

PRESS RELEASE

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The need for speed - blue FDA compliant knife edge rollers from igus

Rollers made of a new iglidur A250 high-performance polymer, enable faster conveyor belt speeds

Motion plastics expert igus have designed and manufactured a new high-performance polymer ideally suited for the growing demands of the food production sector.

The new iglidur A250 tribo-polymer, designed and manufactured by igus, whose UK headquarters are in Northampton, is the a new polymer material in the company's product range to meet the strict hygiene requirements of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and EU 10/2011 regulations, while also meeting the growing demand for higher conveyor belt speeds.

Matthew Aldridge, UK Managing Director of igus, the global manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings, explained: "As a result of the growing demands for productivity in the food industry, our design team have focused on creating a new product to help deliver the increased speeds needed by production plants.

"The need for more speed means the machine components need to be more sophisticated than ever. One example are the knife edge rollers that guide conveyor belts in a pasta processing plant. This new product is made precisely for such an application."

This new iglidur A250 marks the extension of igus' knife edge roller product range. The blue tribo-polymer is wear-resistant and withstands high belt speeds of up to 1 metre per second.

The new polymer requires only a low drive power due to minimised friction and like all iglidur polymers, the iglidur A250 does not require any external lubrication, is insensitive to dust and dirt and easy to clean.

Tested in igus' state of the art, in-house laboratory, the new material has demonstrated wear resistance and a long service life of up to 10 times longer than other igus FDA-compliant materials at maximum belt speeds. Also, due to its blue colour, it is optically detectable.

Knife edge rollers for reliable conveying

For years, knife edge rollers made of iglidur tribo-polymers have proved to be ideal solutions in the food industry when it comes to transporting products over knife edge transitions that are restricted by installation space.

This is because if two conveyor belts for very small products are joined together, the radii of the guide rollers result in a gap between the belts. This presents problem for products such as raw croissants, biscuits and even cakes, which can quickly slide into the gap between the conveyor belts.

For a safe transfer of products from belt to belt, the deflection radii between the belts of the conveyor lines must therefore be kept to a minimum. This is where the knife edge rollers come into play. They are compact and also reliably guide the belts.

As well as iglidur A250, igus also offers the materials iglidur H1, P210 and other food grade solutions such as iglidur A180 and A350 in its knife edge roller product range.

Caption, picture PM3720-1: The new FDA compliant tribo-polymer, iglidur A250, is specifically developed for use as knife edge rollers and is wear-resistant and withstands high belt speeds. (Source: igus)

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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