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release 04/1998

GeltonTM *profile*

contents

overview

welcome

update



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GE Plastics

GelonTM *profile*

release 04/1998



C o n t e n t s

1 Introduction	1
2 Markets	2
3 Product Selection	4
4 Processing	10



Introduction

Gelon™ High Quality Polyamide

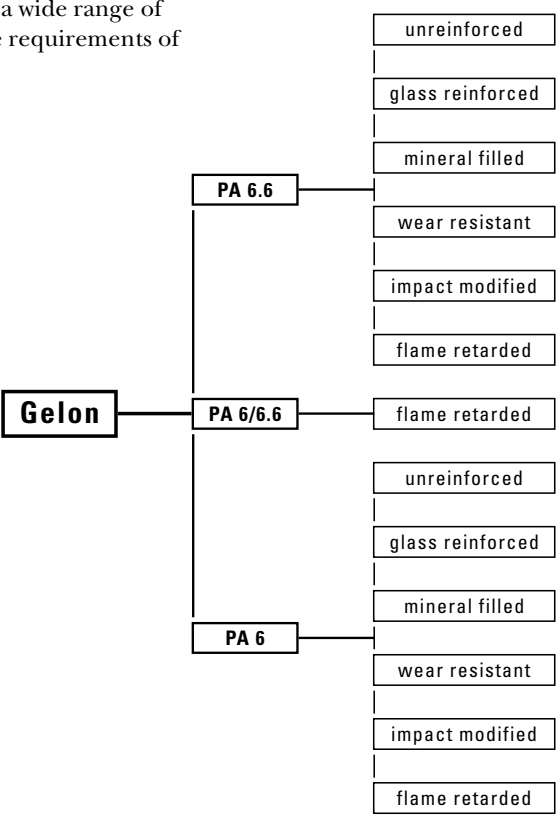
Gelon™, a high quality polyamide, is the latest addition to GE Plastics' product portfolio. Through its introduction, the company offers an even broader range of engineering thermoplastics. Polyamide is the most widely used engineering thermoplastic because it provides an excellent combination of easy processing, high impact strength, thermal performance and electrical properties for a reasonable price.

- The key properties of Gelon are its:
- Semi-crystalline structure with a high melting point
 - Excellent chemical resistance to a wide variety of chemicals and solvents
 - Good outdoor performance
 - Outstanding mechanical strength
 - Good heat resistance
 - Very good electrical properties
 - Very good processibility
 - Wide range of colours available
 - Excellent price/performance ratio

The Gelon resin family includes unmodified polyamide 6 (PA 6), polyamide 6,6 (PA 6,6) and copolymer 6,6/6 (PA 6,6/6). These are complemented by modified grades which are produced through compounding with reinforcements, tougheners, heat stabilizers or UV-packages. The Gelon range can be rendered FR without the use of halogen and/or phosphor. It should be noted that GE Plastics in Europe does not manufacture any material containing polybrominated biphenyls (PBBs) or polybrominated diphenylethers (PBDEs).

Gelon polymers can be injection moulded using standard equipment. Tailor-made Gelon extrusion grades complete the portfolio for applications such as thermal breaks in window systems. Furthermore, Gelon can be provided in a wide range of colours to meet the requirements of diverse markets.

After their first application life, Gelon resins can be reground and reused as they retain a high residual value. In many cases they can be recycled into similar applications within the same industry. Alternatively, they can be 'cascaded' down for reuse in less demanding applications. In either case, the recycling of Gelon polymers makes economic and environmental sense.



2

Markets

Automotive

Electrical

Appliances

Extrusion

Others

Automotive

The automotive industry is the largest market for polyamide. Gelon is used in a wide variety of applications.

These range from interior dashboard switches, window handles, exterior wheel covers and mirror housings to under the bonnet radiator end tanks and fluid reservoirs.

