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Low birefringent cellulose acetate propionates for Plastic Display Lens Covers

Maureen Pa

Barnsley S

B135

Sainsbury's

Scott St

Presenters: Chris Scarazzo Laura Weaver Eastman Chemical Company

Excerpts from SPE-ANTEC 2018

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Objectives

- Introduction to Eastman
 - Specialty Plastics
- Biocertified cellulose ester chemistries
 - Use in low-birefringent display films
 - New cellulose esters for injection molded automotive display lens covers
 - Development of functional coatings
- Conclusions and paths forward



Additives & Functional Products

2017 sales revenue: \$3.3 B
35% of total Eastman sales



Advanced Materials

2017 sales revenue: \$2.6 B
27% of total Eastman sales

Fibers

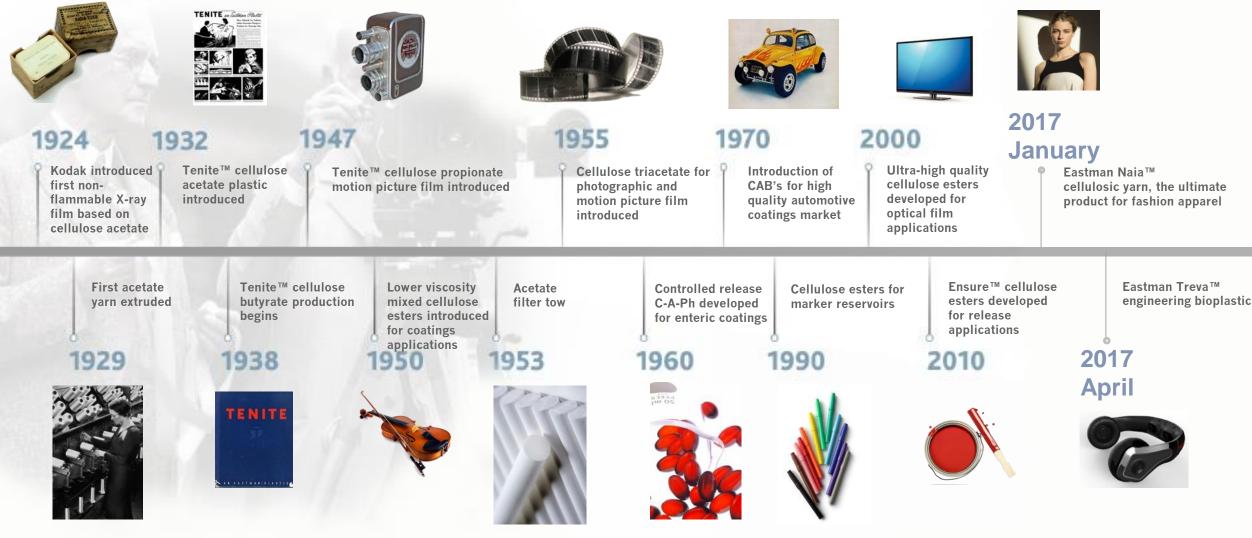
- 2017 sales revenue: \$852 M
- 9% of total Eastman sales

