

Press Release

TPEs get a grip on medical device handles

Kuala Lumpur, January 2023

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TPEs get a grip on medical device handles

KRAIBURG TPE, a global TPE manufacturer of thermoplastic elastomer (TPE) products and custom-engineered TPE solutions for a wide range of industries and applications, offers the Asia-Pacific medical and healthcare markets its THERMOLAST® H HC/AD1/AP series of compounds for grips and handles of medical instruments.

Medical devices that are ergonomically design brings both positive outcome for patients and medical professionals by providing precision, flexibility, comfort, and ease of control.

In addition, ensuring the handles and grips in medical instruments is well-designed is important to create the conditions for the instruments' performance as well as to promote good work practices to prevent work-related risks.

Advanced materials such as thermoplastic elastomers (TPEs) have gained traction in the production of medical devices due to their exemplary properties.

KRAIBURG TPE, a global TPE manufacturer of thermoplastic elastomer (TPE) products and custom-engineered TPE solutions for a wide range of industries and applications, now offers the THERMOLAST® H HC/AD1/AP series in Asia-Pacific for grips and handles of instruments such as thermometer, endoscope, reflex hammer, disposal scalpels, forceps, tweezers, pliers, and others.

Benefits of polar adhesion and mechanical properties

KRAIBURG TPE's THERMOLAST® H HC/AD1/AP series of compounds are particularly well-suited for handle and grip applications due to their adhesion

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properties to polar thermoplastics, such as PC, ABS, ASA, SAN, PET, PS, and PETG.

Furthermore, the THERMOLAST® H HC/AD1/AP series, with its superior mechanical properties and soft touch surface, provides better grip and excellent surface feel for the instruments when used. Overall, the compounds deliver functional and beneficial design elements that enhance user experience.

Additionally, the series of compounds can be processed through injection molding and can be sterilized in an autoclave at 121°C or with ETO (gas).

Compliance with standards a prerequisite

KRAIBURG TPE's polar adhesion TPE series, complies with international standards such as ISO10993-5 and GB/T 16886.5 (cytotoxicity), US FDA CFR 21, Regulation (EU) No 10/2011, REACH, and RoHS. This allows for safety of use in medical device applications.

These compounds are environmentally-friendly, biocompatible and do not contain silicones, latex, PVC, or phthalates.

Pre-coloring is available, allowing products to be customized to meet the needs of the medical application. Plus, the compounds allow for lightweight and durable grips and handles.

Sustainability successes of our TPE

KRAIBURG TPE's recent sustainability innovations include a specially developed material solution for automotive, consumer, and industry applications comprising post-consumer recycled (PCR) and post-industrial recycled (PIR) content.

Are you looking for a sustainable TPE solution? [Talk to us!](#)

Our experts are happy to answer any questions you have, as well as to offer the right solution for your application.

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KRAIBURG TPE (www.kraiburg-tpe.com) is a global manufacturer of custom 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.