

Lifocork® TO 951000

Thermoplastic Elastomer

ELASTO

Message:

The main quantity of natural cork which is harvested today is used as pressed cork or mixed with PU or rubber. The processing of this kind of cork can be expensive and require a lot of energy.

We have developed a special manufacturing method to combine natural cork with thermoplastic raw materials. Meaning Lifocork can be processed using typical thermoplastic processing methods such as injection moulding, extrusion or thermoforming.

Cork is a natural product which comes from the bark of the cork oak tree. The removal of the bark does not harm the trees and the bark is only harvested after the first 20 years of growth. The removal stimulates a steady regeneration of the bark. Each cork tree provides on average 16 harvests over its 150-200 year lifespan.

Cork itself has a cell-like structure which is light and highly compressible. It is used in construction, sports, industrial and household applications.

It's also possible to make foamed parts from Lifocork. This offers materials with very low densities (as low as 0.45 g/ccm) and therefore gives lightweight parts. The foamed Lifocork also gives a damping, shock absorbent effect, ideal for orthopaedic shoe lifts and inserts.

Lifocork can be processed using thermoplastic processing methods. In injection moulding it can be processed using standard equipment.

Lifocork can also be processed in 2-component moulding. It has an excellent bond to TPE, PP and PE.

Other processing methods include extrusion or thermoforming with a double belt press.

General Information			
Filler / Reinforcement	Cork		
Features	Foamable		
	Good Abrasion Resistance		
	Good Processability		
	Good UV Resistance		
	Low Density		
	Moisture Resistant		
	Renewable Resource Content		
Uses	Flexible Grips		
	Handles		
	Household Goods		
	Power/Other Tools		
	Sporting Goods		
	Toys		
Processing Method	Coextrusion		
	Extrusion		
	Injection Molding		
	Thermoforming		
Hardness	Nominal Value		Test Method
Shore Hardness (Shore A)	95		DIN 53505
Injection	Nominal Value		Unit
Rear Temperature	150	°C	

Middle Temperature	160	°C
Front Temperature	170	°C
Nozzle Temperature	175	°C
Injection Rate	Slow	

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