWGL standard for organic materials in contact with drinking water even today,” says Hartmut Arheidt, Market Manager Industry at KRAIBURG TPE. “All relevant tests have largely been completed and we expect the final KTW-BWGL certification to be provided before the end of this year. This will minimize our customers’ approval effort and accelerate the launch of next-generation applications.”

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**Waldkraiburg, October 2023**

**Page 2 of 4**

THERMOLAST® DW compounds are not only suitable for hot water applications and compliant with the requirements of the KTW-BWGL standard, but also excel with a range of other significant advantages. They provide better compression set at higher temperatures and can be processed more easily due to improved flow and demolding properties. The range of types of materials comprises products with different hardness grades and with secure adhesion to PP or PE in multicomponent compounds.

This performance profile makes Hot Water TPEs from KRAIBURG TPE particularly suitable for sophisticated drinking water and sanitary applications in an extended field of applications. Typical examples are parts used in the environment of cold water, warm water and hot water temperature ranges such as seals, fittings or showerheads.

The new THERMOLAST® DW compounds are tasteless and odorless and provide smooth surfaces directly from the mold, without requiring any finishing. Extensive test series have also proven the compounds' reliable resistance to the growth of microorganisms in accordance with EN 16421 (formerly DVGW W270). The drinking water approvals relevant for the EU will have been obtained prior to the commercial launch in the first quarter of 2024.

KRAIBURG TPE will be presenting the THERMOLAST® DW technology at Fakuma 2023, held from 17 to 21 October in Friedrichshafen, at Booth 5303 in Hall B5.

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Waldkraiburg, October 2023

Page 3 of 4



**Fig. 1:** KRAIBURG TPE is launching trendsetting, new and non-cross-linking THERMOLAST® DW compounds for sophisticated sealing and sanitary components in contact with hot water that meet the requirements of the KTW-BWGL standard.

(Image © 2023 KRAIBURG TPE)



**Fig. 2:** Hartmut Arheidt, Market Manager Industry, at KRAIBURG TPE

(Image © 2023 KRAIBURG TPE)

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Waldkraiburg, October 2023

Page 4 of 4

### Information for press representatives



[Images](#)

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### About KRAIBURG TPE

KRAIBURG TPE ([www.kraiburg-tpe.com](http://www.kraiburg-tpe.com)) is a global manufacturer of custom-engineered thermoplastic elastomers. KRAIBURG TPE was founded in 2001 as an independent business unit of the KRAIBURG Group and is now the industry's competence leader in the field of TPE compounds. The company's goal is to provide safe, reliable and sustainable products for customer applications. With more than 680 employees worldwide and production sites in Germany, the USA and Malaysia, the company offers a large product portfolio for applications in the automotive, industrial and consumer goods industries, as well as for the strictly regulated medical sector. The established THERMOLAST®, COPEC®, HIPEX® and For Tec E® product lines are processed by injection molding or extrusion and offer manufacturers numerous advantages not only in processing but also in product design. KRAIBURG TPE is characterized by its innovative strength, global customer orientation, customized product solutions and reliable service. The company is ISO 50001 certified at its headquarters in Germany and holds ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certifications at all its sites worldwide.