



8040 Dixie Highway
Florence, KY 41042
www.topas-us.com

For Immediate Release

TOPAS Advanced Polymers' New COC Film Grade Boasts the Industry's Lowest Glass Transition Temperature

TOPAS[®] 9903D-10 COC Delivers Unique Combination of Low-Temperature Shrinkage and High Stiffness for Film Packaging Applications

FLORENCE, Ky., January 12, 2010 – A new film extrusion grade of cyclic olefin copolymer (COC) from TOPAS Advanced Polymers, Inc. extends the commercial glass transition temperature range down to 33° C. TOPAS 9903D-10 is the company's latest film extrusion resin which delivers a unique combination of low-temperature shrinkage, sealing, and high stiffness for a range of shrink films and sealant films for the consumer packaging industry.

“We've developed a new solution for converters and packagers that eliminates typical tradeoffs and provides low-temperature shrinkage with high modulus,” said Timothy Kneale, president of TOPAS Advanced Polymers. The new material is used to enhance polyolefin formulations for a range of monolayer and multilayer packaging film applications including shrink film, shrink sleeves and shrink labels for bottles and other consumer packaging, and in improved sealant films for stand-up pouches.

In polyolefin blends containing 5% to 50% of the new COC, low-temperature shrinkage and stiffness were improved significantly, resulting in better downstream processing. In multilayer sealant films, the new material provides excellent low-temperature sealing and high stiffness for stand-up pouches.

TOPAS 9903D-10 boosts the performance of ultra linear-low-density PE which is typically used

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in applications that require low-temperature shrinkage. Higher stiffness is a key benefit, resulting in improved web handling and printing operations. Shrinkage is also enhanced, but unlike most stiff polymers, shrink force is actually reduced by the COC resin so packages are less likely to distort or crush when wrapped.

TOPAS 9903D-10 COC resin has a melt flow index of 0.9 which is similar to that of LLDPE grades that are used for shrink films. The material's tensile modulus of 100,000 psi increases when the film is oriented. TOPAS COCs are amorphous polymers that offer high transparency, outstanding moisture barrier, high rigidity and strength, excellent biocompatibility, and good electrical insulation properties. This unique combination of properties has led to TOPAS COC applications in such areas as medical devices, food and pharmaceutical packaging, optics, and electronics.

About TOPAS Advanced Polymers

TOPAS Advanced Polymers manufactures and markets TOPAS cyclic olefin copolymers (COCs) for advanced packaging, healthcare, optical, and other applications worldwide. It also supplies the chemical raw material norbornene. It is a joint venture of Daicel Chemical Industries Ltd., and Polyplastics Co., Ltd. Headquartered in Frankfurt, Germany, it has a U.S. subsidiary in Florence, Ky., and operates a 30,000-metric ton/year COC plant, the world's largest, in Oberhausen, Germany. TOPAS Advanced Polymers was launched in 2006 following the purchase of the TOPAS business from Ticona, a subsidiary of Celanese Corp. For more information, visit www.topas.com.

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Press Contact:

Joseph Grande
413.684.2463
joe.grande@verizon.net