Cosmetics
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Metabolix announces launch of new bioplastic and biodegradable colorants

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Telles has collaborated with plastics molder Nypro to develop its next generation of injection molding bioplastic, suitable for a wider range of applications.

Bioplastics are often criticized for failing to match the performance of traditional alternatives but Telles claims its new injection molding grade of bioplastic is a match for traditional thermoplastics.

Telles is a joint venture between Metabolix and Archer Daniels Midland Company that has already developed a family of bioplastic materials, called Mirel, which it claims has the physical properties of petroleum-based resins.

P1003 is the latest product to join the family of bioplastics and it is the second generation of Mirel for injection molding, replacing both P1001 and P1002 with a single grade suitable for a wider range of applications, including cosmetics and personal care.

Features and attributes of new bioplastic material

Metabolix said the bio-based semi-crystalline polyester is tough, durable and has excellent resistance to heat, a common problem for bioplastics. It added that P1003 is therefore a suitable replacement for high performance materials including ABS and polycarbonate.

Other advanced attributes highlighted by the company include overall improved processability, improved flow, faster overall cycle times compared to other biopolymers, and an overall cycle time similar to traditional thermoplastics.

More comprehensive product information including a data sheet and an injection molding processing guide can be found on the Mirel Plastics website, which can be accessed by clicking here .

New compostable and biodegradable color concentrates

Telles has also collaborated with Teknor Color Company to develop new color concentrates for use with Mirel resin.

Metabolix said the new color concentrates are formulated for use with Mirel base resins and meet ASTM D6400 and EN 13432 standards for compostability and biodegradability.

The new Mirel colorants are designed for use on a wide range of injection, molding, sheet, film, and thermoforming applications.

“Teknor developed this series of color concentrates for use with Mirel PHA in direct response to consumer demands for a wider range of bioplastic colorants,” said John Wood, technical manager with Teknor Color.