



BASF
We create chemistry

Basotect®

Lightweight design makes US train seats safer

Train seats that are light yet still safe? The open-cell melamine foam Basotect® from BASF makes it possible. In the US, Basotect® has already replaced other cushioning materials used by rail vehicle manufacturers in the backrest cushions of train seats. You can experience these lightweight train seats in the local high-speed trains of the San Francisco Bay Area and the commuter trains on Long Island, New York. The advantages of Basotect® are utilized by globally active foam specialist Rogers Corporation under the brand BISCO®MRF-400. The innovative cushioning solutions for backrest cushions offered by BASF are now traveling through the United States.



Using Basotect® pays off

Rogers Corporation incorporates Basotect® into the backrest cushions of train seats and thus reduces the overall weight of the cushioning solution by a full 90 % compared to conventional foam cushioning. Such a saving reduces the energy consumed and thus cuts costs. At the same time, the reduction in weight also benefits the performance of the rail vehicles. "Lightweight construction is a very important issue for the rail industry. The possibility of removing weight from the vehicles due to lighter seats makes local transport ever more economical and energy-efficient," says Holli Woodard, Basotect Market Development Manager in North America – a win-win situation for manufacturers and consumers alike.

Strong fire protection

However, it is not just its lightness that is popular with all those involved. In fire protection, too, Basotect® succeeds across the board. Due to its excellent fire-protection properties, there is no need for additional flame retardants. The foam's flame resistance and low smoke and heat development help to comply with various regional standards, such as ASTM E1354, ASTM E162, ASTM E662 and EN 45545-2 on the fire behavior of materials and components in trains.

As a lightweight solution, Basotect® takes the lead from other backrest cushion materials for train seats, since the foam satisfies the requirements of rail vehicle construction for both manufacturers and end consumers equally. Thanks to Basotect®, saving money and traveling in comfort and safety is now easier than ever.