

Flexible in more ways than one

Since the first polymer was discovered, plastics have found applications in every area of modern life. The versatility of this man-made material seems limitless and new ways of exploiting its unique properties are being developed all the time. In the relatively specialised area of technical films alone, products made from this material have applications in medical technology, photovoltaic installations, biogas production, electronic devices and wind energy. One of the leading producers of TPU films for these markets is Epurex Films GmbH & Co. KG in Bomlitz, Germany, which is part of Bayer MaterialScience AG.

Epurex Films specialises in the manufacture of extruded high performance thermoplastic polyurethane films supplied in various thicknesses and film widths. Films can have single or multiple layers depending on the application and a range of advanced coatings and treatments have expanded the applications enormously. "Technology has made and continues to make significant strides

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they have useful applications in the biogas sector where they reduce methane loss to a minimum. These films are also used in the automotive sector where they are used to sound-proof the driver's cockpit from engine noise or to prevent the entry of water, dirt or petrol. They are also being used in car seats to provide lumbar support. "The automotive sector has grown in importance and



Managing Director Roland Steenblock



Pressure sensing pad made using flexible polyurethane film



TPU films are also used for medical dressings to protect wounds

forward," says Managing Director Roland Steenblock. "Our films are available in a wide range of grades with specialist finishings that increase their performance characteristics. We can also supply customised films as required." All of the compa-

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new things are vital for the future success of the company. Turnover in 2008 reached 30 million EUR. The recession means that the result for 2009 will be lower but the second half of the year is already looking more positive. With its broad product portfolio and customer base as well as its strong parent company, Epurex Films is well positioned to take advantage of the upturn in the economy when it comes. ■

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