

TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

GRILAMID XE 3915

Product description

Grilamid XE 3915 is a 50% glass fibre reinforced, heat stabilised polyamide 12 injection moulding grade with the following product profile

- Good chemical resistance
- Good UV Stability
- High impact strength
- Very dimensionally stable
- Very low shrinkage

Grilamid XE 3915 is suitable for production of technical parts in the application fields of:

- Electro
- Electronics
- Automotive
- Safety technology
- Mechanical engineering
- Domestic appliances

Grilamid®
EMS

PROPERTIES

Mechanical Properties

		Standard	Unit	State	Grilamid XE 3915
Tensile E-Modulus	1 mm/min	ISO 527	MPa	cond.	11500
Tensile strength at break	5 mm/min	ISO 527	MPa	cond.	135
Elongation at break	5 mm/min	ISO 527	%	cond.	6
Impact strength	Charpy, 23°C	ISO 179/2-1eU	kJ/m ²	cond.	80
Impact strength	Charpy, -30°C	ISO 179/2-1eU	kJ/m ²	cond.	80
Notched impact strength	Charpy, 23°C	ISO 179/2-1eA	kJ/m ²	cond.	20
Notched impact strength	Charpy, -30°C	ISO 179/2-1eA	kJ/m ²	cond.	15
Shore hardness D		ISO 868	-	cond.	82
Ball indentation hardness		ISO 2039-1	MPa	cond.	155

Thermal Properties

Melting point	DSC	ISO 11357	°C	dry	178
Heat deflection temperature HDT/A	1.80 MPa	ISO 75	°C	dry	165
Heat deflection temperature HDT/C	8.00 MPa	ISO 75	°C	dry	125
Thermal expansion coefficient long.	23-55°C	ISO 11359	10 ⁻⁴ /K	dry	0.15
Thermal expansion coefficient trans.	23-55°C	ISO 11359	10 ⁻⁴ /K	dry	1.20
Maximum usage temperature	long term	ISO 2578	°C	dry	90 - 120
Maximum usage temperature	short term	ISO 2578	°C	dry	150

Electrical Properties

Dielectric strength		IEC 60243-1	kV/mm	cond.	35
Comparative tracking index	CTI	IEC 60112	-	cond.	600
Specific volume resistivity		IEC 60093	Ω · m	cond.	10 ¹¹
Specific surface resistivity		IEC 60093	Ω	cond.	10 ¹²

General Properties

Density		ISO 1183	g/cm ³	dry	1.47
Flammability (UL94)	0.8 mm	ISO 1210	rating	-	HB
Water absorption	23°C/sat.	ISO 62	%	-	0.8
Moisture absorption	23°C/50% r.h.	ISO 62	%	-	0.4
Linear mould shrinkage	long.	ISO 294	%	dry	0.10
Linear mould shrinkage	trans.	ISO 294	%	dry	0.50

Product-nomenclature acc. ISO 1874: PA12, MHR, 18-120, GF50

Processing information for the injection moulding of Grilamid XE 3915

This technical data sheet for Grilamid XE 3915 provides you with useful information on material preparation, machine requirements, tooling and processing.

MATERIAL PREPARATION

Grilamid XE 3915 is delivered dry and ready for processing in sealed, air tight packaging. Pre-drying is not necessary.

Storage

Sealed, undamaged bags can be kept over a long period of time in storage facilities which are dry, protected from the influence of weather and where the bags can be protected from damage.

Handling and safety

Detailed information can be obtained from the "Material Safety Data Sheet" (MSDS) which can be requested with every material order.

Drying

Grilamid XE 3915 is dried and packed with a moisture content of less than 0.10 %. Should the packaging become damaged or the material is left open too long, then the material must be dried. A too high moisture content can be shown by a foaming melt and silver streaks on the moulded part when injected freely into the atmosphere (free shot).

Drying can be done as follows:

Desiccant dryer

Temperature:	max. 80°C
Time:	4 - 12 hours
Dew point of the dryer:	-25°C

Vacuum oven

Temperature:	max. 100°C
Time:	4 - 12 hours

Drying time

If there is only little evidence of foaming of the melt or just slight silver streaks on the part, then the above mentioned minimal drying time will be sufficient. Material, which is stored open over days, which shows strong foaming, unusually easy flowing, streaks and rough surface on the moulding part, then the maximal drying time is required.



Silver streaks can also be caused by overheating of the material or by too long melt residence time in the barrel.

Drying temperature

Polyamides are subjected to the affects of oxidation at temperatures above 80°C in the presence of oxygen. Visible yellowing of the material is an indication of oxidation. Hence temperatures above 80°C for desiccant dryers and temperatures above 100°C for vacuum ovens should be avoided. In order to detect oxidation it is advised to keep a small amount of granulate (light colour only !) as a comparison sample.