A diverse and attractive **portfolio** of businesses



Cellulose esters: a rich history at Eastman

A century of innovation



Historical presence in display films

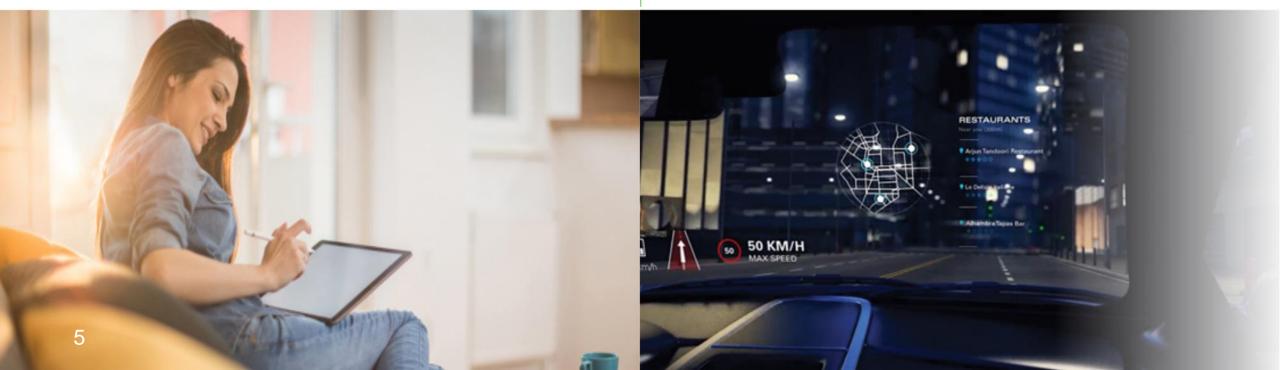
Eastman Visualize[™] materials

- Polarizer film materials that enable and protect LCD displays
- **Transparent conductive films**, including optically clear films used in optoelectronic devices such as flat-panel displays, e-readers, and resistive and capacitive touch screen applications
- Light-diffusing film materials that make electronic displays brighter
- **Compensation film** materials that improve contrast, view angles, clarity, and overall optic quality

$Saflex^{\texttt{R}} \; VIEW \; ST \; \text{head-up display interlayer technology}$

Head-up displays (HUD) allows projection of needed information onto windshield. Eastman interlayers improve HUD experience to deliver:

- Safety & security
- Crash avoidance
- Navigation
- Comfort
- Connectivity











"We think the interior is going to change more in the next 10 to 20 years than it did in the last 100"

- Han Hendriks, VP Product Development, Yanfeng Automotive Interiors

Automotive touchscreen megatrend

Consumers want:

- Less distractions
- Luxurious look and feel inside the cockpit (harmonious integration of HMI with the rest of the interior components)
- Infotainment without glare, easy legibility
- Antifingerprint

Automotive touchscreen megatrend

The problems are:

- Glass surfaces are hard to add 3D dimensionality and are brittle.
- Traditional injection moldable grades of PC shows birefringence (rainbows).
- PMMA exhibits low birefringence but is brittle and exhibits poor heat resistance.

Automotive touchscreen megatrend

But there is opportunity with a new material that shows:

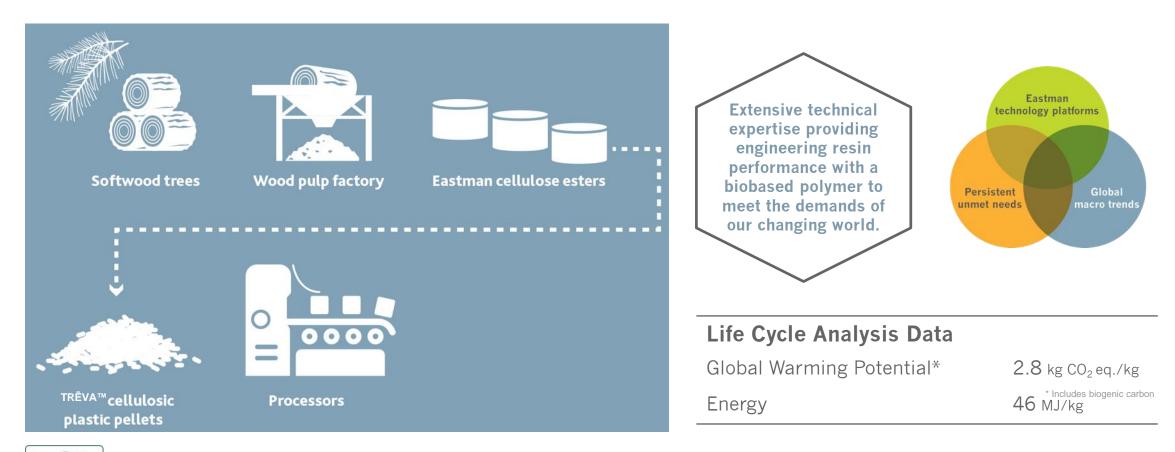
- Low birefringence
- Good flow in injection molding
- Low VOC
- Biobased manufacture

