

Press Release

KRAIBURG TPE Optimizes Ear Care with TPE for Otoscope

Kuala Lumpur, February 2026

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Expansion in handheld imaging technology has led to smaller and lighter otoscope systems, used in regular clinical practice, that make visual assessment faster and more efficient in healthcare facilities and mobile care settings. As portable medical devices, otoscopes require materials that combine durability, safety, and ergonomic handling.

Industry standard and compliant advanced materials like thermoplastic elastomers (TPE) boost the performance of [medical visualization devices](#).

Efficient material solutions for otoscope components

KRAIBURG TPE, a leading global manufacturer of TPEs and customized solutions for various industries, offers the high-performance THERMOLAST® H healthcare TPE materials, suitable for medical visualization technologies, including otoscope applications. These otoscope materials are ideal for functional and user-facing components, including sealing elements, cable interfaces, buttons, soft-touch grips, housings, and flexible connections, enhancing device durability and user comfort. As TPE solutions specifically for low-risk, hand-held medical devices such as otoscopes, they enable compact device layouts while ensuring durability and comfort during repeated clinical use.

Multi-component processing and integration

The THERMOLAST® H [healthcare series](#) demonstrates excellent adhesion to polypropylene (PP) and polyethylene (PE). This delivers efficient multi-component injection molding and direct integration of soft-touch elements onto rigid housings. As TPE solutions for otoscope devices, this approach improves ergonomics, enhances sealing performance, and reduces assembly steps, thus promoting cost-efficient manufacturing.

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Durability for long-term use

The THERMOLAST® H compounds assure dimensional stability, elasticity, and surface integrity in otoscope components that undergo repeated mechanical stress, cleaning, and sterilization. An optimized compression set supports long-term performance of seals, gaskets, and flexible interfaces, even after repeated use and sterilization cycles.

Color options and tactile performance

The [THERMOLAST® H series](#) allows colorable and translucent formulations. These options promote visual differentiation of controls and functional zones on otoscope devices, improving usability and clarity during operation. Meanwhile, the smooth, soft touch surface the compounds provide improves grip and handling comfort during extended examinations, enabling consistent device control.

Sterilization compatibility and safety

THERMOLAST® H materials are compatible with common sterilization methods, including autoclave sterilization at 121°C and ethylene oxide (EtO). The compounds are free from animal-derived ingredients, heavy metals, and other harmful substances, thereby ensuring safe use in reusable otoscope devices and accessories intended for close patient and clinician contact.

KRAIBURG TPE at CHINAPLAS 2026

KRAIBURG TPE will join [CHINAPLAS 2026](#), taking place from **21–24 April 2026** in **National Exhibition and Convention Center (NECC) Shanghai, China** at **Hall 7.2 Booth No. D13**, where the company will present a broad portfolio of thermoplastic elastomer (TPE) materials. Visitors are invited to visit the KRAIBURG TPE booth to explore the latest material innovations and

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benefit from free **one-to-one consultations** with technical experts, offering personalized material recommendations and application support.

Sustainability from the get-go

At KRAIBURG TPE, [sustainability](#) drives our innovation. Our portfolio includes bio-based TPEs and compounds with post-consumer (PCR) and post-industrial (PIR) recycled content. Selected TPEs are certified under GRS and ISCC PLUS. We also provide Product Carbon Footprint (PCF) data upon request to support sustainability decisions.

We proudly earned the EcoVadis Gold Medal in 2025 and are committed to the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), aligning our goals with global climate action.

From reducing emissions to increasing circularity, our sustainable TPEs deliver reliable performance and are available worldwide to support your applications while advancing your sustainability goals.

Get in touch today to learn how KRAIBURG TPE can support your sustainability and product development journey.

Discover More with TPE: From [ultrasound devices](#) to [ostomy bags](#), our advanced TPE materials deliver superior performance and ergonomic design for your medical devices.

***Disclaimer:** The applications mentioned are illustrative of material capabilities only. Final product suitability and regulatory compliance must be assessed and validated by the customer.*

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For high-resolution photography, please contact Bridget Ngang
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Information for members of the press:



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KRAIBURG TPE (www.kraiburg-tpe.com) is a global manufacturer of custom thermoplastic elastomers. KRAIBURG TPE was founded in 2001 as an independent business unit of the KRAIBURG Group and is now the industry's competence leader in the field of TPE compounds. The company's goal is to provide safe, reliable and sustainable products for customer applications. With more than 700 employees worldwide and production sites in Germany, the USA and Malaysia, the company offers a large product portfolio for applications in the automotive, industrial and consumer goods industries, as well as for the strictly regulated medical sector. The established THERMOLAST®, COPEC®, HIPEX® and For Tec E® product lines are processed by injection molding or extrusion and offer manufacturers numerous advantages not only in processing but also in product design. KRAIBURG TPE is characterized by its innovative strength, global customer orientation, customized product solutions and reliable service. The company is ISO 50001 certified at its headquarters in Germany and holds ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certifications at all its sites worldwide.