At longer residence times (over 1 hour) hopper heating or a hopper dryer (80°C) is useful.

Use of regrind

Grilamid XE 3915 is a thermoplastic material. Hence, incomplete mouldings as well as sprues and runners can be reprocessed. The following points should be observed:

- Moisture absorption
- Grinding: Dust particles and particle size distribution
- Contamination through foreign material, dust, oil, etc.
- Quantity addition to original material
- Colour variation
- Reduction of mechanical properties

When adding regrind, special care has to be taken by the moulder.

MACHINE REQUIREMENTS

Grilamid XE 3915 can be processed economically and problem-free on all machines suitable for polyamides.

Screw

Wear protected, universal screws with shut-off nozzles are recommended (3 zones).

Screw

Length:	18 D - 22 D
Compression ratio:	2 - 2.5

Shot volume

The metering stroke must be longer than the length of the back flow valve (without decompression distance).

Selecting the injection unit

Shot volume = 0.5 - 0.8 x
(max. shot volume)

Heating

At least three separately controllable heating zones, able of reaching cylinder temperatures up to 300°C. A separate nozzle heating is necessary. The cylinder flange temperature must be controllable (cooling).

Nozzle

Open nozzles are simple, allow an easy melt flow and are long lasting. There is however the danger that during retraction of the screws following injection of the melt, air maybe drawn into the barrel (decompression). For this reason, needle shut-off nozzles are often used.

Clamping force

As a rule of thumb the clamping force can be estimated using the following formula:

Clamping force

$$7.5 \text{ kN}^{1)} \times \text{projected area (cm}^2\text{)}$$

¹⁾ in cavity pressure of 750 bar

TOOLING

The design of the mould tool should follow the general rules for glass fiber reinforced thermoplastics.

For the mould cavities common mould tool steel quality (e.g. hardened steel) which has been hardened to level of 56 HRC is necessary. We recommend additional wear protection in areas of high flow rates in the tool (e.g. pin point gates, hot runner nozzles).

Demoulding / Draft angle

Parts moulded from Grilamid XE 3915 showing excellent dimensional stability. Asymmetric demoulding and undercuts are to be avoided. It is favourable to foresee high numbers of large ejector pins or a stripper plate. Demoulding draft angles between 1 to 5° are acceptable. Following values can be considered:

(VDI 3400)	12	15	18	21	24	27
Depth of roughness (µm)	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.6	2.2
Demoulding angle (°)	1	1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5

(VDI 3400)	30	33	36	39	42	45
Depth of roughness (µm)	3.2	4.5	6.3	9	13	18
Demoulding angle (°)	1.8	2	2.5	3	4	5

Gate and runner

To achieve an optimal mould-fill and to avoid sink marks, a central gate at the thickest section of the moulding is recommended. Pin point gate (direct) or tunnel gates are more economical and more common with technical moulding.

To avoid premature solidification of the melt and difficult mould filling, the following points should be considered:

Gate diameter

0.8 x thickest wall section of the injection moulding part

Runner diameter

1.4 x thickest wall section of the injection moulding part (but minimum 4 mm)

VENTING

In order to prevent burning marks and improve weldline strength, proper venting of the mould cavity should be provided (venting channels on the parting surface dimensions: Depth 0.02 mm, width 2 - 5 mm).

PROCESSING

Mould filling, post pressure and dosing

The best surface finish and a high weld line strength is achieved with a high injection speed and when a sufficiently long post pressure is employed.

The injection speed should be regulated so as to reduce towards the end of the filling cycle in order to avoid burning. For dosing at low screw revolutions and pressure the cooling time should be fully utilised.

Basic machine settings

In order to start up the machines for processing Grilamid XE 3915, following basic settings are recommended:

Temperatures

Flange	80°C
Zone 1	260°C
Zone 2	265°C
Zone 3	270°C
Nozzle	265°C
Tool	80°C
Melt	260°C

Pressures / Speeds

Injection speed	medium - high
Hold-on pressure (spec.)	300 - 800 bar
Dynamic pressure (hydr.)	5 - 15 bar
Screw speed	50 - 100 min ⁻¹

CUSTOMER SERVICES

EMS-GRIVORY is a specialist for polyamide synthesis and polyamide-processing. Our customer services are not only concerned with the manufacturing and supply of engineering thermoplastics but also provide a full of technical support program:

- Rheological design calculation / FEA
- Prototype tooling
- Material selection
- Processing support
- Mould and component design

We are happy to advice you. Simply call one of our sales offices.

The recommendations and data given are based on our experience to date, however, no liability can be assumed in connection with their usage and processing.

APE / 09.2005

This version replaces all previous product specific data sheets

www.emsgrivory.com