To all these demanding applications Gelon brings an ideal balance of properties which include:

- Outstanding mechanical strength
- Excellent chemical resistance to automotive fluids
- Good heat resistance
- Excellent price/performance ratio

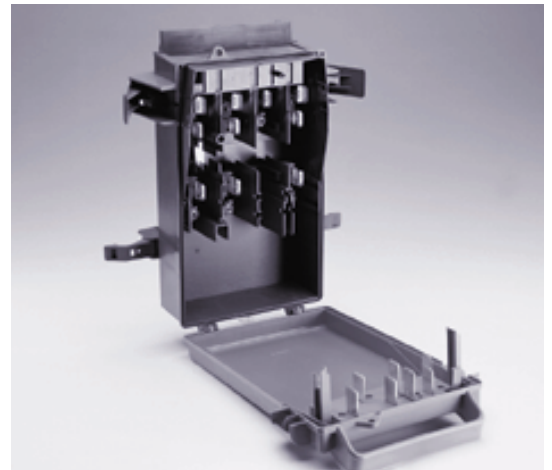


Electrical

In the electrical industry, flame retarded polyamide grades are widely used for thin wall parts such as connectors, switch housings and circuit breakers. Gelon offers halogen- and/or phosphor-free grades for PA 6 and PA 6,6. Gelon is also used for less demanding applications like electrical enclosures, plugs and cable ties.

To a market where reliability is critically important, Gelon offers superior properties which include:

- Very good electrical properties
- Outstanding self-extinguishing capability
- Semi-crystalline structure with a high melting point
- Very good processibility
- Good heat resistance



Appliances

In the appliances market, Gelon is the ideal choice for housings of electrical parts like power tools and hair dryers. Gelon is also used for handles of refrigerators and suitcases as well as for garden tools.

The particular properties which the material brings to these products include:

- High impact resistance
- Excellent surface appearance
- Outstanding mechanical strength and long-term thermal performance
- Good heat resistance
- Very good electrical properties
- Excellent price/performance ratio



Extrusion

The specially developed Gelon extrusion resins can be readily extruded on conventional equipment. Gelon is mainly used for a wide range of profiles in the building and construction, electrical and lighting industries.

Gelon typically provides a cost-effective material solution to manufacturers' needs, while offering enhanced design freedom. A good example of this is found in GE Plastics' tailor-made Gelon grade for thermal breaks in window systems. In general Gelon extrusion grades offer:

- Outstanding impact resistance
- High thermal resistance
- Very good processability
- Excellent surface appearance