Eastman TREVA® engineering bioplastic

Eastman **TRĒVA**[™]

engineering bioplastic

Naturally Better





FSC www.fsc.org FSC* C140711

The mark of

responsible forestry

BIO-BASED/ RESPONSIBLY MANAGED

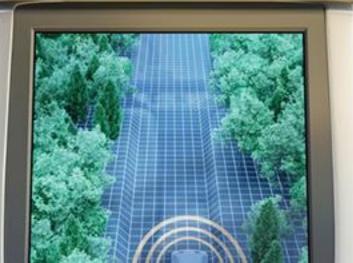
Eastman carries FSC® chain of custody certification.

GC 6021

Properties for automotive applications

- Birefringence, haze, light transmittance
- Viscosity—flow for injection molding
- Low volatile organic components
- Biobased with performance

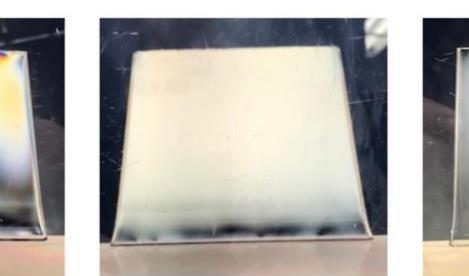
- Heat resistance, heat aging—95°C/7 day
- Impact resistance at 23°C and -30°C
- Humid aging, UV testing
- Coatings for added functionality





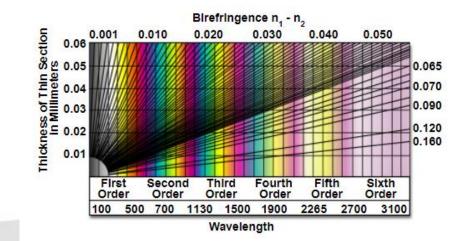
Birefringence

PC



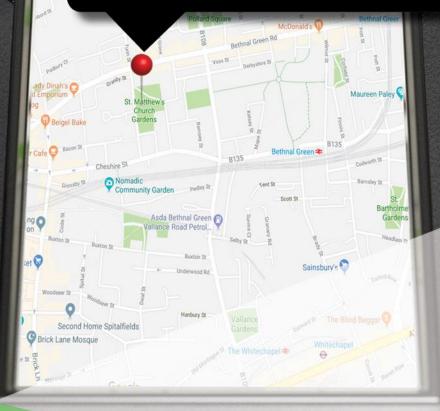
TRĒVA™

PMMA



Effects of gate design on Birefringence in HMI Mold

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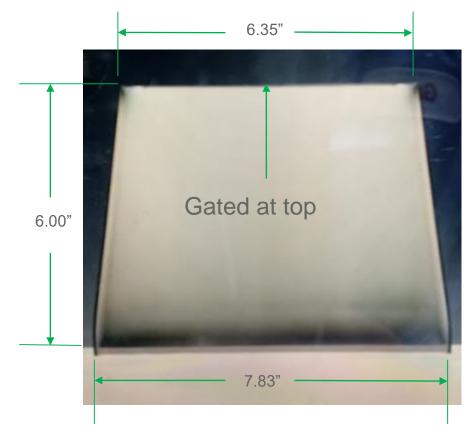


Birefringence in HMI molds—experimental description

- Mold Treva in HMI mold on 200 Ton TOYO press
- Use molding parameter changes and gate designs to produce parts with low birefringence
- Use cross polar light box to determine level of birefringence in the molded parts
- Molding Variables
 - Mold Temperature
 - Melt Temperature
 - Fill Speed
- Determine effects of gate design on birefringence
 - Film Gate
 - Tab Gate
 - Fan Gate
- Record molding parameters and use the learnings to produce low birefringence parts in future applications for Treva

