

Poly-G HQEE[®] Aromatic Diol

Poly-G HQEE®* aromatic diol is a symmetrical aromatic diol chain extender. Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol imparts good tensile, elongation, hardness, modulus, and resilience properties to polyurethane elastomers. It is used in elastomers for oil well seals, forklift tires, seals for hydraulic cylinders, conveyor lines, skateboard wheels, and other products in which superior physical properties are required.

This publication describes the processing and physical properties of liquid cast urethane (LCU) elastomers extended with Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol. It also contains a laboratory procedure for the preparation of samples.

Structure

Processing LCU Elastomers Extended with Poly-G HQEE Aromatic Diol

The preparation of LCU elastomers requires two principal components: a prepolymer terminated with reactive isocyanate groups and a difunctional active hydrogen-terminated chain extender. The prepolymer is based on either a polyester or polyether polyol reacted with an isocyanate (TDI, MDI, or ADI). The chain extender is usually a short chain diamine or diol. TDI prepolymers are usually extended with diamines while MDI prepolymers are usually extended with diols.

For example, if Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol with an OH# of 555 is to be added to a prepolymer with a % NCO of 6.50 and the desired NCO/OH ratio is 1.1/1, the calculations would show that 14.2 parts of Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol should be added to 100 parts of this prepolymer.

Eq. wt. of Poly-G HQEE =
$$\frac{56.1 \times 1,000}{555} = 101$$

Amount Poly-G HQEE/100 parts prepolymer

$$\frac{6.50 \times 101}{42 \times 1.1} = 14.2$$

Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol can be used with other diols or triols as extender blends to provide improved processibility as shown in Table 1. Although the blending of a liquid or triol with Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol may reduce the possibility of Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol crystallizing from the system, a processing temperature of 110 °C (230°F) is still recommended for assurance. If an extender is to be used, the equivalent weight of the blend can be calculated as follows:

Eq. wt. of blend = $\frac{100}{\frac{\% \text{ extender A}}{\text{eq.wtof A}} + \frac{\% \text{ extender B}}{\text{eq.wtof B}}}$

Typical Physical Properties of Poly-G HQEE Aromatic Diol CAS No. 104-38-1

off white flake
198.2
555
98 (208)
190 (374)
<1
4
4
1
<1
<1
0.4
1.15
15
0.51
0.62
250
0.08
0.39



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Table 1 Physical Properties of Elastomers Extended withPoly-G HQEE Diol or Triol Blends

92/49 4100 (28.3) 610	90/48 6000 (41.4)
· · · ·	· /
610	550
0 - 0	550
1510 (10.4)	1250 (8.6)
1930 (13.3)	1755 (12.7)
2350 (16.2)	2364 (16.3)
230	140
17.5	19.1
	1510 (10.4) 1930 (13.3) 2350 (16.2) 230

MDI - polyester polyol prepolymer, 6.5% free NCO

NCO/OH ratio 1.1/1

*Trimethylolpropane

Laboratory Procedure For Preparing LCU Elastomers Extended with Poly-G HQEE Aromatic Diol.

To prepare an elastomer laboratory sample (200g), the following equipment is required: hot plate, two thermometers, two containers suitable for heating the prepolymer and Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol, vacuum desiccator, vacuum pump, spatula, eyedropper, weighing balance, small torch, mold, oven, and a well-ventilated work area (hood). The following procedure is suggested:

- 1. Using the %NCO of the prepolymer, OH# of Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol, and the desired NCO/OH ratio, calculate the amount of prepolymer and Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol required to make the elastomer sample.
- 2. Weigh the exact amount of prepolymer into the larger container (32-oz. can), and to the smaller container (4-oz can), add slightly more Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol than needed.
- 3. Heat the prepolymer, Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol, spatula, eyedropper, and mold to 110°C (230°F).
- Degas the prepolymer in the vacuum desiccator at 28 in. Hg for two to three minutes and then reheat to 110°C (230°F). Degas and reheat Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol similarly.
- 5. Place the container holding the prepolymer on the balance and add the exact amount of Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol using the eyedropper for the last 0.5g. Stir the mixture, scraping the sides and bottom of the container with the spatula. Degas the mixture if pot life is sufficiently long. This step should be performed quickly to prevent cooling

below the Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol crystallization point.

