Polyester Polyol Synthesis From Waste PET Bottles And Its Use In Polyurethane Footwear Systems

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Why PET Bottles?

- 1.1 million PET bottles are consumed every minute worldwide
- Typical recycling processes often result in downcycling, ie in products that are less suitable for high-performance applications

The main scope of the project is depolymerization of PET bottle scraps by glycolysis and controlled synthesis of a hydroxyl terminated polymer (PET ~20% w/w) in one-pot. Obtained polyester polyol will be used in a thermoset polyurethane slipper system.



Why Microcellular PU Slipper?



Environmentally friendly

(Lower Carbon Emission and Circular Economy)



Alternative feedstock

(Lesser consumption of Adipic Acid and MDI)



Cost advantage



Performance

(Surface Appearance, Hardness)



Polyester Polyol Synthesis





PU System Design

3 component system: Polyol Mixture (A), Prepolymer (B), Cross Package (C)



PET Polyol
Synthesis
in pilot
reactor

The use of
PET
polyol in
the polyol
mixture
as the
main
chain

Prepolymer synthesis and cross package design (catalyst, surfactant, chain extender, etc.)

Sample production using low pressure casting machine and slipper moulds

Sample evaluation

Customer Trial

Final Product





Test	Unit	Value	Method
Moulded Density	kg/m³	290	ISO 845
Hardness	ShA	60	DIN ISO 7619 -1







Thank you for your attention!





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