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Cooperation, Responsibility and Action

Techtextil again at last! As convenient as it is to be able to exchange ideas quickly and easily with the help of modern means of communication, it is just as important to meet once again within the Techtextil community.

On pages 2 and 3, we introduce Haogenplast and Aero Coated Fabrics, the latest family members of the KAP flexible films segment. Both bring different expertise in extrusion coating and equally invaluable respectively, and thus significantly expand the segment's capabilities.

Issues such as the circular economy, resource scarcity, the potential for using renewable and/or recyclable raw materials, the Ukraine war and climate change are all driving us on a local and global level. The phrase "we are facing major challenges" is being uttered by the minute right now, and the plastics industry is at the center of the storm. The answer can only be to overcome these with the help of cooperation, exchange and mutual support. So, this issue of CaPlast News is all about the focus on actionable solutions through cooperation.

On page 4, we address the challenge of developing environmentally-friendly technologies and solutions. Here, too, "our two newcomers" play a major role. There is (still) no way around vinyl in many applications. We will present alternatives and talk about our goal of full recyclability of our products. Stay tuned!

We look forward to talking to you in person at Techtextil 2022.

Your CaPlast Team

KAP | flexible films the specialist for extrusion coating grows

As CaPlast, we are a central part of the KAP technology segment flexible films. It bundles know-how on thermoplastics extrusion within the Group and offers numerous synergy effects for our customers and segment companies alike. Three and a half years after the presentation of the new segment strategy of our parent company KAP AG, we can state: We have and continue to exceed the initial cultural and economic goals of KAP flexible films, despite the challenges posed by Covid-19 and recent procurement-issues, among others.

CaPlast and Segment CEO Frederik Schaefer comments: "We expected that the close cooperation between the segment companies would primarily yield more efficient processes, release synergies and increase the pace of innovation within our companies. In the end, of course, all plans stand and fall with the willingness of the team to actively shape this cultural change. Underlined by the successes achieved through international cooperation, the smooth integration of AerO in 2021 and the prospects with the acquisition of Haogenplast in 2022, this willingness has inspired our work ever since and continues to do so. The challenges of the present and recent years have not hindered this transformation process, but have significantly accelerated it. The cooperation in the segment is not only an economic gain, but above all a human enrichment for our entire team as well as a professional enrichment for our customers."

We welcome vinyl expert Haogenplast from Israel

Two companies have joined the flexible films segment since 2019. The youngest family member since February 2022 is Haogenplast Ltd. The vinyl expert was founded in 1952 in Kibbutz Ha Ogen, located about 40 kilometers north of Tel Aviv near the Mediterranean coast.

In addition to fabric-reinforced pool membranes and geomembranes, sealing membranes for roofing and technical films for awnings, NBC protection and dry storage, the company with its 150 employees develops customer-specific decorative films for window profiles and doors.

With its decor division, Haogenplast brings important specialist knowledge to the table. Regarding the future potential Schaefer highlights: "The reproduction of natural surfaces such as wood and stone, 3D decors, graining and finishing using various printing, painting and embossing units give us the opportunity to tap into additional customer groups and industries. In the outdoor sector, cold-, heat- and UV-resistant surfaces with secure fire protection properties are an exciting growth market (for us)."

Oren Zveda, Managing Director of Haogenplast, is also positive about the joint future: "With such a strong sales and purchasing team behind us, new market potential is opening up, especially in Europe. The mutual exchange of experience is already bearing fruit and cross-segment cooperation in the procurement of raw materials is of almost existential importance in the current situation."

The heart of Haogenplast beats in the R&D laboratory

For 70 years, the company has been pushing the boundaries of what is possible in coating technology and improving the properties of membranes and films. For example, the phthalate-free, waterproof ELVAFLEX film has an exceptionally long service life and is also suitable as a geomembrane, thanks to non-migrating additives.

In addition, it is extremely resistant to chlorine, chemicals, UV and microbes. Formulations are optimized to customer specifications for applications such as roofing membranes, pool linings and drinking water reservoirs.













