

# Press Release



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Covestro expands medical-grade materials portfolio

## **New polycarbonate blend offers winning combination of benefits for electronic medical devices**

Infections acquired by a patient in a hospital or other healthcare facility are a significant problem, associated with high healthcare costs and morbidity rates. To prevent these healthcare acquired infections (HAIs), hospitals disinfect and sterilize medical devices, including those that come in contact with patient skin. For medical devices incorporating electronics, this creates a demand for a medical-grade polycarbonate with a unique combination of properties: flame retardancy, chemical resistance and skin contact biocompatibility.

To meet this demand, Covestro has developed a new polycarbonate blend, Makroblend® M4000 FR polycarbonate/polybutylene terephthalate (PC+PBT) that is appropriate for skin contact applications. This high-tech plastic is biocompatible according to ISO 10993-5 (Cytotoxicity) and ISO10993-10 (Irritation and Sensitization).

In addition to its biocompatibility, Makroblend® M4000 FR PC+PBT blend provides a high level of chemical resistance and flame retardancy of V-0 at 2.0 mm and 5VA at 2.3 mm.

“We are meeting a clear need for manufacturers of patient monitoring, diagnostic, fluid delivery and medication delivery systems with a material that is safe for contact with patient skin combined with flame retardancy and chemical resistance,” explains Lauren Zetts, North America market manager, Medical and Consumer Products – Polycarbonates, Covestro LLC. “The use of other housing materials can result in surface changes, cracked housings or stress fractures, but the new Makroblend® material helps diminish these issues.”



Makroblend® M4000 FR PC+PBT blend also offers a variety of other desirable properties to help medical original equipment manufacturers solve their toughest challenges. Its high toughness and high modulus enable thin-walled designs, and its excellent flow helps molders maximize productivity. Additionally, with reduced susceptibility to stress cracking, Makroblend® M4000 FR PC+PBT blend is appropriate for molding medical device equipment housings and enclosures, as it helps to protect the device's electronics and electromechanical components in clinical settings. As a medical grade that is appropriate for skin contact, Makroblend® M4000 FR PC+PBT blend is subject to a formulation lock and strict management of change process.

Covestro offers a variety of polycarbonate blends designed to meet the needs of the medical industry. Attendees at [MD&M West](#) Conference and Exposition, Feb. 7-9, in Anaheim, California, can visit Covestro's booth (#2021) for more details about Makroblend® M4000 FR PC+PBT blend and other Covestro material solutions for medical applications.

**About Covestro LLC:**

Covestro LLC is one of the leading producers of high-performance polymers in North America and is part of the global Covestro business with 2015 sales of EUR 12.1 billion. Covestro manufactures high-tech polymer materials and develops innovative solutions for products used in many areas of daily life. The main segments served are the automotive, electrical and electronics, construction, medical and sports and leisure industries. The Covestro group has 30 production sites around the globe and employed approximately 15,800 people at the end of 2015.

Find more information at [www.covestro.com](http://www.covestro.com) or [www.plastics.covestro.com](http://www.plastics.covestro.com)

**Forward-Looking Statements**

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