Lightweight Body Filler Formulation with Expanded Microspheres

Technical Guide



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Introduction of Lightweight Body Filler



Lightweight body fillers are materials used in automotive repair to fill dents, scratches, and other imperfections on vehicle surfaces before painting.

Composition

 Lightweight body fillers are typically made of polyester resin mixed with talc and lightweight fillers, for example, expanded microspheres.

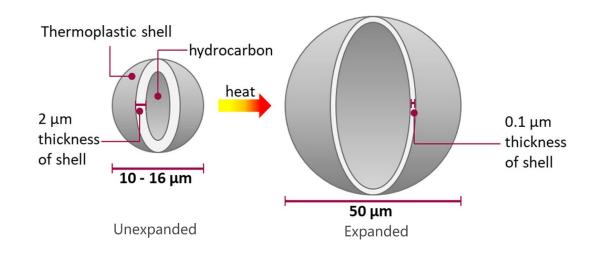
Benefits

- Ease of Sanding: They sand easily, allowing for a smooth finish with minimal effort.
- Low Density: The fillers are lighter than traditional body fillers, reducing the added weight to the repaired area.
- Quick Drying: They cure quickly, speeding up the repair process.

Introduction of Expanded Microspheres

Expanded Microspheres is a super lightweight filler, which will add volume dramatically with small dosage in weight, without losing much of the original properties of your products. Our lightweight fillers allow you to substitute heavier substances with small portions of microspheres and achieve better overall results, saving raw material costs in the process..

- Extremely low density, 20kg/m3;
- Free-flowing white powder, hollow spheres;
- Thermoplastic polymer shell and hydrocarbon gas inside;



Benefits of Expanded Microspheres in Body Filler

Expanded Microspheres applying in body filler have the following advantages:

- Lower Density
- Easy Sanding
- Excellent Water Resistance
- Low Permeability
- Good Processing
- Low Volume Shrinkage
- Shorten processing time
- ...

Benefits of Expanded Microspheres in Body Filler

Density Reduction

Thanks to the exceptionally low density of microspheres, incorporating them into body filler can not only drastically reduce the body filler's density but also substantially increase their volume, allowing them to cover more surface area and enhancing their cost-effectiveness.

Items	Weight (Formula1)	Weight (Formula2)	Weight (Formula3)
Unsaturated resin	31%	41%	97
Inorganic filler	69%	58%	0
Microspheres(WP40D)	0%	1%	3
Total Weight	100%	100%	100
Final Density	1.8kg/dm3	1.00kg/dm3	0.48kg/dm3

Benefits of Expanded Microspheres in Body Filler

• Easy Sanding

Expanded microspheres are soft thermoplastic shells with a spherical shape, which means that body filler containing expanded microspheres has a lower surface hardness compared to putty with traditional fillers. This makes the body filler easier to sand, reducing sanding time and causing less wear on sanding equipment.

Excellent Water Resistance

Microspheres are closed cells with gas-tight properties, crucial for enhancing the water resistance of boy filler. Additionally, their small particle size allows them to nearly fill all gaps, making it challenging for water to permeate the surface of body filler.



Benefits of Expanded Microspheres in Body Filler

Good Processing

Expanded microspheres possess high elasticity and can endure machine processing without sustaining damage during the production and application of polyester putty.

Low Volume Shrinkage

Expanded microspheres are highly elastic and compressible particles. Polyester putties containing microspheres exhibit lower volume shrinkage compared to standard formulations.

Storage stability

Expanded Microspheres will not compromise the storage stability of the polyester putty.



Basic Formulation & Recommendations

- Recommended addition of microspheres: 1 to 4%.
- 1% dosage by weight of microspheres equals density reduction by approx 30%.

Items	PHR
Unsaturated resin	100
Antisetting agent	1
Wetting agent	1.45
Titanium dioxide	4.5
Thixotropic agent	1.5
Styrene	10
Dolomite (5–10 um)	55
Talc (5–10 um)	70
Lightweight filler (Waytop 40D)	2.5



Expanded Microspheres Grades to Choose

Expanded microspheres are catagorized into several grades according to different particle sizes and heat resistance. You should choose the suitable microspheres according to your needs in body filler.

Grade	Average Particle Size (µm)	Softening Temp (°C)	Density kg/m3
WP20D	20-30	110±5	30-40
WP40D	30-50	100±5	20-30
WP80D	70-90	120±5	15-25
WP100D	90-110	85±5	13-18



Mixing Suggestions



Here are some suggestions on mixing expanded microspheres in body fillers:

- 1. Mixing machine: dissolvers, butterfly mixers, or planetary mixers, powder conveying equipment.
- 2. Mix at high rotational speed to ensure sufficient dispersion of the expanded microspheres.
- 3. Mix at least 30 minutes for a homogenous putty;

Thank You!

If you want to learn more, please contact us.