At AerO Coated Fabrics, TPO expertise is concentrated

Back in February 2021, CaPlast acquired a majority stake in AerO Coated Fabrics BV of Tilburg, the Netherlands. Among other things, the coating experts serve the growing market demand for high-performance, environmentally friendly TPO-based tarpaulin fabrics. Customers and CaPlast alike benefit from the company's comprehensive technology and formulation know-how as well as its focus on processing and sustainability. For example, CaPlast and AerO are jointly researching technical textiles with TPO coating that are 100% recyclable and, most importantly, high-frequency weldable.

Aero has state-of-the-art production facilities and offers customized solutions in these product fields, among others:

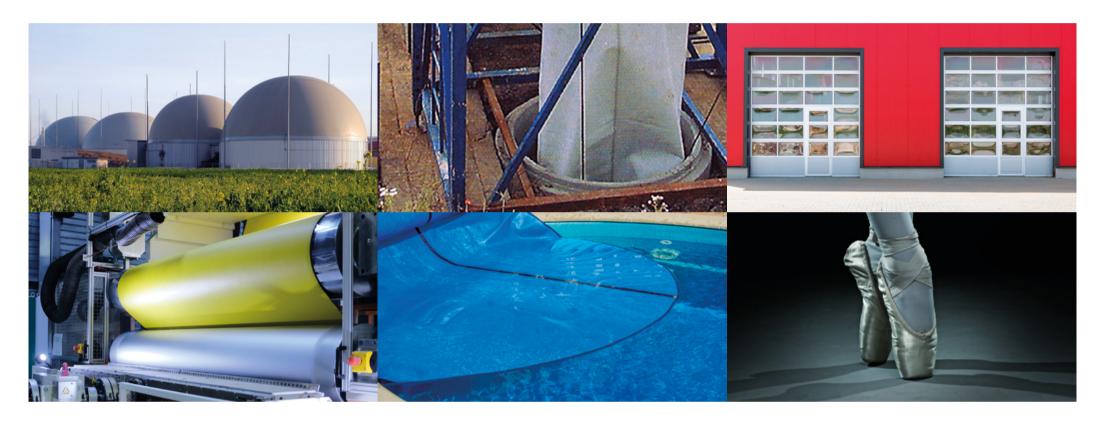
- Fabric-reinforced tarpaulin materials, e.g. for greenhouses, the agricultural sector or the construction industry
- Pipe liners for trenchless pipe rehabilitation (CIPP)
- Textile partition walls and roller curtains
- Dense geomembranes for subsoil protection
- Pool covers
- Special floor coverings



One of Aero's most important growth products are the CIPP pipe liners for trenchless sewer rehabilitation. On one side of the robust yet flexible composite material lies an environmentally friendly and extremely durable TPO layer. Like many other market segments, the pipe rehabilitation industry is placing ever greater emphasis on plasticizer-free plastics. We are therefore very pleased to be able to work with Aero to develop and market innovative and sustainable solutions with TPO coatings, and our TPU solutions also offer further options for smaller DN pipes.

Would you like to know more about the application of TPO for your technical textiles? We can develop your customized solution with grammages from 15 g/m² upwards to 2,500 g/m², coating widths up to 3.4 m, coextrusion for complex layers as well as multifunctional fabrics.

Just contact us: sales@caplast.de or +49 2599 9130.







Flexible Films - A strong partner for your innovation

- Strong technology partner of global blue chips with approx. 180 million Euro total sales and more than 500 employees
- Deep understanding of thermoplastics as well as their functionalities and application fields (e.g. PVC, TPU, copolymers, PA, copolyesters etc.)
- State-of-the-art production facilities and vertical integration
- High R&D competence bundled in a central innovation center
- Segment partners: AerO Coated Fabrics, CaPlast, Elbtal Plastics, Haogenplast, Now Contec, Riflex Film, Steinweg Kunststoffolien

CaPlast is a pioneer in environmental protection and sustainability _

Doing nothing is not an option!

