

PES as an Alternative to PEI (Ultem®)

The shortage of Polyetherimide (PEI) resin, or Ultem® as it is commercially traded, has continued for several years now. The inability to get this base resin has adversely affected users of this material, but particularly in sole sourced applications. Compounders cannot routinely make composites or produce custom colors in this base resin, as PEI has not been consistently available for years.

To prevent these types of issues in the future, we are recommending to our customers to find a second source for applications utilizing PEI engineering base resin or PEI composites. In most PEI applications, PES (Polyethersulfone) provides an excellent alternative. PES has outstanding electrical insulation properties, good resistance to creep, it is transparent, self-extinguishing and tough. PES also possess a high HDT. By making a glass filled PES, mold shrinkage is reduced, flexural modulus (stiffness) is markedly improved, and notched impact strength and tensile are dramatically increased.

Our team brings over a century of engineering resin experience, we welcome the opportunity to supply PES base resin or manufacture your PES engineering composites as an alternative to PEI materials. Even if you never use your second source, you will have another option for the future and it will be much more difficult to hold you and your organization hostage when it comes to your resin requirements. All of our composites are certified by an ISO certified laboratory and we have state of the art computer systems and order tracking. We embrace your challenges as we work together to solve your engineering resin needs.

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