Others

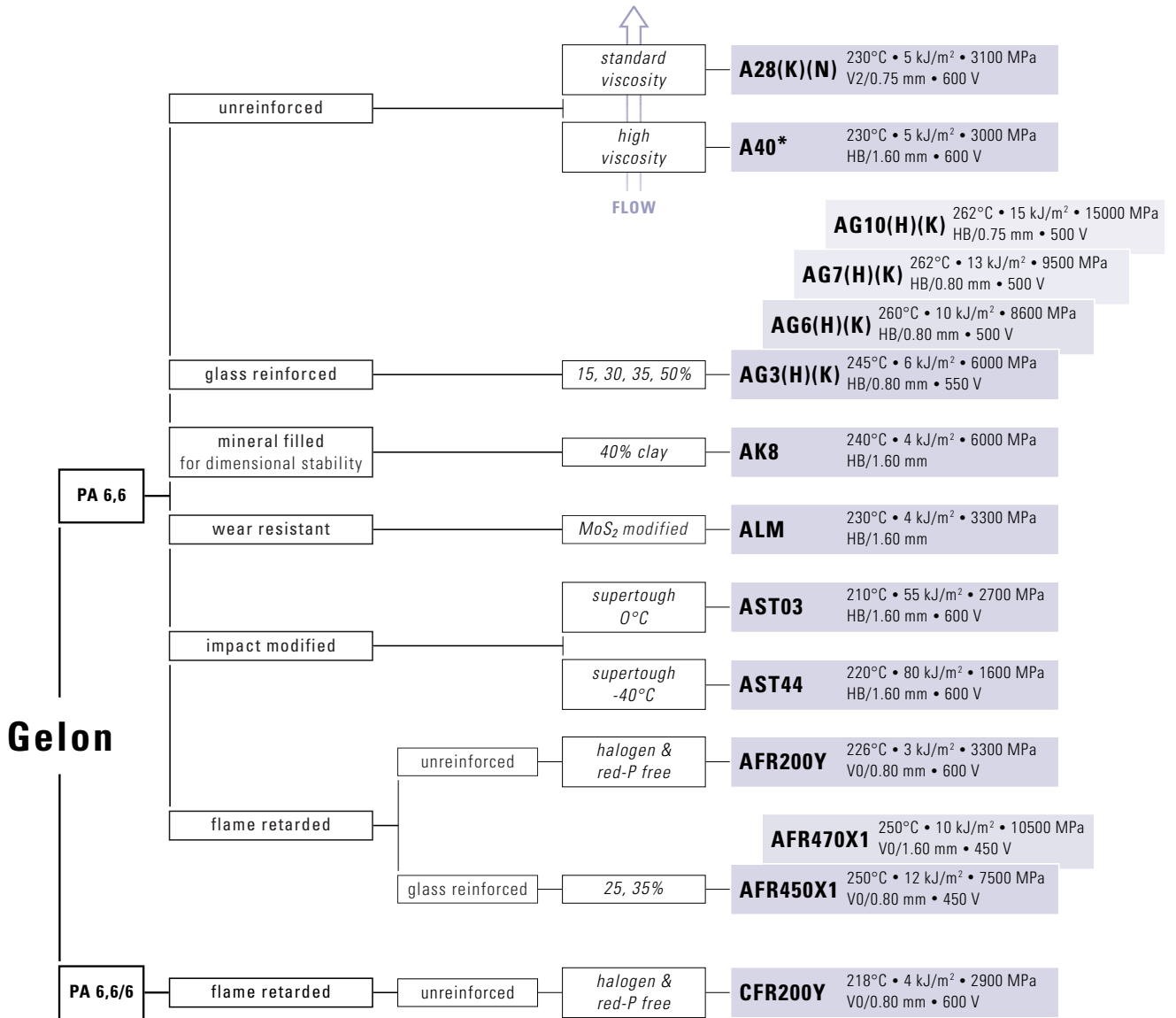
Gelon polyamide is also ideally suited to many other diverse applications which, for example, include:

- Kitchenware (grades in compliance with EN 71 available)
- Railway insulators
- Sports equipment
- Fluid engineering parts such as fittings and pump parts
- Door handles



