

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **The igus configurators help identify the right iglidur plain bearing material**

**Find the best and most cost-effective iglidur material to use in bar stock, 3D printing or injection moulding by using new digital and analogue igus tools.**

To help customers find the right iglidur material for the appropriate application, igus has developed a new compact, non-virtual material selector (a new sample box) for its 39 iglidur standard materials. The company has also developed a digital online iglidur system which helps customers select and calculate the material's service life.

igus, whose UK headquarters are in Northampton, are motion plastic experts and a global manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings.

Robert Dumayne, Director of igus UK's dry-tech department, said: "With our new sample box, users can quickly and easily identify the right iglidur plain bearing material for their individual application. Whether it is high-volume production, small batches or a prototype made by 3D printing or polymer stock materials, our customers are now spoiled for choice.

"We have limited ourselves to 39 of our 57 iglidur materials, the ones used in most plain bearing applications. Customer feedback is excellent – the box is small, compact and clever and can be used any time, even if an igus consultant is not available at that exact moment."

### **So, what are iglidur materials?**

igidur (the name given to igus materials) are made of high-performance polymers that are characterised by their special properties: their composition makes them extremely wear-resistant, robust, self-lubricating and predictable.

### **How does the 'analogue' configurator work?**

Users can choose from a selection of templates which they then place over the materials. For example, if a plain bearing with high temperature resistance is needed the user can place the appropriate template over the bearings so that it filters the materials demonstrating the most suitable.

Other properties, such as ‘high loads’, ‘dirty environments’ or ‘chemical resistance,’ can also be placed over the plain bearings - using the templates until an appropriate material remains.

igus first launched this idea for a simplified selection tool as a dry-tech sample box in 2013. This new, compact version enables users to clearly see which materials are also available as stock materials.

In addition, igus presents its 3D printing service and 3D printing material to produce prototypes and small batches.

### **Find the right material online and calculate service life**

There are also many online tools developed by igus to help select the right iglidur plain bearing material. Here is the link to the online configuration tool [iglidur online expert system](#).

As with its analogue version, the online configurator is very easy to use. The user simply enters the parameters of the application regarding design, load, type of movement, housing, and shaft material.

The results show the expected service life of all suitable iglidur materials. To do this, the expert system uses the data from the igus test laboratory.

More than 40,000 additional tribological tests allow for very accurate results when using the configurators. This allows the user to select the tribo-polymer with the best price-performance ratio for their required application.

All plain bearings are available from stock with no minimum order quantity.

The new sample box is available online free of charge at: [www.igus.co.uk/iglidur-offline-configurator](http://www.igus.co.uk/iglidur-offline-configurator). Order yours now!

***end***

### **Picture captions**

- Picture: Find the right lubrication-free iglidur material quickly, online, or offline.

### **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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