

Press release

Sustainable and safe reusable cup with the help of KRAIBURG TPE

Waldkraiburg, April 2021

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Less waste and more convenience with KRAIBURG TPE

Enjoying coffee without feeling guilty: Reusable coffee cup lid made of TPE

Sustainability, convenience and enjoyment are now no longer contradictions – and manufacturers are responding: for example Cadios GmbH, a German start-up business that has developed the first reusable lid for coffee mugs and cups. The conically shaped lid made of TPE fits onto most common household cups and with its durability can make a lasting contribution to waste reduction. The “Udo” lid is available in many colors and can be customized on request.

With the July 3, 2021 deadline approaching, there is still high demand for smart solutions in the takeaway food sector that are as sustainable as possible. To protect the oceans and the environment, a ban on the sale of single-use goods will be coming into effect on that date. The ban applies to single-use products such as drinking straws, swizzle sticks and cotton swabs, tableware and disposable cups. There are already plenty of alternative products, but most of them involve complete replacement with new products such as recyclable coffee cups. To solve this problem, the German company Cadios has developed the first reusable coffee cup lid: “Udo” is made in Germany in a climate-neutral process. In addition, the TPE compound, also produced in Germany, can be returned to the technical production cycle through in-process recycling.

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Since the creators of “Udo” regard sustainability and quality as the central aims of their work, their materials choice was in favor of a compound from KRAIBURG TPE’s portfolio. The halogen-free THERMOLAST® K product is particularly suitable for applications in everyday use and provides appropriate durability without losing its high quality over an extended period of time. The compound also has a soft-touch surface, making it very comfortable to hold but still providing a non-slip grip. The TPE can be custom-colored in any way you like and customized with a company logo using laser technology. Excellent mechanical properties and good compression set also meet users’ requirements. An overview of additional advantages of the compound used:

- In-process recycling is possible
- Dishwasher safe
- Outstandingly good grip due to excellent haptic properties
- High-temperature resistance
- Suitable for multi-component injection molding
- Conformity with Regulation (EU) No. 10/2011
- Raw materials conformity US FDA CFR 21
- Conformity with DIN EN 71-3

“We set high standards for the materials that are used for our design products, because we want to supply our customers with an honest, sustainable and high-quality product. KRAIBURG TPE’s compound scored with its whole package. The material meets our expectations and helps to supply our customers with genuine added value. After all, hot drinks taste best when you drink them from your favorite cup,” says Carina Frings, Head of Marketing & Design, Public Relations at Cadios.

This THERMOLAST® K product is translucent and available all over Europe.

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Image: The space-saving, sustainable “coffee to go” solution: The lid made of TPE fits on most common household cups. (Source: Felix Hackland)

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About KRAIBURG TPE

KRAIBURG TPE (www.kraiburg-tpe.com) is a global manufacturer of thermoplastic elastomers. From its beginning in 2001 as subsidiary of the historical KRAIBURG Group founded in 1947, KRAIBURG TPE has pioneered in TPE compounds, today being the competence leader in this industry. With production sites in Germany, the US, and Malaysia the company offers a broad range of compounds for applications in the automotive, industrial, consumer, and for the strictly regulated medical sectors. The established THERMOLAST®, COPEC®, HIPEX®, and For Tec E® product lines are processed by injection molding or extrusion and provide numerous processing and product design advantages to manufacturers. KRAIBURG TPE features innovative capabilities as well as true global customer orientation, customized product solutions and reliable service. The company is certified to ISO 50001 at its headquarters in Germany and holds ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certifications at all global sites. In 2020, KRAIBURG TPE generated sales of 184 million euros with around 650 worldwide employees.