

Eastman's Ecdel™ elastomer enhances medical tubing technology

A fifty-year leader in tubing extrusion technology for the medical and industrial markets, Natvar prides itself in responsiveness and constantly works with customers to improve its ability to react to the ever-changing medical market. Natvar believes that the team concept of manufacturing is essential for continued success for them and their customers. That's why Natvar partnered with Eastman to provide medical plastics expertise and with Gentex for capabilities in colorless laser welding technologies to produce its Clearweld additive technology.

Effectively bringing it all together

Eastman's medical team successfully applied its medical plastics expertise and guided the selection of its Ecdel™ elastomer as the outer layer of Natvar's Sure Bond tubing used for the delivery of unstable medications. Gentex's Clearweld additive technology together with Eastman's Ecdel™ enables the medical tubing to be laser welded to other medical parts without compromising product performance.

"Eastman's long-term relationship with Natvar proved pivotal to the Clearweld project," says John Pullo, Gentex's VP and GM of Performance Materials. "Eastman's expert medical team educated and advised us on the best material choice that worked with our proprietary technology."

Successfully taking it to the next level

Eastman was key in assisting Natvar and Gentex in the selection of its Ecdel™ elastomer as the outer layer of Natvar's 252 tri-layer tubing. The elastomer is the material critical in ensuring that the Sure Bond layer is clear, has optimal joint strength, and excellent product integrity.

"Our goal was to create tubing products that provided our customers with a solution to their bonding issues, effectively meeting the needs of a wide range of medical markets," says Bob Donohue, Divisional Director of Technologies for Natvar.

"Eastman's Ecdel™ medical plastics solution and Gentex's proprietary technology guarantees our customers are getting the best-performing medical tubing on the market," states Donohue.

Consistently exceeding customer expectations

The new Sure Bond tubing withstands pressures better and helps avoid catastrophic bond failure during intense surgical procedures. The medical tubing is a more robust, effective product that can be used for a variety of patient-care products. Natvar has an extensive list of customers who have entered the development and validation stage of the company's new Sure Bond technology.



Clearweld laser weld

Visit www.eastman.com/medical today or call 1-800-EASTMAN (1-800-327-8626) for more information on Ecdel™ elastomer and other materials in Eastman's portfolio of products for the medical industry.



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