

Press release

KRAIBURG TPE is developing new, thermally conductive TPEs

Waldkraiburg, July 2024

Page 1 of 5

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KRAIBURG TPE is developing new, thermally conductive TPE which are particularly suitable for battery systems when used in a two-component hard/soft composite.

High stability and long service life when used in batteries

The demand for plastics that can be integrated in existing material combinations to achieve a highly effective thermal management system has increased by leaps and bounds in recent years. The reason for this are batteries and charging systems increasingly in demand on the market, which are predominantly used for a variety of battery-controlled electrical appliances or for the total range of e-mobility. KRAIBURG TPE has launched Thermally Conductive TPEs for these applications, which meet the increasing requirements in terms of quantity and quality of batteries to a large extent.

Waldkraiburg, 31 July 2024 – Along with the requirements for a power density as high as possible with the same installation space size and minimal charging times, durability is one of the quality factors that determine purchases. In this context, an intelligently designed thermal management system, which ensures that high temperatures generated in the battery during the charging process are dissipated quickly and continuously to the outside, is an essential prerequisite for the optimization of durability, because the battery loses its quality when exposed to high heat.

KRAIBURG TPE has recently invested more in the development of distinctly thermally conductive materials to guarantee batteries the longest possible service life. Compared to liquid or paste-like thermal conductors, these new TPEs provide the advantage of significantly higher functional and spatial stability when assembling the module.

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Press release

KRAIBURG TPE is developing new, thermally conductive TPEs

Waldkraiburg, July 2024

Page 2 of 5

“Apart from securing optimal heat transfer, our customers also benefit from the application advantages of thermoplastic injection molding,” adds Annika Alke, member of the Development Team at KRAIBURG TPE. “Especially when large quantities are required, the two-component hard/soft composite components made of TPE and PA can play to their strengths with their high thermal conductivity.”

Another advantage of the newly developed Thermally Conductive TPEs is their special touch quality. Features particularly worth emphasizing are the high-quality, evenly “dry” surface and the absence of PVC or silicones. The heat difference between the ambient and body temperature is usually sufficient to produce a cooling effect on the skin when the user comes into contact with the material.

KRAIBURG TPE has collaborated with LEHVOSS Group, a partner company, to be able to determine the overall performance of the new TPEs in different applications by checking the relevant properties and performance parameters for each case. As part of the jointly conducted tests, the newly developed TPEs were combined with thermal conductive and adhesion-optimized polyamide compounds from LEHVOSS. The aim was to determine the adhesion properties of different material combinations by conducting a variety of tests, while working out the optimal processing parameters to finally launch a highly efficient solution. The results LEHVOSS and KRAIBURG TPE were able to achieve confirm the suitability of the new materials particularly for applications in multicomponent composites to a high degree.

Press release

KRAIBURG TPE is developing new, thermally conductive TPEs

Waldkraiburg, July 2024

Page 3 of 5



Fig. 1: Thermally Conductive TPEs meet the increasing requirements for quality and quantity of batteries. (Image © 2024 KRAIBURG TPE)



Fig. 2: Shoulder to shoulder: KRAIBURG TPE and its partner, LEHVOSS Group, follow the product development path together (Image: LEHVOSS Group).

Press release

KRAIBURG TPE is developing new, thermally conductive TPEs

Waldkraiburg, July 2024

Page 4 of 5

Information for press representatives



[Images](#)

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About LEHVOSS Group

LEHVOSS Group develops, produces and distributes chemical and mineral specialty products worldwide. Founded as a trading company in 1894 in Hamburg, LEHVOSS Group has built up an international reputation during its 125-year success story and is operating production sites in Europe, the USA and Asia.

Since 1983, the Customized Polymer Materials business unit has been providing outstanding records in the industry from the first idea to the finished product. The agile unit is specialized in developing specialized materials that perform far above the usual market standards. The interdisciplinary development team uses a large range of polymers, reinforcing agents and additives, the most modern laboratory and application technology and a huge stock of experience, sense and passion to find the perfect solution.

www.lehvoss.de

Press release

KRAIBURG TPE is developing new, thermally conductive TPEs

Waldkraiburg, July 2024

Page 5 of 5

About KRAIBURG TPE

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 660 employees worldwide and production sites in Germany, the USA and Malaysia, the company provides 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.