

Product Information

Thermoplastic Polyester PBT500G20L

PBT500G20L is a polybutylene terephthalate (thermoplastic polyester) compound reinforced with 20% glass fiber. Designed for processing by injection molding, it is lubricated for ease of mold release.

PBT500G20L exhibits many of the excellent physical, mechanical and electrical property characteristics of the 30% glass reinforced grades, but with the lower glass fiber content is specifically designed for applications requiring increased flexibility. Typical of reinforced PBT compounds, **PBT500G20L** processes easily to produce parts of excellent surface appearance; rapid crystallization and excellent high temperature rigidity combined to allow fast cycle times.

TYPICAL PROPERTIES

| <u>PROPERTY</u> | <u>ASTM TEST METHOD</u> | <u>ENGLISH</u> | | <u>S.I.</u> | |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | <u>UNITS</u> | <u>VALUE</u> | <u>UNITS</u> | <u>VALUE</u> |
| Melting Point | D789 | °F | 442 | °C | 228 |
| Specific Gravity | D792 | - | 1.45 | - | 1.41 |
| Water Absorption (24 hrs. immersion at 23°C/73°F) | D570 | % | 0.07 | % | 0.07 |
| Heat Deflection Temperature at 264 lbs/in ² (1.82 MPa) | D648 | °F | 383 | °C | 195 |
| Mold Shrinkage Guideline* (Flow Direction) | 1/8" section | % | 0.4-0.5 | % | 0.4-0.5 |
| Tensile Strength at Break | D638 | lbs/in ² | 15,000 | MPa | 103 |
| Elongation at Break | D638 | % | 2-3 | % | 2-3 |
| Flexural Strength | D790 | lbs/in ² | 23,500 | MPa | 162 |
| Flexural Modulus | D790 | lbs/in ² | 900,000 | MPa | 6207 |
| Izod Impact Strength (Notched, 1/8" specimen) | D256 | ft. lbs/in of notch | 1.0 | J/m | 55 |
| Arc Resistance | D495 | secs. | 125 | - | - |
| Dielectric Strength (1/8" specimen) | D149 | volts/.001" | 480 | - | - |

***Please review shrinkages projections for specific applications with an MDE Technical Representative.**

All data generated using test specimens injection molded from natural color material. Inclusion of color pigments or other additives may change some or all of these test results. Tests are conducted at 23°C and 50% relative humidity unless otherwise stated.

These mechanical property test data have been developed using injection molded specimens tested under standardized conditions; furthermore, many of the mechanical properties of thermoplastic materials can be influenced by changes in processing conditions, environmental factors such as temperature and humidity, and rate of application of stress. Therefore, these test results, which characterize typical production material, should not be used either to establish specification limits or alone as the basis for engineering design.

PBT500G20L Processing Guidelines

Drying

Nylon compounds from MDE are shipped in moisture resistant packaging, dried to less than 0.25% moisture. Most processors will further dry nylon resins and compounds, especially after exposure of virgin resin to ambient air for more than an hour, or when a proportion of reground material is being used.

The use of dehumidifying dryers is strongly preferred. The dew point of the drying air stream should be no more than -20°F, and preferably lower. The drying air temperature must be high enough to achieve a pellet temperature of 175-180°F. If using a hopper drier, depending on air hose length and insulation of hoses and hopper, the drying air temperature may need to reach 200-220°F to achieve the required material temperature.

If the pellet temperature reaches 180°F, a residence time of 4 hours is generally adequate to ensure that the material is ready to be processed. Only if residence times are limited to 2 hours should a pellet temperature of 200°F be considered; at 200°F, there is a risk of material oxidation, with associated yellowing of natural color and loss of part performance.

Nylon compounds usually demonstrate visual evidence of unacceptably high moisture levels. This includes splay or silver streaking on the molded part surface, or an unstable melt or nozzle drool at the machine. Additional drying time is indicated if these characteristics are observed.

If moisture analysis equipment is available, an acceptable moisture content range for normal processing is 0.1% to 0.25% maximum. Mold-in-color parts with critical cosmetic requirements may require drying to < 0.1%.

| <u>Residence Time</u> | <u>Temperature</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 2-3 hours | 260-280°F(Max) |
| 5-6 hours | 230-240°F |
| 8 hours-overnight | 215°F |

If equipment is available to analyze moisture content, the maximum recommended level is 0.05%. PBT can be processed without difficulty at levels of 0.1%, but some loss of mechanical properties and part performance will occur.

Temperature Guidelines

The following temperature guidelines are suggested for general use if a machine can be selected where shot size is 40-70% of nominal machine capacity.

| <u>Tool Surface Temperature (°F)</u> | <u>Melt Temperatures (°F)</u> | | | <u>Typical Cylinder Temperatures (°F)</u> | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------|---|---------------|-------------|
| | <u>Max.</u> | <u>Preferred</u> | <u>Min.</u> | <u>Front</u> | <u>Center</u> | <u>Rear</u> |
| 170-200 | 520 | 480-490 | 460 | 470 | 480 | 490 |

- A "reverse" temperature profile helps ensure a homogeneous melt, improves screw recovery and by accelerating the transition from solid pellets to a melt significantly reduces abrasive wear on screw and barrel surfaces.
- A mold surface temperature in the suggested range improves surface appearance, helps consistency of mold fill and therefore consistency of dimensions, minimizes the effect of weld lines and also helps realize best molded part performance.
- A fast injection speed maximizes weld line strength, minimizes molded in stress, and also assures achievement of best surface gloss. Good venting of cavities is essential to allow fast fill without burning.

Screw Forward Time

Although PBT compounds "set up" very rapidly, adequate screw forward time under follow-up pressure is important to ensure proper packing before gate freeze, during which time it is essential to maintain a "cushion" of 1/8" - 1/4". Optimum screw forward time can be judged by a part weight vs. forward time plot. Avoid overpacking, which can generate molded-in stresses.

Screw Recovery

It is recommended that back pressure be applied to the screw to help development of a homogenous melt, and to ensure consistent shot volume. For these reinforced grades, limiting back pressure to about 50 psi gauge will minimize the risk of mechanical damage to the glass fibers with consequent loss of part performance. Screw rotation should also be as slow as possible consistent with cycle time goals, usually 40-80 r.p.m.

Mold Shrinkage

Standard ASTM test specimens are used to develop shrinkage guidelines. Test specimens are end-gated, 1/8 inch thickness, and molded at conditions recommended for this formulation. Actual shrinkage in molded parts will depend on several variables including processing conditions, part configuration and gate location, both of which influence material flow direction, and wall section thickness.