

Eastman's Eastar™ copolyester helps KCI deliver peace of mind in wound treatment

A global leader in advanced wound care, Kinetic Concepts, Inc. (KCI) offers a comprehensive product portfolio that includes the V.A.C. Freedom® System. This product is a lightweight portable device that allows individuals to receive needed wound care while at work or performing normal daily activities. When KCI decided to improve the product's functionality and durability, they turned to Eastman Chemical Company for guidance on its Eastar™ copolyester and to increase support on product design.

Patients and medical industry look for solutions in wound treatment

The V.A.C. Freedom® System must withstand the demanding performance requirements of an out-of-hospital, consumer-use environment. KCI set out not only to ensure product performance demands but also to expand the benefits of wound treatment for the patient and for the medical industry.

"Our plan to make the V.A.C. Freedom® canister more robust required a medical plastics solution partner that could intimately understand the importance of our product's critical function," says Michael Pollok, Senior Product Engineer of KCI USA.

Eastman delivers more than plastic

KCI originally selected Eastman's Eastar™ copolyester for the V.A.C. Freedom® canister due to its clarity, color, and property stability after sterilization. "In addition, it has the shatter resistance needed to withstand the rigors of hospital or patient recovery environment—it is a successful medical application that meets the needs of patients' well being," says Pollok.

As a medical plastics solution partner, Eastman leveraged its industry understanding, along with extensive design, engineering, and manufacturing expertise to help ensure that the product was durable enough to withstand the demanding performance requirements of in-home patient use.

Partner with Eastman for optimal results

The medical industry has responded well to KCI's enhanced product. "Eastman's specialty plastics medical team was responsive and provided excellent technical advice and product information. They went above and beyond other material suppliers," states Pollok.



V.A.C. Freedom® canister

Learn more today about how Eastman can partner with you to develop medical devices and packaging that deliver application performance.

Visit www.eastman.com/medical, or call
1-800-EASTMAN (1-800-327-8626).

EASTMAN



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Material Safety Data Sheets providing safety precautions, that should be observed when handling and storing Eastman™ products, are available online or by request. You should obtain and review the available material safety information before handling any of these products. If any materials mentioned are not Eastman™ products, appropriate industrial hygiene and other safety precautions recommended by their manufacturers should be observed.

It is the responsibility of the medical device manufacturer ("Manufacturer") to determine the suitability of all component parts and raw materials, including any Eastman™ product, used in its final product in order to ensure safety and compliance with requirements of the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or other international regulatory agencies.

Eastman™ products have not been designed for nor are they promoted for end uses that would be categorized either by the United States FDA or by the International Standards Organization (ISO) as implant devices. Eastman™ products are not intended for use in the following applications: (1) in any bodily implant applications for greater than 30 days, based on FDA-Modified ISO-10993, Part 1, "Biological Evaluation of Medical Devices" tests (including any cosmetic, reconstructive, or reproductive implant applications); (2) in any cardiac prosthetic device application, regardless of the length of time involved, including, without limitation, pacemaker leads and devices, artificial hearts, heart valves, intra-aortic balloons and control systems, and ventricular bypass assisted devices; or (3) as any critical component in any medical device that supports or sustains human life.

For manufacturers of medical devices, biological evaluation of medical devices is performed to determine the potential toxicity resulting from contact of the component materials of the device with the body. The ranges of tests under FDA-Modified ISO-10993, Part 1, "Biological Evaluation of Medical Devices" include cytotoxicity, sensitization, irritation or intracutaneous reactivity, systemic toxicity (acute), subchronic toxicity (sub-acute), implantation, and hemocompatibility. For Eastman™ products offered for the medical market, limited testing information is available upon request. The Manufacturer of the medical device is responsible for the biological evaluation of the finished medical device.

The suitability of an Eastman™ product in a given end-use environment is dependent upon various conditions including, without limitation, chemical compatibility, temperature, part design, sterilization method, residual stresses, and external loads. It is the responsibility of the Manufacturer to evaluate its final product under actual end-use requirements and to adequately advise and warn purchasers and users thereof.

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