EAST

HMI part dimensions

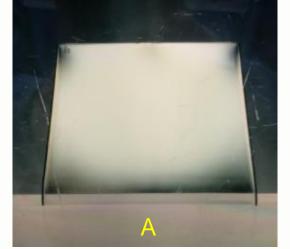


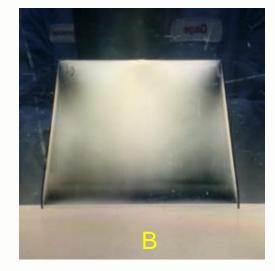
Part shown with gate detached

Part thickness = 0.08 inches

Tab gate results







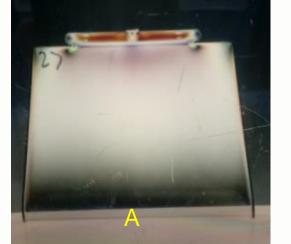
Part photos taken with cross polar lighted background to show birefringence

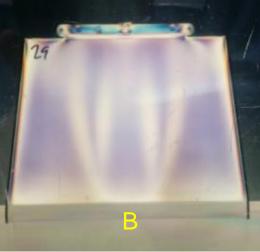
Part	Barrel Temperature Setpoint (°F)	Mold Temperature (°F)	Fill Speed (in/sec)	Screw Speed (RPM)	Back Pressure (psi)	Cycle Time (seconds)
А	485	185	0.7	100	100	30.2
В	485	185	4.0	100	100	29.1

High mold temperature in combination with slow fill speed produced the lowest birefringence parts but was never able to eliminate the shadowed corners through process variations

Film gate results







Part photos taken with cross polar lighted background to show birefringence

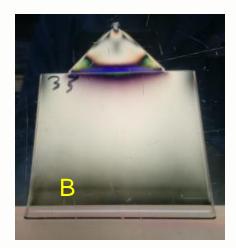
Part	Barrel Temperature Setpoint (°F)	Mold Temperature (°F)	Fill Speed (in/sec)	Screw Speed (RPM)	Back Pressure (psi)	Cycle Time (seconds)
А	485	185	2.6	100	100	28.7
В	485	185	0.35	100	100	34.1

High mold temperature in combination with fast fill speed produced the lowest birefringence parts but was unable to eliminate the shadow and streaking protruding into the part from the gate area via processing changes.

Fan gate results



30 A

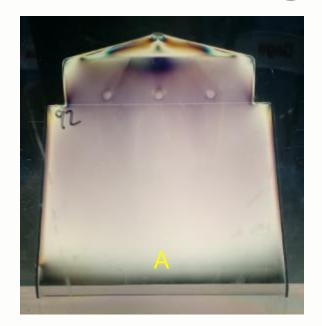


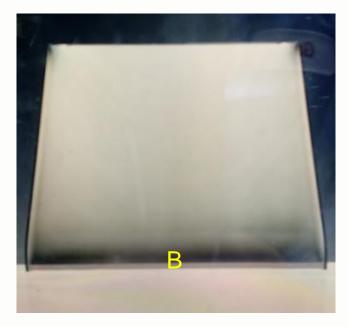
Part photos taken with cross polar lighted background to show birefringence

Part	Barrel Temperature Setpoint (°F)	Mold Temperature (°F)	Fill Speed (in/sec)	Screw Speed (RPM)	Back Pressure (psi)	Cycle Time (seconds)
А	485	185	0.83	100	100	30.5
В	485	185	3.3	100	100	28.4

The fan gate with high mold temperature in combination with fast fill speed produced the lowest birefringence parts out of the three gate designs tested. The results from these experiments led to further modification of the fan gate to move the shadow completely out of the part and back onto the gate area.

