

Solvay Booth #2414 | MD&M West 2020

Solvay's Xencor™ LFT targets structural medical equipment components

Anaheim, Calif., Feb. 13, 2020 --- Solvay's Xencor™ LFT compounds deliver high strength and enhanced impact resistance for structural applications. These long glass fiber-reinforced thermoplastics (LFT) offer healthcare designers and OEMs new opportunities to replace metal and traditional short fiber thermoplastics used in structural medical components. Typical applications include chassis, gear systems and components needing high mechanical properties and load-bearing capabilities. Solvay is showcasing these new materials at [MD&M West 2020](#) in booth #2414.

Solvay's pultrusion manufacturing process produces continuous and highly aligned glass fiber-reinforced Xencor™ LFT compounds that provide better retention of mechanical properties at elevated temperatures along with very low creep, outstanding fatigue resistance and excellent surface finish. Depending on the polymer and grade, Xencor™ LFT compounds can contain between 30 to 60 percent long fiber reinforcement.

The advantages of using Xencor™ LFT compounds over metals include lighter weight, expanded design freedom, superior chemical resistance and streamlined processing. These benefits were recently demonstrated with the development of the [first all-polymer e-bike from Stavjelo](#) for which certain technical requirements can be applied to medical equipment.

"Xencor™ LFT compounds enhance our already robust metal-to-plastic replacement product portfolio for medical equipment," said Jeff Hrivnak, global business manager for Healthcare at Solvay Specialty Polymers global business unit. *"As is typical with our portfolio, Xencor™ LFT products stand up to aggressive disinfectants needed in healthcare and can reduce overall manufacturing costs through the use of high-speed injection molding."*

The Xencor™ LFT portfolio is comprised of grades based on select Solvay semi-crystalline resin systems: Ryton® polyphenylene sulfide (PPS), Amodel® polyphthalamide (PPA) and Ixef® polyarylamide (PARA).

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Solvay Specialty Polymers manufactures over 1500 products across 35 brands of high-performance polymers – fluoropolymers, fluoroelastomers, fluorinated fluids, semi-aromatic polyamides, sulfone polymers, ultra-high performance aromatic polymers, and high-barrier polymers – for use in Aerospace, Alternative Energy, Automotive, Healthcare, Membranes, Oil and Gas, Packaging, Plumbing, Semiconductors, Wire & Cable, and other industries. Learn more at www.solvayspecialtypolymers.com.

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Solvay's new Xencor™ long fiber thermoplastic (LFT) compounds deliver high strength and stiffness along with enhanced impact resistance for structural applications. Unlike traditional highly filled short fiber thermoplastics (SFTs), Xencor™ LFT compounds create an entangled 3D fiber skeleton within the final molded part that provides superior structural properties and dimensional stability. Photo courtesy of Solvay.