

## SEPTON™ BIO-series: Bio-based block copolymer for differentiated solutions

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Abstract: Kuraray has developed the SEPTON™ BIO-series, a material that is biobased while exhibiting the wide ranging benefits of the Septon series.

The copolymer is based on  $\beta$ -farnesene, a renewable monomer developed by Amyris derived from biological raw materials.

During fermentation, special strains of yeast convert sources of sugar such as sugarcane into  $\beta$ -farnesene. The hydrogenated styrene farnesene block copolymer (HSFC) is then produced from the  $\beta$ -farnesene. Its chemical structure corresponds to its isoprene trimer which possesses an anionically polymerizable conjugated diene structure.

The development of the SEPTON™ BIO-series should be a contribution to the dwindling reserves of mineral oil as the raw material for thermoplastic elastomers (TPE). The increasing demand for bio-based, renewable materials also brings new opportunities for sustainability..

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