

Trexel Media Contact

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Trexel Settles Infringement Suit with Optifoam® Molder in the U.S.

Molder Admits Infringement and Ceases use of Optifoam System Supplied By Sulzer Chemtech

Woburn, MA, U.S.A. –April 24, 2006--, Trexel, the inventor of the MuCell® Microcellular Injection Molding Technology filed a Complaint against a molder in the United States District Court alleging willful infringement of Trexel’s patents on July 29, 2005. At the time, the molder was using an Optifoam System acquired from Sulzer Chemtech, a Swiss Company and had an agreement to supply foamed parts to a U.S. based automotive systems supplier.

On March 27, 2006, the molder and Trexel agreed to a settlement wherein the molder has acknowledged that Trexel’s patents are valid and enforceable, and that the use of the Optifoam System and all products manufactured by the Optifoam System infringe Trexel’s patents. The molder has abandoned its efforts to use the Optifoam System.

According to Trexel, there have been only two Optifoam Systems installed for production of microcellular products. The first was in Europe where the European molder agreed to pay a license fee to Trexel in order to continue production and the second was in the United States where the lawsuit resulted in the discontinuation of the use of the system.

“Trexel has always had an open policy regarding the licensing of its technology to potential competitors and does not view litigation as a desirable strategy,” said David Bernstein, President, CEO Trexel, Inc. “To date, however, it appears that Sulzer Chemtech, the supplier of the Optifoam System has adopted a strategy of putting their customers at risk rather than provide a global solution through a licensing arrangement

with Trexel. This left us no choice in the case of this molder other than to protect our intellectual property rights,” Bernstein concluded.

About Trexel

Trexel is the exclusive developer of the MuCell® microcellular foam technology and has an extensive portfolio of patents in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Japan, Korea, and Asia. Trexel’s primary business is the supply of MuCell Systems for the production of foamed injection molded and extruded articles. It also provides world-class engineering support, training and other services, and the equipment and components integral to the MuCell process. In support of these activities, Trexel operates a foamed plastics development laboratory in its Woburn, MA facility including injection molding and extrusion equipment.

About the MuCell Technology

The MuCell Microcellular Foam injection molding technology is a complete process and equipment technology that enables extremely high quality and reduced production costs. The MuCell Technology is targeted at precision and engineered injection molded plastic components. The MuCell Process enables the otherwise unattainable production of stress free parts that maintain strict dimensional stability. MuCell provides the ability to mold with lower tonnage on smaller machines while offering substantial operating savings by reducing cycle times and parts weights.

There are hundreds of MuCell injection molded parts in commercial production today around the world and approximately 300 machines in operation. Examples of MuCell products include electrical components, electronics connectors, internal business equipment and printer components, and a broad array of automotive products including HVAC components. To support global adoption, Trexel has established a global network of exclusive manufacturing relationships to produce the company's proprietary precision engineering equipment. MuCell support centers are located in the U.S., Germany, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia and Korea.