

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM: GLS CORPORATION
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**NEW “UNIVERSAL OVERMOLD” TPE ALLOY FROM GLS CORPORATION
ADHERES TO VIRTUALLY ALL RIGID PLASTICS**

McHENRY, IL (March 22, 2005) – Most TPE (thermoplastic elastomer) compounders are content to formulate their TPEs to provide satisfactory overmolding characteristics onto just one rigid molding compound. Industry leader GLS Corporation has introduced a “universal overmold TPE alloy” that will adhere in 2-shot and insert molding applications to just about any rigid plastic substrate including ABS, COPE, HIPS, PC, PC/ABS, PMMA, PS and even HDPE.¹

This new GLS grade is sold under the name VERSAFLEX® OM9 – 801N. The TPE alloy is a highly viable and economical multi-purpose alternative to single-substrate overmold compounds for both OEM’s and processors alike. Requiring no drying, it provides a soft-touch, rubbery feel with great surface aesthetics. This is the latest offering from GLS which has some of industry’s broadest range of overmolding TPEs. These include nylon overmolding grades which, in independent tests, have been shown to be far superior to anything else on the market.

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¹ABS = acrylonitrile – butadiene styrene; COPE = copolyester; HIPS = high impact polystyrene;
PC = polycarbonate; PC/ABS = polycarbonate/acrylonitrile – butadiene styrene; PMMA = polymethyl/methacrylate

According to, GLS Corporation’s Director of Sales and Marketing, Walt Ripple, “We consider this universal overmold TPE a major breakthrough among TPE compounds. Where most competitors’ TPEs are formulated to be overmolded onto a single substrate – and in a stretch maybe two or three – the unique (and proprietary) formulation of VERSAFLEX OM9-801N TPE provides superior performance on numerous engineering substrates. This new TPE compound also colors quite easily.”

GLS’ Versaflex OM9-801N opens a new realm of possibilities for using soft-touch overmolding. Some of the possible applications for this new 47 A Shore hardness universal overmold TPE alloy include personal care items, toys, sporting goods, appliances, housewares, lawn and garden equipment, power and hand tools, as well as industrial products.

Important to the processor, this universal overmold TPE alloy molds at lower pressures and temperatures (as low as 25 PSI and between 360 and 425 degree F molding temperatures in various portions of the molded part and as low as 70 degrees in the mold), allowing for greater tool design alternatives. Because of lower processing pressures and temperatures, this VERSAFLEX TPE alloy is ideal for both 2-shot and insert molding applications.

GLS Corporation specializes in the manufacturer of application-specific, custom formulated soft and ultra-soft thermoplastic elastomers (TPEs) for injection molding and extrusion. GLS has supplied specialty TPEs to the industry since 1979, and is recognized as a global leader in TPE technology solutions. Specific products sold by GLS include proprietary DYNAFLEX® TPE compounds based on KRATON® polymers (available in injection molding and extrusion, as well as medical and FDA grades); VERSAFLEX® TPE specialty alloys (available in soft touch, lightweight, ultra-soft, ultra-clear and overmolding grades); VERSALLOY® TPV alloys; and VERSOLLAN™ TPU alloy compounds. GLS is also the exclusive distributor of KRATON® compounds and polymers for the compounding market in the United States, and also distributes KRATON compounds and polymers globally. Applications for these materials are found in consumer, medical, sports and leisure, automotive, lawn and garden, appliance, kitchen tool, power tool, personal care and industrial markets, among others.

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GLS – Versaflex OM9 – 801N...continued

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For more information on the new VERAFLEX OM9-801N universal overmold TPE alloy or other GLS thermoplastic elastomers, contact:

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DYNAFLEX compounds contain KRATON Polymers.

KRATON is a registered trademark of KRATON Polymers U.S. LLC.

VERSALLOY is a DSM - GLS alliance product; the name VERSALLOY is a trademark of GLS Corporation.

VERSOLLAN is a trademark of GLS and contains high performance thermoplastic urethanes.

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