Widened fan gate results





Part	Barrel Temperature Setpoint (°F)	Mold Temperature (°F)	Fill Speed (in/sec)	Screw Speed (RPM)	Back Pressure (psi)	Cycle Time (seconds)	Press Tonnage
А	485	185	* 0.83	100	100	30.5	200
В	505	185	2.5	140	100	28.4	310

* Couldn't inject faster due to flash

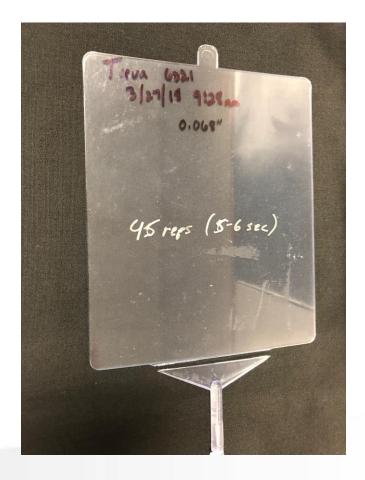
Part photos taken with cross polar lighted background to show birefringence

- Fan gate was modified by widening the gate entry area and moving the transition angle back towards the sprue.
- Added surface area required moving the mold to a 310 Ton press to prevent part flashing
- The modified fan gate design gave the most uniform and lowest birefringence when viewed through cross polar lighting.
- The widened fan gate resulted in successfully moving the previously experienced shadow from the part to the gate area via faster injection speed, high mold temp and high melt temp

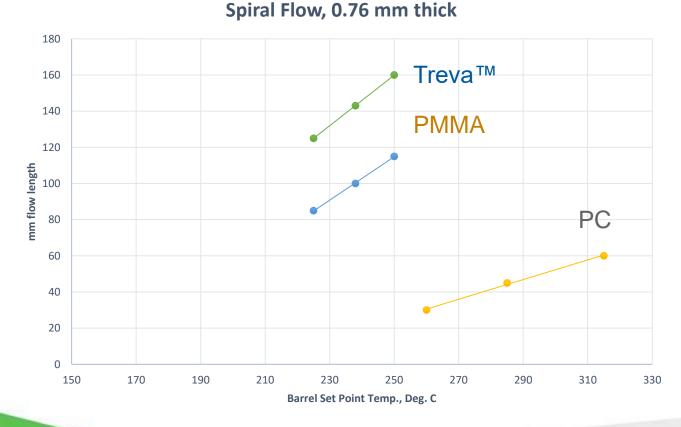
Laser cutting



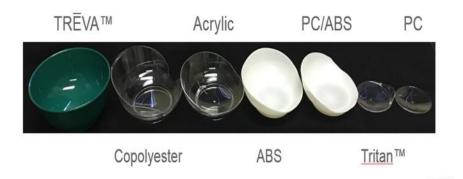
- CO2 laser used (Keyence)
- Clean and perfect cut edges
- No charring, popping, cracking
- No post processing necessary
- No tool cleaning or sticking of parts after cutting
- No tool wear



Viscosity enables thin part molding



● Eastman Trēva™ GC6011

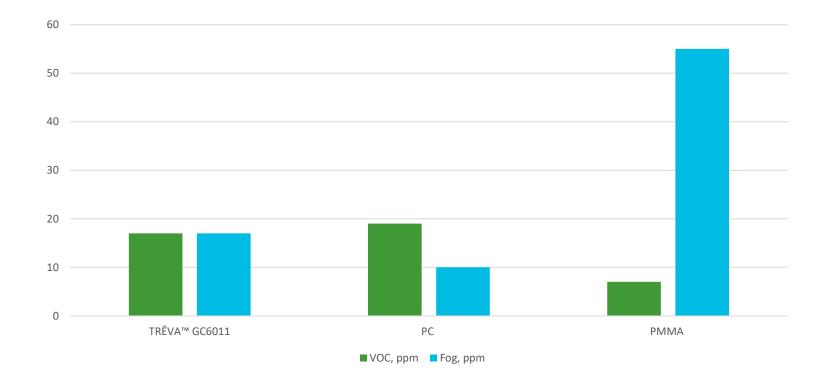


Hot runner with valve gate Small pin gate

Eastman Trēva[™] engineering bioplastic fills the part while others cannot.