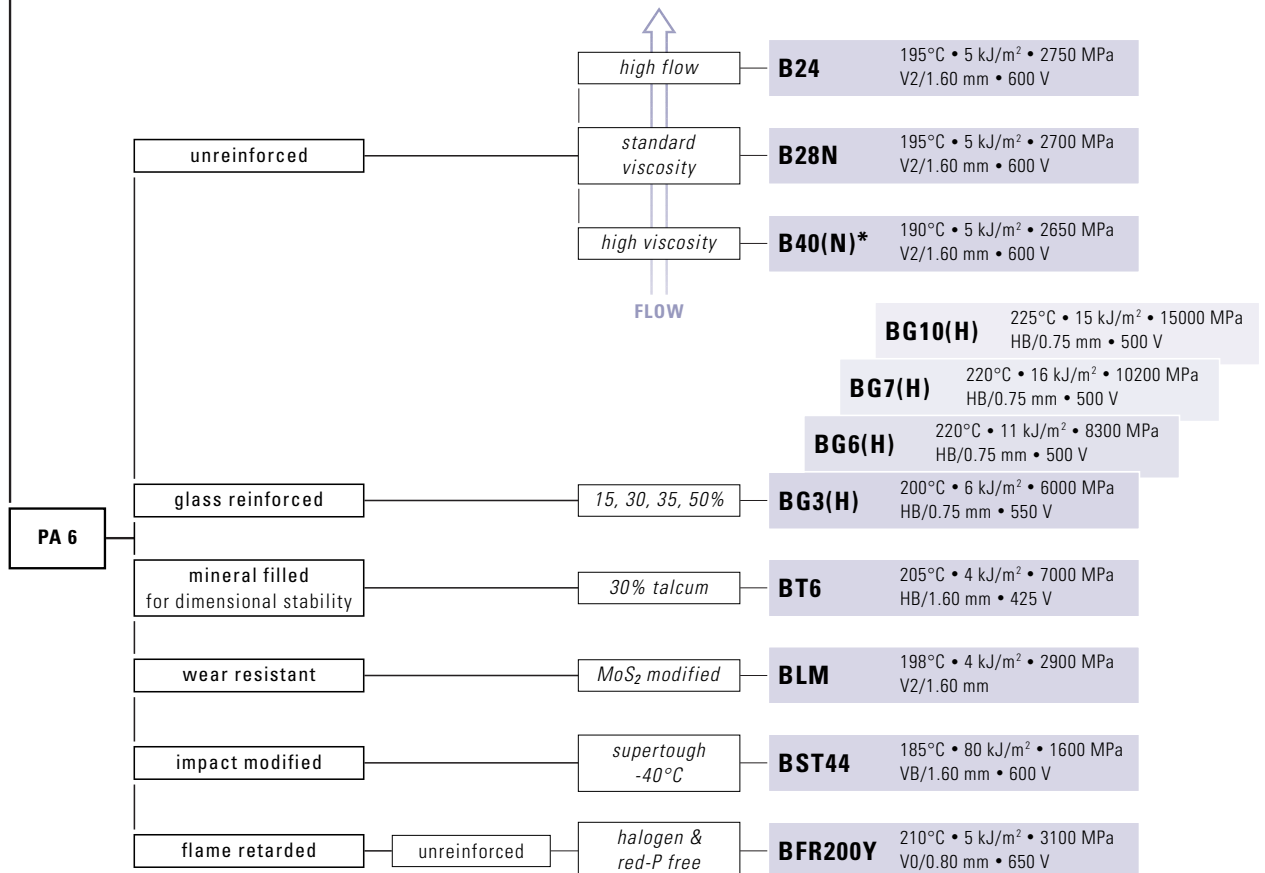
3

Product Selection



see page 4

Gelon



GRADE	Heat • Impact • Modulus Flammability • CTI
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Grade: All are injection moulding grades unless indicated by * also extrusion.

(H), (K) Stabilized version
(N) Nucleated version

Heat: HDT/Be in °C (ISO 75)
Impact: Izod Notched in kJ/m² (ISO 180/1A)
Modulus: Flexural in MPa (ISO 178)
Flammability: Flame class at mm thickness (UL94)
CTI: 100 drops value in V (IEC 112/3rd)



Typical Properties

Typical values only.
Variations within normal tolerances are possible for various colours.

Unit	Test Method			Test Specimen
	ISO IEC*	DIN VDE*	ASTM other*	MPTS (multi-purpose test specimen) as defined in ISO 3167. Smaller test specimens may be machined from MPTS. All dimensions in mm.

Mechanical

Tensile stress	at yield	at 50 mm/min	MPa	527			MPTS (150 x 20/10 x 4)
	at break	at 5 mm/min	MPa	527			
Tensile strain	at break	at 50 mm/min	%	527			MPTS
	at break	at 5 mm/min	%	527			
Tensile modulus		at 1 mm/min	MPa	527			MPTS
Flexural stress	at yield [at break]	at 2 mm/min	MPa	178			80 x 10 x 4
Flexural modulus		at 2 mm/min	MPa	178			80 x 10 x 4
Hardness	Rockwell	R, M or L	scale	2039-2		D785	

Impact

Izod	notched	at +23°C [-40°C]	kJ/m²	180-1A			
Charpy	unnotched	at +23°C	kJ/m²	179			80 x 10 x 4

Thermal

Vicat B/120	50N (method B)	at 120°C/h	°C	306			110 x 10 x 4
HDT/Ae	edgewise, span 100 mm	at 1.80 MPa	°C	75			110 x 10 x 4
/Be		at 0.45 MPa	°C	75			
Relative Temperature Index	RTI	20 000 h	°C	216*			
Coefficient of Thermal Expansion	CTE	in flow direction	1/°C		53752	D696	] ²⁾

Flammability

UL94 rating	flame class rating	at mm thickness	class at mm			UL94*	125 x 13, thickness as noted] ¹⁾] ³⁾
Limited Oxygen Index	LOI		%	4589		D2863	150/80 x 10 x 4] ³⁾
Glow wire	passed at °C	at mm thickness	°C at mm	695-2-1*			
Hot Wire Ignition	HWI	Performance Level Class	PLC			UL746A*	] ¹⁾] ⁴⁾
High-Current Arc Ignition	HAI	Performance Level Class	PLC			UL746A*	