- 6. Pour the mixture into the preheated mold and with the torch, lightly flame the molten elastomer surface to break air bubbles. If the mold is deep, pour the mixture down the mold edge and flame the mixture as it flows into the mold.
- 7. If an open cast mold is used, place the mold containing the mixture in an oven and cure at 110° - 127°C. (230°-260°F). If compression molding is being done, observe the cure of the mixture until the surface can be dented with a spatula or a small section can be cut from the surface using a "V" technique. At this point, close the mold, apply pressure, and cure at 110° - 127°C (230°-260°F).

The cure time for uncatalyzed Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol extended MDI systems varies from 30 to 120 minutes depending on the reactivity of the prepolymer and the ratio of the part volume to surface area. Tin or amine catalysts can be used to accelerate cure (see Figure 1). After demolding, samples should be postcured at 110°C (230°F) for 16 hours and aged under ambient conditions for 7 days before testing.





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Trouble Shooting

If defects are observed in the elastomer sample, the following guides may be helpful.

- 1. **Starring**. The appearance of white spots or "snowflakes" is usually caused by pouring the mixture into a cool mold at 110°C (230°F). However, this may occur if the mixture has cooled too much during step 5.
- 2. **Sinks**. Surface indentations on compression-molded samples is usually caused by closing the mold too early; however, they can occur if the ingredients are not sufficiently mixed or high exotherm temperatures develop during molding.
- 3. **Warping**. Curling of compression-molded samples after being removed from the mold is usually caused by closing the mold too long after the mixture reached the stage of being easily dented as previously described.

The following precautions should be taken to obtain optimum results when using Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol:

Temperature: Molten Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol does not supercool. It must be maintained at a temperature above its melting point, preferably 110°C(230°F) at all times in the entire processing operation to prevent crystallization.

The Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol melt tank should be uniformly heated and mildly agitated to prevent skimming on the surface. The prepolymer should be preheated to $110^{\circ}C(230^{\circ}F)$ before the Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol is added and the resultant blend should be maintained at $110^{\circ}C$ (230°F).

All process lines should be heated to $110^{\circ}F(230^{\circ}C)$ and insulated to prevent cold spots that might cause Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol to crystallize and clog the lines or result in an inaccurate mix ratio. The temperature of the mold, especially its surface, should be $110^{\circ}C(230^{\circ}F)$ to prevent defects in the resultant elastomer.

Mix Ratio: With diamine/TDI systems, the mix ratio can vary considerably; however, with diol/MDI systems, the equivalent weight ratio of prepolymer to chain extender (NCO/OH ratio) should be between 0.9/1 and 1.1/1. To achieve optimum properties in elastomers based on Poly-G HQEE aromatic

diol/MDI systems, it is suggested that the NCO/OH ratio be as close to 1.1/1 as possible. (See Figure 2)



Calculations for Diol Extender

To help fabricators of polyurethane products determine how much diol extender is needed for the desired NCO/OH ratio, suppliers furnish hydroxyl numbers (OH#) with diol extenders and the percent of available isocyanate (%NCO) with prepolymers. With this information and the following equations, the amount of diol extender to be added to 100 parts of prepolymer can be calculated as follows:

1. Equivalent weight of diol extender equals:

2. The amount of diol extender/100 parts of prepolymer equals:

$$\frac{\% \text{ NCO x eq. wt. of extender}}{42 \text{ x} \frac{\text{NCO}}{\text{OH}} \text{ ratio}}$$



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Summary

Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol offers excellent performance with a wide range of MDI-prepolymers and yields polyurethane elastomers that have a wide range of hardness combined with exceptional compression set, resilience, and tear resistance. Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol can be processed in commercially available mixing and metering equipment having good temperature and mix ratio controls. Blending other diols or triols with Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol minimizes temperature control requirements and reduces defects in molded parts.

Storage and Handling

Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol is off-white flakes, chips and powder. It has a melting point of 98°C (208°F) and an auto ignition temperature of 467°C (874°P)F Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol is hygroscopic and consideration should be taken to store the product in a tightly closed container in a cool dry place. To help prevent moisture absorption, a desiccant bag is included in the drum. It is also important that the drum and liner be resealed if only part of the Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol is used. Poly-G HQEE aromatic diol is also sensitve to light (UV) and will tum yellow-brown in the presence of light.

For More Information Technical Service

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