

ISI Adds CMP-4200 to Compressed MicroPore and Value Grade Lineups

Now available to fabricators as a Value Grade product, CMP-4200 matches the mechanical properties of earlier versions of solvent-free, high-density gasket material while offering unsurpassed sealing against high-pressure fluids.

Interface Solutions, Inc. (ISI) has added an advanced solvent-free (hydro-fused) compressed-sheet gasket material to its Compressed MicroPore family and placed the new high-performance product in its Value Grade lineup.

Called CMP-4200, the new high-density material possesses many of the same extraordinary characteristics of its predecessor material, CMP-4000. For example, solvent-free CMP-4200 is environmentally friendly while offering high crush resistance, exceptional torque retention, outstanding resistance to blowout and high surface friction on metal flanges.

What sets CMP-4200 apart is its unique multi-polymer formulation, the result of combining a distinctive blend of binders and employing a proprietary process to produce a material that offers

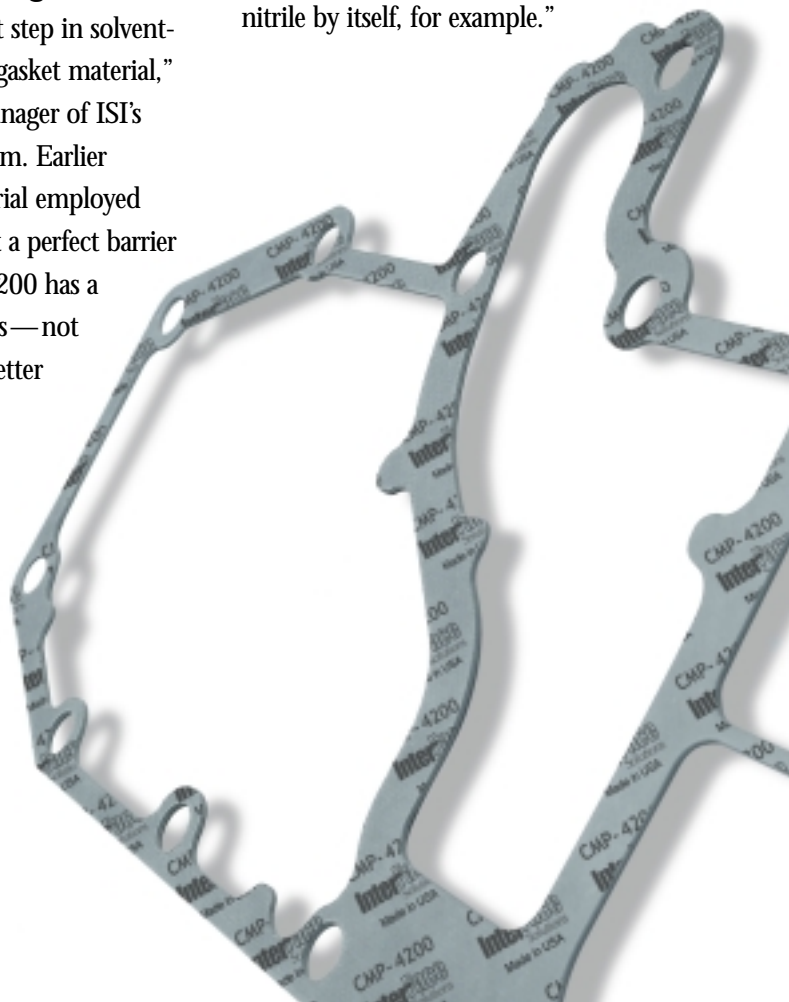
better interaction with various fluids. This fluid interaction leads to better sealing that requires less bolt tension and accommodates longer bolt spans.

The “next step” in compressed-sheet gaskets

“CMP-4200 is the next step in solvent-free, compressed-sheet gasket material,” says Brian Lehr, the manager of ISI’s Sealing Technology Team. Earlier compressed sheet material employed just nitrile, which is not a perfect barrier to oil. Because CMP-4200 has a unique blend of binders—not just nitrile—it offers better sealability against high-pressure oil as well as water and steam.

“The development of CMP-4200,” Lehr continues, “illustrates

the approach to gasket sealing that ISI has always used: Look at the interactions between fluids and binders, develop the best binders for specific applications and don’t simply offer what happens to be used currently in the marketplace—nitrile by itself, for example.”



CMP-4200 is for aftermarket, OEM and industrial applications

With its unsurpassed sealing capabilities, CMP-4200 is often the best choice for certain aftermarket applications as well as on original equipment and in industrial settings requiring gasketing for high-pressure fluids—including oil, steam and glycol-water mixtures. In fact, ISI is introducing the product simultaneously to aftermarkets and original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) while also noting its applicability for use in industrial maintenance.

