

Plastics inside everywhere

Brochures provide information on the use of plastic plain bearings

Just in time for the Hanover Industrial Fair, the Cologne manufacturer of mechanical equipment components, igus (corporate mission: "plastics for longer life") is providing information on the widespread - and often surprising - present-day use of maintenance-free plastic plain and linear bearings. The three application brochures illustrate a total of 100 examples from a wide range of industry sectors. Selected applications are also available on the Internet at www.iglidur.de/en/unbreakable.

100 examples from a wide range of industry sectors

The brochure on the use of polymer plain bearings ranges from dust conveyor belts, tool changer chains and flap-valve bearing systems (filling and sealing machines) right up to the cylinder sleeves on excavators (special machines) or the rotating arm on hay swathers (agriculture). The brochure on linear guide systems (shafts, low profile rails, etc.) presents corrosion-free, wear-resistant applications with very quiet running properties in the packaging, food processing and filling industries, for example, but also in the measuring technology, inspection optics, automotive and furniture industries. This exciting overview of applications is rounded off with a brochure on self-aligning bearings, which are also made entirely of plastic. These bearings are dry running and possess very good vibration-damping properties, are insensitive to dirt and capable of running in liquids or even in chemicals. Here, too, many different examples are presented (assembly stations, banderoling machines, enveloping machines, door and gate drive units, water control systems, etc.).

Empirical results

Every year, igus engineers develop more than 100 new plastic compounds. These are tested at the company-own laboratory in more than 4,000 experiments every year in order to determine their suitability for use as a maintenance-free, self-lubricating material for plain bearings. All results on the tribological properties of the polymers are included in an extensive, constantly growing database. This database can be used to calculate the life of a plain bearing application on the basis of empirically determined values.



Picture PM0305-01: igus GmbH, Cologne

In three brochures, igus is now providing information to explain where polymer plain, linear and spherical bearings are used.



Picture PM0305-02: igus GmbH, Cologne

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Picture PM0305-03: igus GmbH, Cologne

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Picture PM0305-04:

igus GmbH, Cologne

Plastic spherical bearings in a food packaging machine

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