



Basotect® VW

Quick and quiet: Volkswagen lines engine covers with Basotect®

Powerful engines deliver a more exhilarating driving experience. Due to the progressively stricter standards governing fuel consumption and pollutant emissions, the automotive industry is increasingly opting for smaller and more efficient engines with direct fuel injection. But as these engines generate more heat and are louder, suitable measures are needed to ensure that there is not a negative effect on a comfortable ride.

The melamine resin foam Basotect® TG from BASF is the material of choice for this challenge. Basotect® is an open-cell foam that excels in absorbing noise from the engine. Thanks to its low flammability – Basotect® has a UL 94 V-0 fire resistance rating – the foam helps the engine cover to meet stringent fire requirements. The foam is also able to withstand temperatures of up to 240°C without any adverse effect on its mechanical and noise-damping properties. With a density of just 9 kg/m³, Basotect® TG is also extremely light and therefore helps to reduce fuel consumption and also CO₂ emissions.

The engine cover, which was developed by Exo-S and Rogers Foam using Basotect® TG, is used for the Volkswagen four-cylinder EA888 engine in the Jetta, Golf, Passat, Tiguan and Beetle models.

As the only thermoset melamine resin foam produced specifically for thermoforming, Basotect® TG makes it possible to manufacture sophisticated three-dimensional components and customer-specific elements for sound absorption that can be fitted in narrow gaps. Whereas Basotect® primarily absorbs sound in the medium and high frequency range, the application of a non-woven to the BASF foam help deliver noise suppression across the entire frequency range while protecting the part from impact damage within the engine compartment.

This makes any trip in a VW a pleasant experience for the driver and front-seat passenger.



BASF's sound-absorbing Basotect® TG melamine foam is now being used for the acoustic layer in the Volkswagen EA888 engine for the Jetta, Golf, Passat, Tiguan, and Beetle models produced in North America.