

Dow and Alex Kunststoffe

Circular Flex Polyurethane Foam for Office Chairs



Challenge

Alex Kunststoffe supplies furniture manufacturers across Europe with high-quality polyurethane foams that offer maximum comfort.

Shifts in consumer behaviour towards more sustainable products have led the company to search for a new solution for flex molded foams used in office chairs. The catch – it had to reduce the product's carbon footprint.



Our answer

Thanks to a longstanding relationship between Dow and Alex Kunststoffe, we were the first supplier to be approached by them.

After considerable research and development, Dow has replaced virgin fossil feedstocks and produced a polyol system based on post-consumer waste. Through a mass balance third party certified chain of custody*, the alternative feedstock is traced through the Dow production process. This results in a product that meets the same quality standards that customers such as Alex Kunststoffe have come to expect from Dow ComfortScienceTM products.

WE ARE EXCITED TO INTRODUCE
MASS BALANCE FOAM TO THE UNITED STATES.
IT SUPPORTS OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT
TO USING MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY
MATERIALS IN OUR PRODUCTS.

Danny Davis, Davis Furniture Industries, Alex Kunststoffe customer

Key results

Collaborating with Dow, Alex Kunststoffe now offers flex molded foams for office chairs that are made with circular raw materials and a reduced amount of fossil feedstock. Each kilogram of polyol produced contains 66% of circular content**, preventing the same proportion of waste from being incinerated.

As a result, the polyol used by Alex Kunststoffe has a 41% reduction in global warming potential (GWP), reducing the Scope 3 emissions from foam manufacturing***.

This innovative product supports Alex Kunststoffe and its customers as they take a step towards addressing their circularity and decarbonization goals.

66%

CIRCULAR CONTENT

41%

REDUCTION IN GWP

vs fossil-based product equivalent, taking into account prevented emissions

SAVING ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES IS
AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR COMPANY POLICY.
WITH THE 2024 PRODUCT LAUNCH, DOW IS
SUPPORTING US AS WE TURN THIS STRATEGY INTO
ACTION BY USING RECYCLED MATERIALS IN OUR
HIGH-QUALITY PRODUCTS. WE LOOK FORWARD
TO DRIVING THESE DEVELOPMENTS FORWARD
THROUGH OUR CONTINUED COLLABORATION.

Marc Hönig, CEO, Alex Kunststoffe GmbH

Do you want to learn more?

Find out how we are collaborating with our customers to reach their comfort and sustainability goals.

Or get in touch today.

TfS= Together for Sustainability

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^{*} Third party certified by the International Sustainability Carbon Certification (ISCC Plus)

^{** 66%} circular content attributed by mass balance following ISCC Plus

^{****} Product Carbon Footprint internally calculated following ISO 14040/44/67 cradle-to-gatewaste EoL. Recycling system calculated using system expansion (cut-off approach TfS, the Gold standard for calculating PCF in Chemical Industry).