



FOSTER PUREEASE™ TECHNOLOGY IMPROVES PROCESS CONSISTENCY FOR URETHANE EXTRUSIONS

PUTNAM, CT USA - (**July 19, 2016**) - Foster Corporation, a leader in custom polymers for medical devices, now offers thermoplastic urethanes (TPU) with PureEase™ technology for improved extrusion processing control. This proprietary additive system was developed to help maintain consistent processing parameters of validated TPU based polymers and compounds. Consistent processing parameters can mean tighter ID/OD tubing tolerances especially in small tubes. “Many medical devices require validated manufacturing processes for components such as tubes and films. This can be challenging for components made from TPU’s due to process variability,” said Lawrence Acquarulo, CEO of Foster Corporation. “PureEase technology improves process consistency and reduces dimensional variation of finished components.”

PureEase technology is available in custom TPU based compound formulations used in radiopaque filled tubing applications commonly used in central venous catheter (CVC) tubing. It can also be beneficial in unfilled TPU polymers as well, in applications where tight tolerances are necessary such as wound care films.

Foster Corporation

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TPU's are inherently tacky and this tackiness can present challenges for processors. A common problem during the production of medical tubing and film is adherence to the die as the hot melt exits the extruder. This phenomenon can distort the final tube shape which can result in components that are outside required dimensional specifications. The PureEase technology can help with this problem.

Foster compared extrusions of single lumen tubing with nominal outside diameters of 0.11 inches (2.8 mm) using 55 Shore D hardness TPU with PureEase technology against the same TPU without the additive. Using the same processing conditions, the extrusions with PureEase technology had a diametrical standard deviation of 0.0012 inches (0.03 mm) compared to 0.0025 inches (0.06 mm) for the unmodified sample, representing 50% less dimensional variation. Similar extrusions performed with barium sulfate-filled 55 Shore D TPU resulted in 53% less variation of diametrical dimensions for the sample with PureEase technology compared to a similar compound without the additive.

For more information about Foster's PureEase process enhancement technology, please visit www.fostercomp.com.

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About Foster Corporation

For over twenty five years Foster Corporation has been serving medical device and pharmaceutical manufacturers with industry leading technology and service in biomedical materials. These include custom medical compounds, implantable materials, drug/polymer blends and polymer distribution. Within ISO 13485:2003 and ISO 9001:2008 facilities, Foster offers comprehensive support to customers from formulation development through production.

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