Electrical

Comparative Tracking Index	CTI (CTI- M)	50 drops [M: wetting agent]	V	112*		D3638	] ⁵⁾
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Physical

Density			g/cm³	1183		D792	
Moisture absorption	24 h	at 23°C, 50% R.H.	%	62		D570	
Water absorption	at saturation	at 23°C, in water	%	62		D570	
Mould shrinkage		in flow direction	%	527		D955	] ⁵⁾

¹⁾ as recognized on UL yellow cards; UL recognition may differ with colour
²⁾ values may differ with glass fibre orientation
³⁾ these ratings are not intended to reflect hazards presented by this or other material under actual fire conditions

⁴⁾ measured at 3 - 3.2 mm thickness - values may differ for other thicknesses
⁵⁾ values may differ with pigmented materials

⁶⁾ only typical data for material selection purposes - not to be used for part/tool design; for glass reinforced grades: values may differ with glass fibre orientation



PA 6,6									
unreinforced		glass reinforced				mineral filled	wear resistant	impact modified	
standard viscosity	high viscosity	15%	30%	35%	50%	40% clay	MoS ₂ modified	supertough 0°C	supertough -40°C
A28(K)(N)	A40	AG3(H)(K)	AG6(H)(K)	AG7(H)(K)	AG10(H)(K)	AK8	ALM	AST03	AST44
85	80	—	—	—	—	—	92	65	50
—	—	125	170	200	215	100	—	—	—
50	>60	—	—	—	—	—	30	60	>100
—	—	3.5	3.0	3.0	2.0	6.0	—	—	—
2900	2800	6500	9800	10000	15500	6100	3200	2500	1800
115 (—)	110 (—)	— (175)	— (260)	— (270)	— (305)	n.t.	120 (—)	90 (—)	80 (—)
3100	3000	6000	8600	9500	15000	n.t.	3300	2700	1600
R118	R117	n.t.	L115	L115	L120	L110	R119	R108	R105
5 (3)	5 (3)	6 (n.t.)	10 (8)	13 (11)	15 (13)	4 (n.t.)	4 (2)	55 (35)	80 (60)
>100	>100	55	100	110	140	n.t.	>50	>100	>100
252	252	253	258	260	260	n.t.	252	n.t.	n.t.
90	90	230	255	257	258	170	90	80	80
230	230	245	260	262	262	n.t.	230	210	220
105 ²⁾	105 ²⁾	130 ²⁾	130 ²⁾	130 ²⁾	130 ²⁾	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
8.0·10 ⁻⁴	8.0·10 ⁻⁴	n.t.	3.0·10 ⁻⁴	3.0·10 ⁻⁴	1.5·10 ⁻⁴	2.5·10 ⁻⁴	8.0·10 ⁻⁴	3.0·10 ⁻⁴	3.0·10 ⁻⁴
V2/0.75	HB/1.60 ¹⁾	HB/0.80 ²⁾	HB/0.80 ²⁾	HB/0.80 ²⁾	HB/0.75 ²⁾	n.t.	HB/1.60 ¹⁾	HB/1.60 ¹⁾	HB/1.60 ¹⁾
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26	26	27	27	27	27	n.t.	26	n.t.	n.t.
n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
600 (600)	600 (600)	550 (450)	500 (400)	500 (375)	500 (350)	n.t. (n.t.)	n.t. (n.t.)	600 (600)	600 (600)
1.14	1.16	1.23	1.36	1.41	1.57	1.46	1.15	1.08	1.07
1.30	1.30	0.80	0.60	0.60	0.49	0.65	1.30	0.80	0.60
8.50	8.50	7.00	4.50	4.50	2.50	n.t.	8.50	6.00	5.50
1.6-2.0	1.6-2.0	0.4-0.8	0.2-0.4	0.15-0.30	0.1-0.25	0.9-1.3	1.6-2.0	1.3-2.0	1.0-1.2

¹⁾ UL94 in-house tested

²⁾ only (H) or (K) versions

NB : not broken — : not relevant n.t. : not tested



Typical Properties

Typical values only.
Not to be used for
specification purposes.

