

PPE LAUNCHES NEW STEAM RESISTANT FDA-COMPLIANT ELASTOMER

Precision Polymer Engineering, Stand F6, Hall 9.0,ACHEMA 2009, 11 – 15 May, Frankfurt

PPE is unveiling V70SW, an innovative steam-resistant fluoroelastomer (FKM) material, at this year's ACHEMA. The high performance seal specialist has developed this FDA-compliant elastomer grade to meet the demand for efficient sealing in pharmaceutical, bio-analytical and food processing facilities. Offering excellent chemical resistance, superior mechanical properties and temperature stability up to 200°C, V70SW fills the gap between traditional FKM grades and high end perfluoroelastomers (FFKMs).

A peroxide-cured FKM, V70SW provides excellent performance in water and steam applications, making it ideal for food and pharmaceutical processing where sterilization processes require exposure to high temperature steam. Other FKMs such as bisphenol-cured grades are unable to withstand steam or water at high temperatures, while hydrogenated nitrile butadiene rubber (HNBR) can swell in steam and ethylene propylene diene M-class rubber (EPDM) lacks adequate chemical resistance to oils and solvents. In addition HNBR and EPDM do not offer high temperature capability, limiting their use in some food processing applications. V70SW has been designed to outperform these alternative grades by offering all-round functionality for food and pharmaceutical applications.

John Kerwin, PPE's Materials Technology Manager comments: "There was a gap in the market for a steam resistant FDA-compliant elastomer grade and V70SW offers the required functionality and more. The outstanding steam and heat resistance of the material coupled with its good chemical resistance make it the ideal choice for food and pharmaceutical processors looking for cost-effective, highly functional sealing solutions."

Ideal for O-rings, gaskets, sanitary pipe couplings and ball segment valve seals, V70SW can be used for all applications requiring FDA and USP Class VI compliance. To meet diverse requirements, additional steam resistant elastomers offered by PPE include; V75SR (FDA-compliant FKM) and Perlast® G74S (FFKM).