Aftermarket applications for CMP-4200 are the special concern of Doug Pfautz, ISI's general manager for the North American aftermarket. He says, "For both the OEM and aftermarket, there is always a need for improvement. In a few areas such as oil and coolant sealability, CMP-4200 outperforms CMP-4000. In certain aftermarket industries—power sports and marine and performance (land) racing, for example—customers are always looking for best-in-class products. CMP-4200 provides that extra level of performance."

Asked for an example of where CMP-4200 will see service in the power sports industry, Pfautz mentions the American V-twin motorcycle engine aftermarket, where the material will be used in demanding applications such as on cylinder bases.

Jay Windover, CEO at Winderosa®, a Peru, Maine supplier of gasket kits to the power sports industry and the first supplier of CMP-4200 to the aftermarket, also mentions cylinder bases



▲ *Owners of power sports equipment simply want the best and most reliable product technology in their machines. CMP-4200 delivers high crush resistance, exceptional torque retention and outstanding resistance to blowout.*

as an application for CMP-4200. He specifically references cylinder-base applications in two-stroke engines where gasoline is present. "This product gives us an advantage because it can be used in the presence of gasoline," he notes.

Windover cites other applications for which his company's kits include CMP-4200 gaskets. In kits for all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), snowmobiles and off-road dirt bikes, CMP-4200 serves as gasketing for crankcases, transmissions and rear ends. He also notes that aftermarket applications are often much more demanding than OEM

applications because of wear that may have affected bolts and flange faces over the vehicle's life. In such cases, the better sealing ability provided by CMP-4200 becomes more important than if the bolts and flanges were new.

"In our market, we have many aluminum and magnesium flanges with few bolts in them," says the Winderosa CEO. "We cannot use high torque, and CMP-4200, which accommodates longer bolt spans and seals with less flange load, simply works better."

Dave Muzic, product manager for Mr. Gasket, plans to take CMP-4200



▲ *Applications on V8/V6 marine racing engines, including intakes, superchargers and water-cooled exhaust systems, are excellent candidates for the range of high-performance features offered by CMP-4200.*

to targeted, premium segments of his company's customer base. High performance intakes, carburetor base and throttle body gaskets are among the applications for the new material technology.

Mr. Gasket, headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, manufactures a variety of performance parts and accessories, including carburetor and fuel accessories, cooling system accessories, engine components and gaskets. Mr. Gasket is recognized as the industry leader in the automotive aftermarket segments it serves.

Some OEM applications for CMP-4200 mirror those that Pfautz, Muzic and Windover identify for the aftermarket. They include oil-barrier

applications such as crankcases and transmissions. And since CMP-4200 performs well as a gasoline barrier, there are surely applications in fuel systems in a variety of markets. In addition, CMP-4200's ability to perform well as a barrier to glycol-water mixtures means it can be used effectively in water-cooled engines' cooling systems.

The first solvent-free sheet material developed by ISI was formulated to meet a particular need of refrigeration compressor manufacturers. That fact points to a large potential market for CMP-4200. Astute fabricators will no doubt recognize many opportunities for CMP-4200 in the markets they serve.



Industrial applications require products that offer flange conformability, sealability, crush strength and bolt-load retention. CMP-4200 meets these criteria. It will serve well as gasketing for pipe, valve and pump connections for process water, low-pressure steam, oils, fuels and low-concentration chemical solutions.

The principal cause of leaking pipe joints in industrial settings is the

improper installation of gaskets, primarily due to uneven bolt loading. Gaskets that are more “forgiving” — in the sense that they seal even when the installation is unevenly loaded or misaligned — offer an advantage to pipe fitters making repairs or installing new piping. CMP-4200 is forgiving in just the ways required.

In many industrial applications, using CMP-4200 will eliminate the need for bolt re-torquing after a system is pressurized, a common practice with more traditional gaskets. Further, CMP-4200 gaskets will reduce preventive maintenance requirements. Technicians will not have to monitor flanged joints as frequently for loose bolts and leaks.

CMP-4200 as a Value Grade product

CMP-4200 is available to members of ISI's Value Added Network (VAN) under the popular Value Grade Project Growth Incentive Plan. Fabricators that are VAN members will receive the same benefits from using CMP-4200 that they get from using the other nine Value Grade

materials. “Those benefits are price stability, reduced lead times and superior performance,” says Bill Cassidy, ISI's general manager for North American distribution.

“The ‘Value Grade’ label means that ISI ranks CMP-4200 among the best values in fiber-based materials we can offer,” Cassidy continues. “Its introduction to the Value Added Network underscores our commitment to use our proprietary production processes to create better gasket materials formulated from new fibers and new combinations of elastomers and fillers. ISI will continue to offer innovative solutions to fabricators. Our customers should watch for additional new product announcements during the balance of 2004.”

ISI supports fabricators with promotional materials and brochures. To order printed materials, contact Vic Burriss, manager of marketing and communications (vkburriss@sealinfo.com) at 717-207-6006, or Cathy Rice (carice@sealinfo.com) at 248-596-2810.