Mechanical

Mechanical			Unit	PA 6,6			PA 6,6/6			PA 6				
Tens. stress				y	50	MPa	65	—	—	—	80	80	75	
				b	5	MPa	—	150	160	80	—	—	—	
Tens. strain				b	50	%	15	—	—	—	60	60	70	
				b	5	%	—	3.0	2.5	5.0	—	—	—	
Tens. modulus				MPa	3000	8000	11000	3300	2900	2900	2800			
Flex. stress			y (b)	MPa	105 (—)	— (215)	— (230)	— (115)	100 (—)	100 (—)	98 (—)			
Flex. modulus				MPa	3300	7500	10500	2900	2750	2700	2650			
Hardness		Rockwell	scale		R118	L108	L107	R109	R120	R120	R120			

page 8

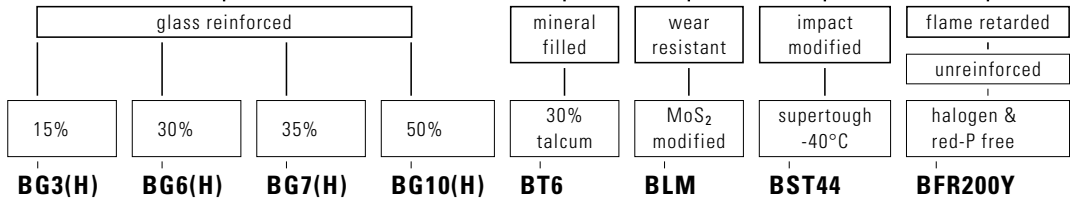
PA 6

Typical Properties

Typical values only.
Not to be used for
specification purposes.

Mechanical

Tens. stress	y	50
	b	5
Tens. strain	b	50
	b	5
Tens. modulus		
Flex. stress	y (b)	
Flex. modulus		
Hardness	Rockwell	



Impact

Izod notch.	23° (-40°) C
Charpy unnotch.	23° C

Thermal

Vicat B/120
HDT/ Ae 1.80 MPa
/ Be 0.45 Mpa
RTI 20 000 h
CTE flow

Flammability

UL94
LOI
Glow wire
HWI - PLC
HAI - PLC

Electrical

CTI (CTI-M)

Physical

Density
Moisture abs. 23°C 24 h
Water abs. 23°C sat.
Mould shrink. flow

¹⁾ UL94 in-house tested
²⁾ only (H) or (K) versions

NB : not broken – : not relevant n.t.: not tested



4

Processing

Gelon high quality polyamide resins can be easily processed using standard injection moulding or extrusion equipment.

As with other semi-crystalline resins, once molten, the melt viscosity of Gelon injection moulding resins is sufficiently low to allow for long flow lengths through thin wall sections and/or complicated geometries. Gelon's rate of crystallization, as well as the degree of crystallinity in the final part, can, between certain limits, be influenced by varying the mould temperature.

In applications where a minimum level of melt strength is required, as for instance in profile extrusion, Gelon's high viscosity grades are recommended.

Polyamides are characterised by their moisture sensitivity.

Firstly, polyamides can absorb up to 10% of their own weight in water, depending on the type of resin or compound and on the conditions. Secondly, being a polycondensate, polyamide resins are susceptible to hydrolytic polymer chain scission as the result of presence of water at elevated temperatures.

While processing Gelon it is therefore recommended to maintain the moisture content below 0.2% in order to prevent hydrolysis as well as surface defects such as splay or blisters.

Gelon high quality polyamide resins are delivered predried in sealed packaging. No predrying is required if processed directly upon opening. However predrying may be necessary given prolonged residence in open equipment or prolonged storage even in closed packaging.

Purging of the barrel may be required when changing material or colour. For this purpose, high molecular weight polypropylene (PP) or high density polyethylene (HDPE) grades can be used. Glass fibre reinforced Gelon grades are also very effective cleaning agents as the result of their slightly abrasive action.

