



PUTNAM PLASTICS DEVELOPS SUPER-TRI™ TUBING, AN ADVANCED TRI-LAYER TECHNOLOGY WITH IMPROVED TENSILE, BURST, AND ELONGATION

DAYVILLE, CT USA - (February 8, 2016) - Putnam Plastics Corporation, a leader in advanced extrusions and components for minimally invasive medical devices, has developed an advanced tri-layer tubing technology that significantly improves tensile and burst strength, while reducing elongation. Super-Tri™ tubing is made with a proprietary extrusion process and aids in the prevention of wire lock-up in catheters where guidewires are used.

Standard tri-layer tubing, often used in PTCA (percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty) delivery systems, consists of three distinct polymer layers within one wall. Tri-layer construction typically involves a HDPE (high density polyethylene) inner liner for lubricity, a proprietary middle layer for bonding, and a polyamide outer layer which when combined, provides a unique combination of strength, trackability and bondability. Super-Tri tri-layer tubing technology utilizes the same material combination as traditional tri-layer tubing while providing superior performance characteristics.

As the requirements for medical catheters and devices evolve, the need for innovative extrusion solutions has never been greater. For example, Super-Tri tubing assists in issues that have evolved from higher rated burst pressure balloons catheters. Compared to traditional tri-layer tubing, Super-Tri tubing has decreased elongation by 750% and increased burst strength by 98%. This makes this tubing technology ideal for balloon catheters requiring high pressure balloons. The significant reduction in the elongation and increased tensile strength considerably decrease the potential for guidewire lock-up. In addition, the Super-Tri tubing technology meets the same sizing, tolerances, and material configurations as traditional tri-layer tubing.

“Putnam’s new Super-Tri tubing technology has the ability to provide dramatically increased tensile strength while minimizing elongation,” said Bill Appling, Director of Engineering and Assembly, Putnam Plastics. “For example, a PTCA inner member where tri-layer tubing is most commonly used can now be produced with a 130% improvement in ultimate tensile strength, and 170% increase in tensile strength at yield. This product provides new options in the design of catheters for the next generation of devices where strength and size are critical.”

Putnam Plastics has been a global leader for thin-walled, tight tolerance tri-layer tubing for over 20 years. For more information on Super-Tri tubing technology, please visit www.putnamplastics.com.

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About Putnam Plastics Corporation

Putnam Plastics Corporation has been a leader in medical tubing for nearly three decades with a focus on small diameters used for life saving vascular catheters and minimally invasive medical devices. Putnam offers the widest range of tubing technologies and tube finishing operations in the industry, and frequently combines these technologies to create components at the forefront of today's most sophisticated medical devices. For more information, please visit www.putnamplastics.com.