

Eastman Tritan[™] copolyester for transparent in-mold decoration applications

Eastman Tritan™ copolyester

- Eastman Tritan™ is an innovative, new-generation copolyester that retains the versatility of traditional copolyesters while offering higher temperature performance and impact resistance. The unique properties of Tritan™ deliver advantages over other clear thermoplastics.
- Functional attributes of the Eastman Tritan[™] copolyester:
 - Toughness
 - Clarity
 - Excellent chemical resistance
 - Lower melt processing temperature
 - Good adhesion to ink/films
 - Low levels of residual stress
 - Can be a drop-in replacement for PC, PMMA, and PC/Polyester with minor or no modifications

In-mold decoration (IMD)

 The IMD process is a versatile and economic method of decorating and manufacturing higher value durable plastic parts. In products such as mobile phones, appliances and medical devices, generally IMD is used to produce thin-wall lenses, windows or covers. For such applications, a clear plastic substrate is molded behind a decorative film or foil. Eastman Tritan™ copolyester represents a compelling new option for the substrate material.

Striking a balance

- As evidenced by the data below, all materials come with tradeoffs. Eastman Tritan[™] copolyester, however, represents a unique balance of properties. Tritan[™] offers good clarity, toughness, chemical resistance and flow but with melt temperature sufficiently cool enough to avoid ink washout.
- Tritan[™] offers this at a cost generally lower than some blended material options.
- Tritan™ boasts inherently low levels of residual stress which suggests it's well-suited for complex designs and shapes.

A new substrate option

Data suggests that Eastman Tritan™ copolyester may be an attractive option that eliminates some of the compromises that are unavoidable with materials such as PMMA, PC and PC/Polyester.

Material	Impact resistance, Notched Izod (J/m) ¹	Light transmission (%)²	Melt processing temp (°C)³	Cost
Eastman Tritan™ copolyester	980	91	280	\$\$
Polycarbonate	800	87	290	\$\$
PC/Polyester	830	88	260	\$\$\$
Transparent ABS	100	86	230	\$
PMMA	60	91	240	\$

The value presented above for materials other than Tritan™ are representative of given classes of material and are not intended to represent the performance of a specific product.

¹ASTM D256 @ 23°C

²ASTM D1003

³General recommendations for material type



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Material Safety Data Sheets providing safety precautions, that should be observed when handling and storing Eastman products, are available online or by request. You should obtain and review the available material safety information before handling any of these products. If any materials mentioned are not Eastman products, appropriate industrial hygiene and other safety precautions recommended by their manufacturers should be observed.

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