



Automotive Seal Manufacturer Improves Quality with Pyropel®

Elastomeric Seals



Precision seals and gaskets used in automotive applications

Thermally Degraded Insulation



Thermally degraded glass reinforced polyester platen insulation can cause major quality issues if not properly addressed. The above microscopic photograph shows how the polyester binder has been destroyed and only a skeleton remains.

Insulation Maintenance



Rubber Molder - Indiana, USA

Customer: One of the world's leading manufacturers of elastomeric seals and custom molded products qualified Pyropel MD-60 platen insulation. The company is a technological leader in sealing, vibration control and precision molding.

Customer Challenge: The brake seal molding facility was having difficulty maintaining tight product tolerances because of the failing glass reinforced polyester platen insulation. The boards were degrading and losing parallelism, and the molds were not closing properly. The problem was so significant it required the insulation boards to be replaced every six to eight weeks.

Following the company's continuous improvement program, engineering was focused on finding a solution to improve product quality and consistency. Working with Albany International, they evaluated Pyropel MD-60, a thermal/mechanical platen insulator designed to improve molding performance.

Results: Pyropel MD-60 platen insulation was easily able to withstand the operating conditions and helped the rubber molder to maintain high repeatability in product quality. Pyropel was able to run continuously for 12 months, six to eight times longer than the glass reinforced polyester product. Due to Pyropel's exceptional performance, a decision was made to completely upgrade all of their presses.

Customer Benefits

- Improved product quality
- Significantly reduced downtime
- Saved 66% on cost of insulation