For specific guidelines and recommendations with respect to processing temperatures and predrying conditions, readers are asked to refer to the relevant Gelon technical datasheet.

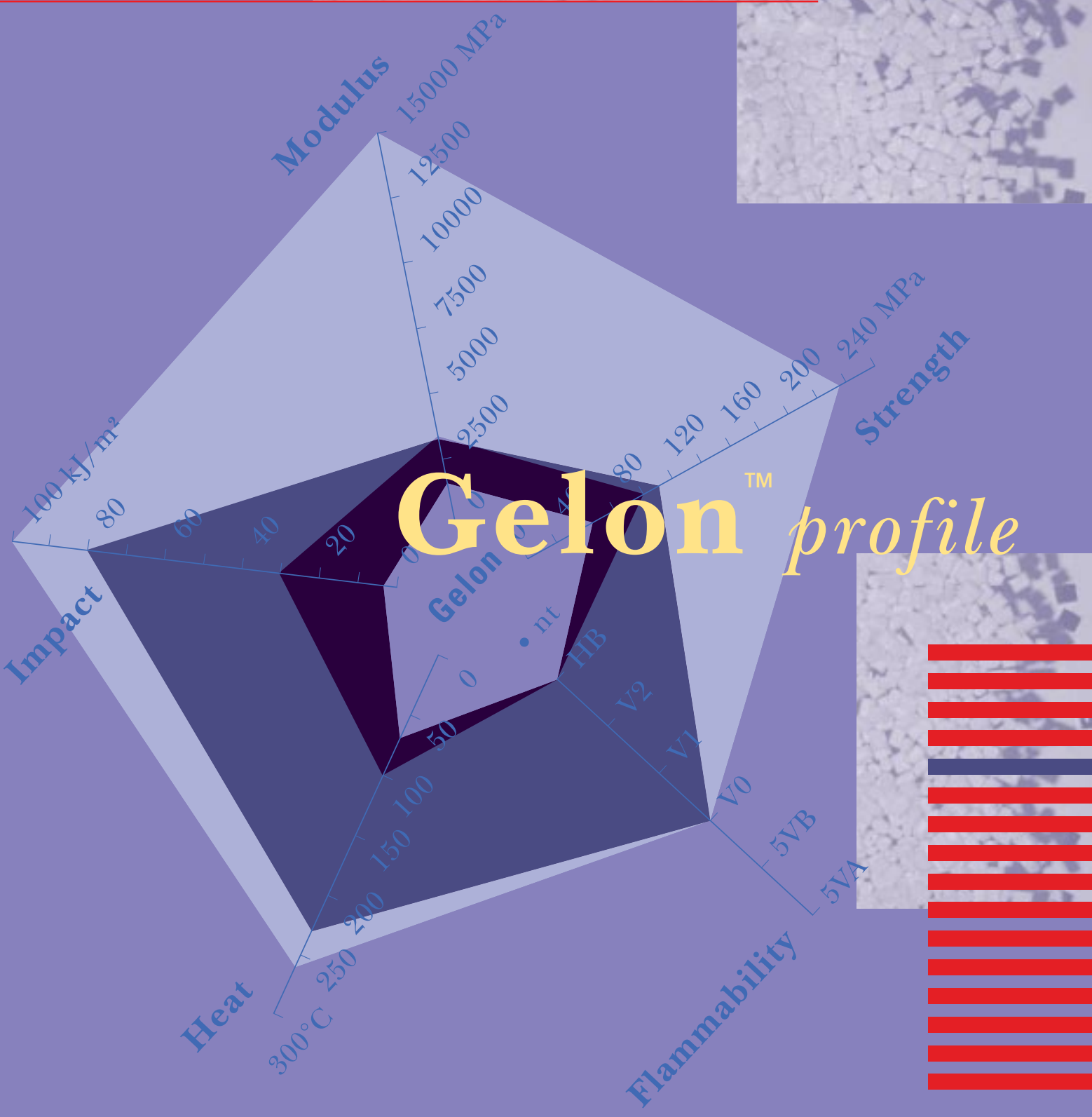
For health, safety and/or environmental concerns relative to processing of Gelon resins readers are asked to consult the appropriate material safety data sheet (MSDS).



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