

Transport box made of Neopolen® P receives German Design Award 2011

Case Study

The Flip-Box® Premium from the packaging manufacturer Overath, Germany receives the 2011 Gold Design Award of the Federal Republic of Germany (category: product design). The foldable transport and insulation box is made from BASF's expanded polypropylene Neopolen® P (EPP). The foam is noted primarily for its outstanding stability, low weight, great design versatility, and good insulation performance. The award ceremony will take place on February 11, 2011 in Frankfurt am Main on the occasion of the Ambiente trade fair. The transport box has already received several design awards, including the German Packaging Award 2010 and the iF material award 2009.

The Flip-Box® from Overath fills the gap between an insulation container and a plastic folding basket. The premium version of the box, which weighs a pound, can carry up to 25 kg of weight and has a capacity of 25 liters. It benefits from the great impact resistance of the BASF foam and its good cushioning performance – both properties which can be attributed to its outstanding ability to absorb energy even after several impacts. This considerably increases the service life of the Flip-Box® compared with other transport containers.

The gray-black reusable box can be used to transport food, bottles and other objects and keep them cool or warm if necessary. This is thanks to the metallic-gray Neopolen® P 9335 mg, whose thermal insulation is 10 percent better than that of standard EPP. Walls and lid are connected with hinges, joints and latch elements, which makes the box particularly well sealed and stable. This design versatility is possible because the tough elastic Neopolen® P shows very good resilience following static or dynamic loading. As the BASF foam is resistant to chemicals, the transport box can be easily cleaned using cleaning agents.

Design Award of the Federal Republic of Germany

The Design Award is presented by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology. It was first awarded in recognition of top international achievements in product design in 1969. The award has been presented annually under the name "Design Award of the Federal Republic of Germany" since 2006 in recognition of outstanding achievements in product and communication design and for a design personality. An independent jury made up of representatives of industry, higher education, design, and the media decides on the winners. The German Design Council is responsible for organizing and presenting the award.

