



The Chemical Company



PLASTICS INDUSTRY

OVERVIEW

As one of the largest plastics suppliers in the world, BASF provides technological leadership in manufacturing capabilities that enable “global grades” of select resins that meet our customers’ worldwide specifications. A key competitive advantage of BASF in this industry is the presence, adaptability and expertise to support our customers with worldwide operations. We support our customers with technical service, world-scale processing technology and efficient business systems, such as eCommerce.

BASF offers a comprehensive product line and market expertise ranging from commodities to engineering and high-performance materials in thermoplastics, foams and urethanes. Research and development for all BASF plastics businesses in North America is based at our site in Wyandotte, Michigan.

Performance Polymers

BASF offers an optimized breadth of products, services and overall capabilities to customers. We enhanced our global position in engineering plastics by offering an expanded portfolio of materials in the sectors BASF currently serves, which include the automotive, packaging and electrical and electronics industries. Through an acquisition, BASF has acquired excellent products and technologies from Honeywell in engineering plastics, opening up new markets and applications in the industrial and consumer segments. This transaction demonstrates BASF’s commitment to being a long-term, global supplier of engineering plastics.

The engineering plastics portfolio of BASF’s Engineering Plastics business is comprised of the 4 *Ultra*-- Ultramid[®] polyamide (PA) nylon-based resins, Ultradur[®] polybutylene terephthalate (PBT), Ultraform[®] polyacetal (POM), and Ultrason[®] polysulfone (PSU) and polyether sulfone (PES), as well as Petra[®] post-consumer recycled polyester and Nypel[®] post-industrial polyamide 6.

BASF also has a line of Specialty Performance Polymers that includes Basotect[®] melamine foam for high-performance and fire protection panels for customers who have exacting requirements regarding quality and services. Be it for the sound absorption, the fire protection or the use in cars, buildings or consumer products.

Over 15 years ago, BASF was the first major plastics manufacturer to develop a biodegradable plastic, named, Ecoflex[®]. A new product, Ecovio[®], consists of Ecoflex[®] and a high content of polylactic acid. BASF responds to the needs of modern food manufacturers with the biodegradable plastics Ecoflex[®] and Ecovio[®]. What’s more, Ecovio[®] is biobased, with a renewable raw material content of almost 50 percent. It is blendable with the waterproof, heat resistant Ecoflex[®] and can be processed using conventional tubular film equipment. The two plastics are used in supermarket bags, biodegradable trash can liners, agricultural mulch film, breathable film for hygiene products, and in cling film.

Leading the BASF Engineering Plastics and Specialty businesses in North America is Michael Britt, Group Vice President.

Foams

Energy efficiency in buildings can be achieved with foams made of Styropor[®] EPS and its innovative refinement, Neopor[®] Innovation in Insulation. Styrodur[®] C is the perfect candidate for

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Kathy Dennis
BASF Corporation
100 Campus Drive
Florham Park, NJ 07932

Phone: 973-245-6288
E-mail: kathy.dennis@basf.com



applications under compressive stress. Insulating materials made by BASF are at the forefront of eco-efficient construction and offer advantages over other materials in terms of cost-effectiveness, preservation of resources and environmental protection. Investments made for insulating materials usually pay for themselves within a short time and contribute to retaining and even enhancing the value of buildings. Styropor[®] and Neopor[®] also come to good use in the packaging sector.

Leading the BASF General Purpose Foams business in North America is Andrew Bayley, Director-Foams Business

Styrenics

BASF's styrenic copolymers offer engineering solutions to our customers. These resins have applications in electronics, building and construction, and automotive components. BASF recently made Terblend[®] N, a blend of polyamide (PA) and acrylonitrile/butadiene/styrene (ABS) resins, commercially available in North America. This resin is a viable alternative to Polycarbonate/ABS (PC/ABS) materials for end uses in the automotive, electrical and electronic, industrial and sporting equipment segments.

Other BASF styrenic copolymers include Luran[®] S acrylonitrile/styrene/acrylate (ASA), which has many end uses including wood-plastic composites for construction applications, and Terluran[®] acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS), an injection-molded, impact-resistant engineering plastic. Terluran[®] ABS provides either a high-surface gloss or dull-matte surface, allowing designers to create single-component units with an integrated, two-piece appearance.

Leading the BASF Styrenics business in North America is Larry Berkowski, Group Vice President.

POLYURETHANES

BASF's Polyurethanes business is comprised of diverse technologies and finished products. Polyurethane chemicals are raw materials used in rigid and flexible foams, which are commonly used for insulation in the construction and appliance industries. They are also used in furniture, packaging, transportation, concrete and steel coatings, roofing adhesives, automotive sealants, engineered-wood binders and bowling balls. BASF's Elastocell[®] MPUs (microcellular polyurethanes) are molded into a wide range of jounce bumpers, coil spring isolators, shock mounts and body mounts that improve the overall ride characteristics of vehicles.

Our Polyurethane Specialty Systems business supplies two-component chemical "systems" for a wide range of rigid and flexible foam markets. Typical end-use products include commercial refrigeration, flotation equipment, shoe soles, recreation products, building panels, spray-on roofing and insulated food containers. In spray foam applications, BASF is a pioneer in the use of environmentally friendly blowing agents and materials used for home insulation and marine applications. Automotive systems applications for BASF polyurethanes include airbag covers, armrests and headrests, interior trim, instrument panels, RIM/fascia, seating, steering wheels, and window encapsulation. BASF's Elastollan[®] thermoplastic urethanes (TPUs) are used in an array of commercial, industrial and consumer products. Typical applications include caster wheels, safety-shoe soles, irrigation hoses, reinforced tubing, wire and cable jacketing, in-line skate boots, automotive side body moldings, airbag covers, and soft overmolding for power tools. BASF is the only producer of "soft touch" TPU.

Leading the BASF Polyurethanes business in North America is Gerry Podesta, Group Vice President.