

News Release



Synthetic leather made with TPU Elastollan® makes car seats more comfortable

- **Thermoplastic Polyurethane (TPU) Elastollan can be extruded onto fabric directly with a non-solvent based technology**
- **Soft but durable: Elastollan provides excellent haptic properties and outstanding wear resistance**

Car seats can now be more comfortable thanks to synthetic leather made with BASF's thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU) Elastollan®. The ultra-soft synthetic leather is highly abrasion resistant and helps manufacturers meet the stringent volatile organic compound (VOC) standards for applications such as car seats and furniture.

Suzhou Ruigao New Material Co. Ltd, a leading manufacturer of synthetic leather, has adopted Elastollan grade B50A12CF in the production of synthetic leather in a Chinese automaker's latest model, due to its cost effective and environmentally friendly thermoplastic process in comparison with conventional processing technologies such as coagulation. "Elastollan significantly simplifies and speeds up the production process of synthetic leather as it can be extruded onto fabric directly without a middle layer using a non-solvent based technology. This helps car makers meet the increasingly stringent VOC standards, especially for car interior applications," said Tony Jones, Head of Industrial, Performance Materials Asia Pacific, BASF.

In addition to being durable and wear resistant, synthetic leather made with Elastollan is well suited for use in car seats and furniture due to its high mechanical performance. This not only enables a soft, thin and flexible layer of material but also makes it easy to dye and

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emboss, allowing a variety of colors and fashion designs.

The product complements BASF's synthetic leather portfolio, which includes Haptex®, a polyurethane (PU) system solution for the production of synthetic leather.

About BASF's Performance Materials Division

BASF's Performance Materials division encompasses the entire materials know-how of BASF regarding innovative, customized plastics under one roof. Globally active in four major industry sectors - transportation, construction, industrial applications and consumer goods - the division has a strong portfolio of products and services combined with a deep understanding of application-oriented system solutions. Key drivers of profitability and growth are our close collaboration with customers and a clear focus on solutions. Strong capabilities in R&D provide the basis to develop innovative products and applications. In 2015, the Performance Materials division achieved global sales of € 6.7 bn. More information online: www.performance-materials.basf.com

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