Volatile Organic Components*

VDA 278 test method (measured in-house)



* Intertek – 3rd party results for Trēva = 2.25 ppm VOC, 0.5 ppm Fog

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Heat resistance

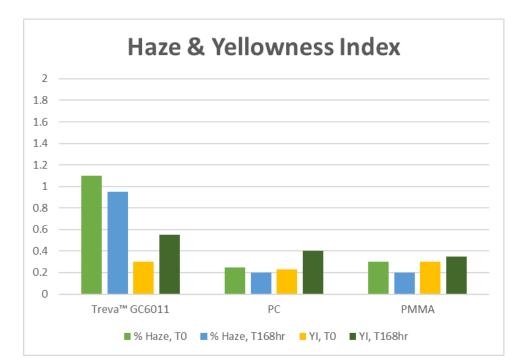
Oven sag test (95°C, 7 days)



PMMA PC Trēva

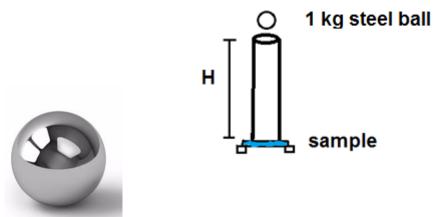
Heat aging (95°C, 7 days)

Target <2% haze



Impact properties

Uncoated plaques

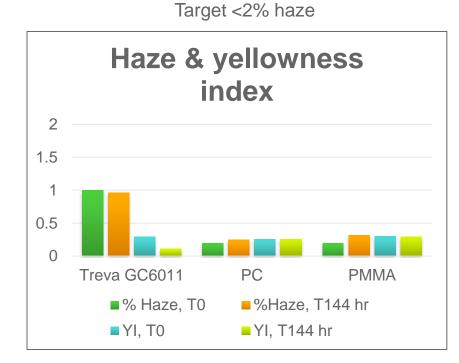


	1 kg Steel Ball Drop Impact				
2 mm thickness	23 De	g. C	(-)30 Deg. C		
	1 Joule	5 Joule	1 Joule	5 Joule	
PMMA	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail	
PC	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	
Eastman TRĒVA™ GC6011	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	

Humidity and UV

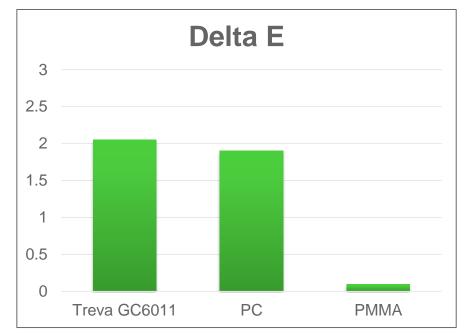
Uncoated plaques

95% RH, 40°C, 144 hr



UV cyclic testing – SAE J2412

300 hr., 601.6 kJ/m², target <3 Delta E



Conclusions and path forward

Cellulose acetate propionate(s) benefits for display lens covers:

- Biocertified engineering thermoplastic with petroleum based engineering thermoplastic performance
- Low birefringence with proper gate design and processing
- Low VOCs and fogging
- Flow in thin walled injection molding
- Impact toughness (5 Joule) at both 23° and -30°C
- < 2% Haze after 7 days of heat and humid aging
- Dimensional stability after 7 days @ 95°C
- <3 Delta E after 601 KJ/m² of cyclic UV testing (1240 -2500 KJ/m2 data by Aug.)
- Process development expertise available to support customer programs
- Multi-generation product development for improved optics
- Partner with surface enhancing technology partners to address OEM and Tier display targets

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