For CaPlast, sustainability means more than a consistent environmental policy and a focus on environmentally-friendly production processes. We want our actions to contribute to preserving the natural basis of life for future generations, and we understand sustainability as an overall corporate responsibility for the environment, society, employees and, of course, you - our customers and business partners. Therefore, we have initiated many activities in the field of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) in recent years.

Our next goal: Ecovadis Platinum. We want to make our progress visible and continuously improve. That's why we are externally certified by Ecovadis, a global leader in sustainability rankings. The advantage for you: As a supplier, we can document our sustainability performance and make it transparent. But also internally, we take our own supply chain to task when it comes to corporate social responsibility. After silver and gold in 2020 and 2021, we have set our sights on platinum status as our next goal and want to be among the top 1% of all certified companies in our industry.

CaPlast is a member of the UN Global Compact network. The world's largest initiative for sustainable and responsible corporate governance, it supports companies in strategically anchoring sustainability based on 10 universal principles and in contributing to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

This voluntary commitment motivates us to contribute every day anew to a fairer and more sustainable future. The feedback and exchange with all employees and third parties inspires and encourages us to sustainably pursue the goals of the initiative and to encourage others to do the same. In 2022, we submitted our first progress report.

To download: caplast.com/news/cop-report-caplast-2021

Recycling instead of downcycling

In the circular economy, products and materials are reused, recycled and reused again and again to avoid waste as far as possible. Within this complex of topics, the switch from fossil source products to bio-based plastics and natural products is becoming increasingly important. Technologically, it proves a true challenge, but also a real competitive advantage for many industries. Read here what we are doing in terms of sustainable product development and production.

Shredded PET bottles are turned into diffusion-open facade membranes. In recent years, PET has become one of THE symbols in the climate debate. First as an urgent reminder against the pollution of the oceans, today as a driver for the circular economy. PET bottles are the packaging with the highest recycling rate throughout Europe. The prejudice that the recyclate is only used for low-quality products persists. The truth, however, lies far from it! Our latest generation of permanently UV-stable, flame-retardant facade membranes are just one example of how PET bottles, in their 2nd life as polyester nonwovens, can be the basis for high-quality, technical textiles.

For vinyl coatings, we aim to use 100% of all our production waste. Haogenplast has many years of experience in the material separation of mixed plastics. In our own recycling facilities we separate, among other things, polyester fabric and PVC layer by type. Step by step, we will transfer this expertise to the entire vinyl division and in the future recycle 100% of all waste generated during production.

CaPlast Kunststoffwerke GmbH has the Big Four in certifications: ISO 9001|14001|15001|45001



The certificate for ISO 45001 certification is still hot off the press. It confirms that CaPlast has implemented an occupational health and safety management system in addition to already in-place systems for quality, environment and energy. We firmly believe that management systems are a guarantee for efficient, safe and economical processes that also benefit our customers. We will therefore introduce environmental management in all segment companies by 2025.



The best example is our 100% recyclable CaLiner - fabric-reinforced, TPO-based tarpaulin fabrics for greenhouses, agricultural buildings, large tents, mobile stadiums, marine tarpaulins, pool covers, bulk packaging and much more. Currently, we are transferring this goal to different biopolymers. The composite results in products that will be completely degradable or compostable at the end of their life cycle.

Take-back at the end of the product life cycle. With many customers, for example in the area of screens for events and cinemas, we also ensure that we integrate our products at the end of their service life or waste during further processing into our internal recycling cycle, to manufacture high-quality products from them again.



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Even more challenging than the actual separation of materials is the reprocessing of the recyclate so that it can subsequently be used again in optically high-quality products. Here, our laboratories work on formulations across all segments to achieve exactly the desired properties in terms of appearance, color and functionality. In this way, we are already in a position to reuse recycled residual materials from production in our high-quality products.

Circular economy throughout the entire supply chain. The purer a product, the easier it is to recycle. For some years now, we have therefore been offering coating solutions in which the same material group is selected for the substrate and coating.

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