DimeLika Plast
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News Release

Expanded PBT compound product range

DimeLika Plast to offer radiation cross-linked CompaDur® PBT compounds and expand sales organisation

DimeLika Plast GmbH, headquartered in Brühl in Germany's Baden region, are expanding their CompaDur® product family to include radiation cross-linked PBT compounds. In addition, the company is expanding its sales structure with five new sales partners in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and the United Kingdom.

Radiation cross-linking of engineering plastics makes it possible to use less costly engineering thermoplastics in applications in which high-priced, high-performance thermoplastics are normally used due to increasing temperature requirements. Irradiating plastic components (made of engineering thermoplastics) with high-energy BETA-GAMMA rays causes the cross-linking of polymer molecules and optimises component and material properties as a result. In this method, plastic components are exposed to a radiation dose which has been precisely calculated and determined in advance. Radiant energy is absorbed by the material during the irradiation processing. Chemical bonds are split, releasing free radicals which are able to form the desired molecular compounds.

Radiation cross-linking provides the benefits of increasing heat distortion temperature and glow-wire resistance, providing greater resistance to chemicals, ageing and stress cracking, enhancing abrasion resistance and increasing flame retardancy. Improved fibre/matrix adhesion leads to greater component stiffness.

To summarise: Radiation cross-linking enables the use of engineering thermoplastics under conditions which these plastics would otherwise be unable to withstand.

Radiation cross-linking achieves material suitability for lead-free soldering (up to +280°C) and short-term high-temperature soldering (up to approx. +450°C) – techniques which were previously the domain of thermosets and high-performance plastics.

The cross-linkable CompaDur® PBT compounds contain a cross-linking additive package which is not sensitive to temperature. No mould changes or modifications are required, and the additive package does not affect the compound's cooling and shrinkage behaviour. Because radiation cross-linking takes place after injection moulding, components remain dimensionally and inherently stable throughout the cross-linking process. This method can also be successfully implemented along with filler materials, reinforcing agents and functional additives, enabling production of components with improved stiffness and noise damping properties.
DimeLika see applications for their cross-linked PBT compounds in high-performance components which must meet special requirements in terms of heat distortion temperature and acoustic properties. Cross-linked CompaDur® PBT compounds can provide an alternative to other materials in the household appliance industry as well, where glow wire resistance is a significant priority.

Specific projects are already in advanced stages with tier suppliers in the area of automotive electrics – underbonnet components subjected to high thermal loads – and in the electrical and electronics industries. “We are expecting to receive approval for start of production in the coming months”, says Liborius Flöper, Managing Director of DimeLika Plast.

To serve markets in Europe more efficiently, DimeLika Plast GmbH have expanded their sales structures. Sales agreements were concluded in April and May 2012 with CASA Polymer Solutions (sales region Northern Germany; **WWW.CASA-POLYMER.DE**), VIP Kunststoffvertrieb GmbH (sales region Southern Germany; **WWW.VIP-FO.DE**), Kanatech Polymers GmbH (sales regions Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia; **WWW.KANATECH.EU**), K.D. Feddersen UK Ltd. (sales region United Kingdom; **WWW.KDFEDDERSEN.CO.UK**) and Meipolymer (sales region Switzerland; **WWW.MEIPOLYMER.CH**).

“The entire CompaDur® product portfolio is now available from our sales partners”, say Hans-Dieter Voss, Managing Director of DimeLika Plast.

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About DimeLika Plast

With their comprehensive know-how, high-end customised solutions, and new, innovative applications and products, DimeLika Plast GmbH, founded in early 2011, see themselves as a provider of services and ideas for their customers. Working together with suppliers of raw materials and plastics processors, the company, headquartered in Brühl, Germany, continually develops new and innovative product solutions that are specifically aimed to meet customers' needs and to help them improve their standing over the competition. An integral part of the company's approach to business is the close, professional support provided, from the consulting phase on to application engineering, raw

materials selection, formulation development, production, and finally, on-site service.

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