



Curing *Cariflex*<sup>®</sup> IR0401 at lower  
temperatures

## Curing Cariflex® IR0401 at lower oven temperatures

Some Cariflex IR0401 glove and condom customers experience problems in maintaining the recommended curing temperature of 130°C in their ovens. This leads to undercured films with suboptimal mechanical properties.

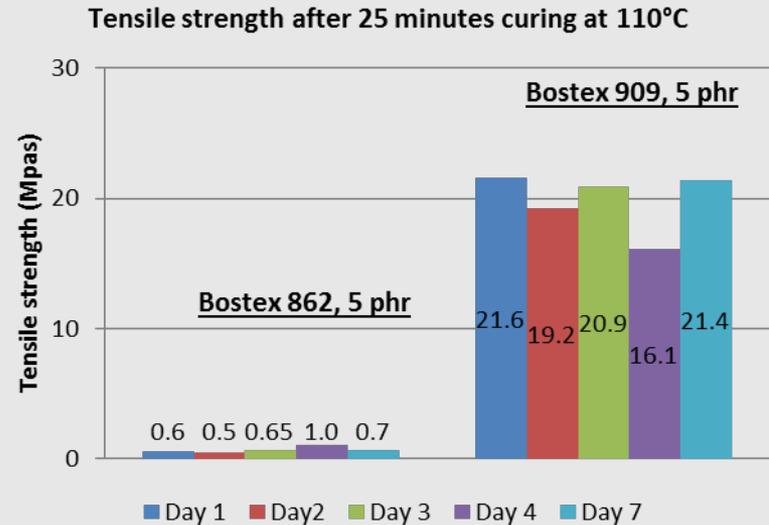
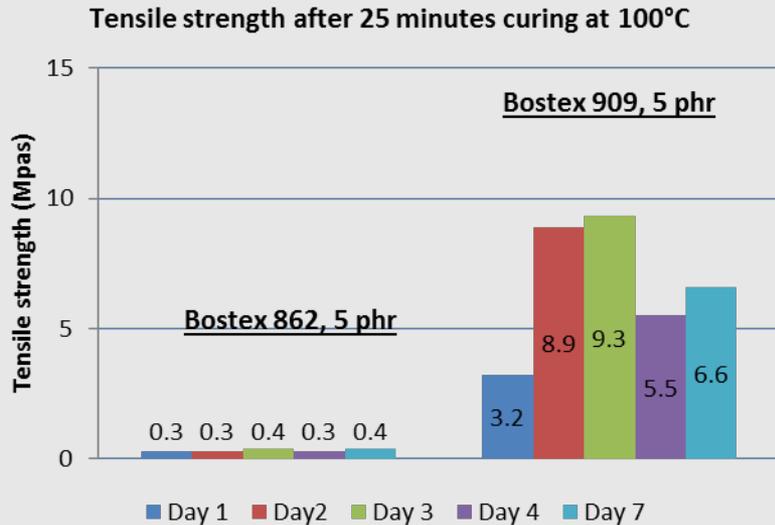
At KIC-A, we recently investigated several Akron master-batches of compounding chemicals. We found that, by using the right Bostex™ masterbatch, the curing temperature can be significantly reduced, while maintaining good tensile strength in the final film.

Bostex™ is a registered trademark of Akron Dispersions

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So far, we have recommend 5 phr Bostex™862 in combination with Manawet™ stabilizer as a robust master batch to compound IR0401. The advised curing temperature for this combination is 130°C. Maturation is done at ambient temperature.

Recent investigations indicate that 5 phr Bostex™909 leads to significantly higher tensile strength at lower temperatures ( 100°-110°C)



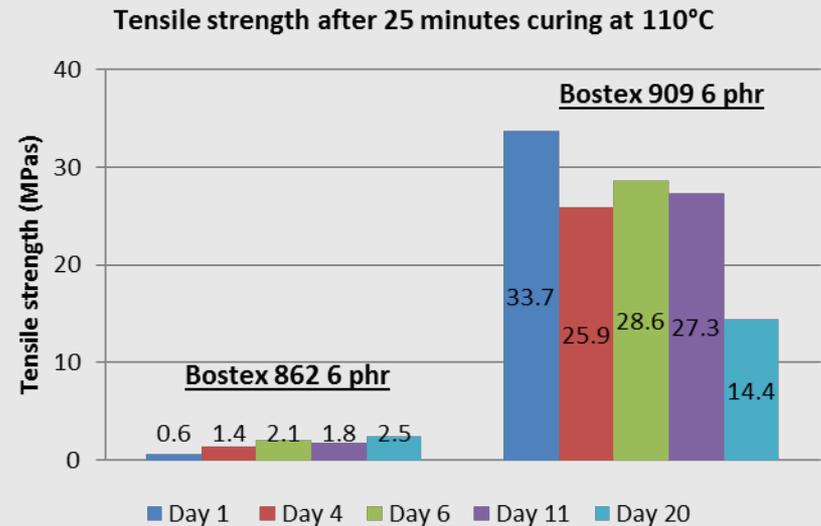
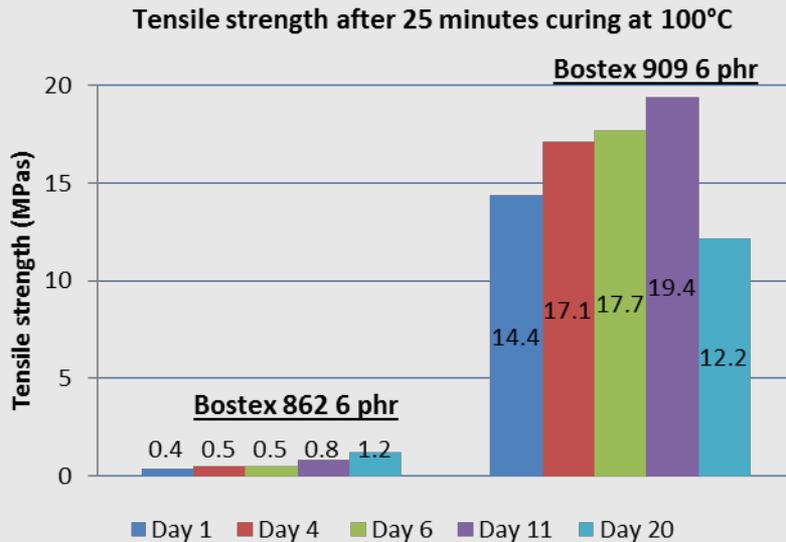
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 Manawet™ is a trademark of Manufacturers Chemicals

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Dipping experiments were repeated using 6 phr Bostex™862 and 909. Tensile properties of the films give the same pattern over time as for 5 phr Bostex™.

Higher Bostex™ concentrations give higher tensile strength.

For most of the films tested the Modulus 500% was low and the elongation at break was still >1000 %. This means that full crosslink density was not reached yet.



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