

PRESS RELEASE

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Vertical instead of horizontal: how motion plastics is making agriculture sustainable

Lubrication-free tribo-polymers ensure the reliable operation of vertical farming systems.

Motion plastics from igus are playing a major role in the increasingly popular sector of vertical farming.

igus, which has its UK headquarters in Northampton, is working closely with global companies specialising in vertical farming - the practice of growing plants indoors in stacked layers - by providing the lubrication-free tribo-polymers needed for this type of food production.

These igus polymer bearings are used to ensure lubrication-free sliding in small spaces - a wear-resistant, compact, and cost-effective solution for users who do not have enough space to install a traditional greased bearing.

Matthew Aldridge, UK Managing Director of igus, the global manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings, said: "The machinery used in vertical farming works in a highly sensitive environment, so our tribo-polymers are ideal as they are corrosion-free, low-maintenance and resistant to dirt, dust and soil.

"We are excited to be playing such a key role in vertical farming, a truly revolutionary approach that is producing huge quantities of quality fresh food without the need for favourable weather or skilled labour. This method reduces production and transportation costs, the resulting CO2 emissions and ensures reliable yield and consistent crop production all year-round – essential given we have 7.7 billion people currently living on earth and the world population continues to rise."

The team at igus are also working with companies across the UK and the world to produce motion plastics for vertical farms, delivering full automated sub-assemblies.

Picture caption (PM6819-1): Vertical farming; a promising alternative to conventional agriculture in metropolitan areas.

igus resources:

-  LiveChat with our technical team at igus.co.uk
-  Follow us at twitter.com/igusUK
-  Watch our videos at igus.co.uk/YouTube
-  Connect to us at igus.co.uk/Facebook
-  Read our blog at blog.igus.co.uk

About igus:

Based in Northampton in the UK and with global headquarters in Cologne, Germany, igus is a leading international manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings. The family-run company is represented in 35 countries and employs over 4000 people around the world. In 2019, igus generated a turnover of 764 million euros with motion plastics, plastic components for moving applications.

With plastic bearing experience since 1964, cable carrier experience since 1971 and continuous-flex cable experience since 1989, igus provides the right solution based on 100,000 products available from stock, with between 1,500 and 2,500 new product introductions each year. igus operates the largest test laboratories and factories in its sector to offer customers quick turnaround times on innovative products and solutions tailored to their needs.

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