

New Sarlink TPVs in competition with EPDM sponge

INTRODUCING SARLINK 5725 and 5735

Sittard/Geleen - Sarlink TPV has announced that it has developed a new series of low durometer Sarlink TPVs based on dynamically vulcanized rubber in a polypropylene matrix, thus combining superb elastic properties with the processing ease of thermoplastics. These Sarlink 5725 and 5735 grades are characterized by their extremely low hardness of 25 and 35 Shore A in combination with excellent processing behavior.

Low durometer Sarlink TPV instead of EPDM foam

Sarlink 5725 and 5735 can replace thermo set EPDM foam materials, used in many extrusion applications in the automotive industry as well in the building and construction industry. Very low compression deflection forces in combination with excellent elastic recovery are typical characteristics for EPDM foamed products.

Processing and performance advantages

These new Sarlink grades are an addition to the existing Sarlink 5700 series of products, which are characterized by their fully optimized and superb UV resistance and improved fogging properties, combined with excellent elastic and sealing performance. What makes this new Sarlink series unique is its extremely low hardness of 25 and 35 Shore A in combination with excellent processing behavior, such as good collapse resistance and superb flow behavior to obtain good surface finish. Another great advantage is that these low durometer Sarlink grades can be co extruded in combination with higher hardness grades to create complex sealing systems.

Focussing on performance, these new Sarlink grades show low compression set and deflection forces in combination with good relaxation behaviour. These are typical characteristics to obtain excellent elastic and thus sealing performance.

Sarlink TPV: considering the environment

Looking at the advantages of Sarlink 5725 and 5735, these new products offer numerous new potentials compared to EPDM foam materials, especially in the automotive industry. Ger Vroomen, Business Development Manager at Sarlink: “Many EPDM foamed products are used in combination with spray coatings to obtain specific functional properties. The industry sees the use of spray coating systems as an environmentally questionable system in combination with relatively high cost. These new Sarlink grades can be co-extruded in combination with the Sarlink proprietary slip coatings (like GRC 03 and GRC 22). The combination of both material groups could result in a cost reduction in an environmentally friendly way, as the application of the slip coating occurs in the same processing stage as the product itself. In addition to the reduction of the coefficient of friction and improvement of abrasion resistance, these material combinations can also result in easier assembling of parts. This is just a glimpse of numerous possibilities.”

Continuous innovation process

Sarlink’s Global Marketing Director Rolf Schrauwen about Sarlink 5225 and 5735: “In general, compared to thermoset rubber, using Sarlink products will reduce production costs due to its shorter cycle times, reduced energy needs, and a very high material efficiency as a result of its recyclability. Add to that all the benefits these new Sarlink 5725 and 5735 offers and we have what we call ‘a winning number’. Our key message is that there are plenty of applications that demand to be converted to Sarlink TPV and we are making continued and continuous investments in our products and our resources to help make this happen. The 5700 series is a good example of this continuous innovation process; more grades with an even lower hardness will be added to the range of grades soon. This means that, again, new applications can benefit from the great advantages offered by Sarlink TPV.”