



# Advancing Medical Device Durability

Chemical-resistant polycarbonates in Healthcare

# Introduction of our presenters...





**Dr. Bernd Garska** 

Technical Marketing – Healthcare Europe, Middle-East, Africa

bernd.garska@covestro.com



**Dr. Christopher Schirwitz** 

Market Manager – Healthcare Europe, Middle-East, Africa

christopher.schirwitz@covestro.com

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# Covestro – leading in the world of plastics



# Strong

- €14.2 bn in sales
- ~17,500 employees¹



# Global

- 46 production sites globally
- Close to customers and partners

### Useful

- Plastics, preproducts and solutions
- For many industries



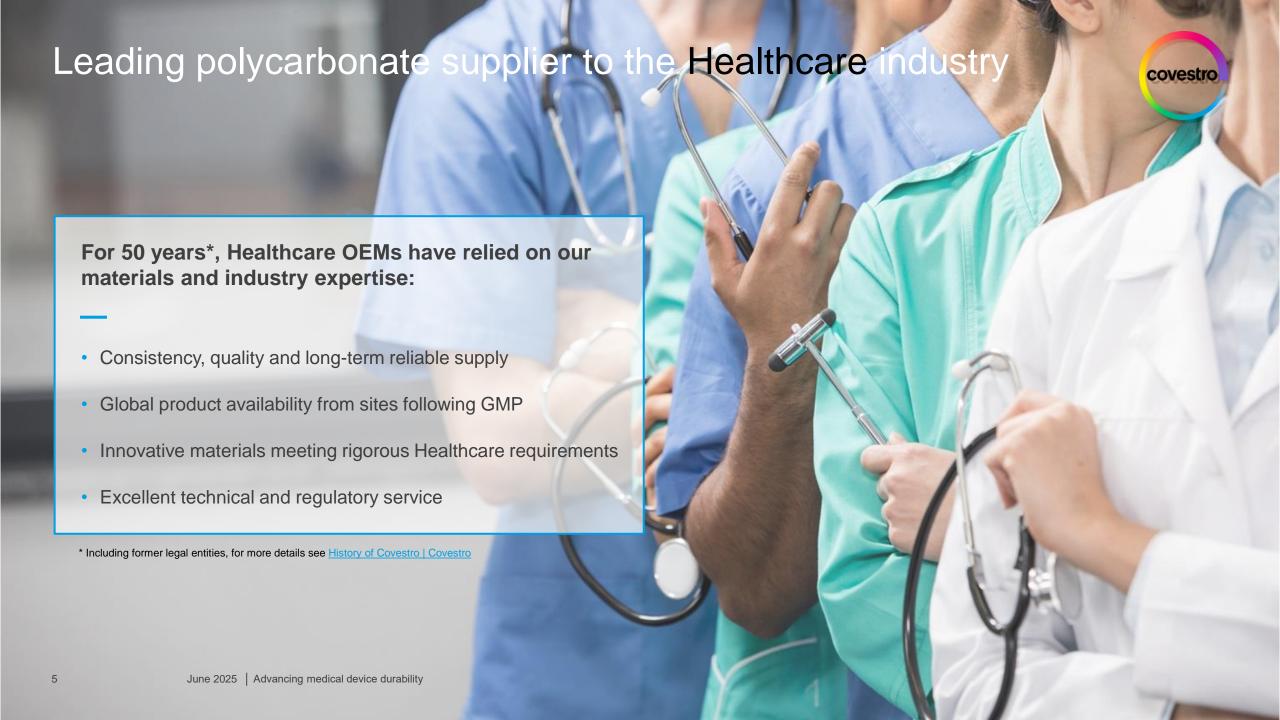
# **Innovative**

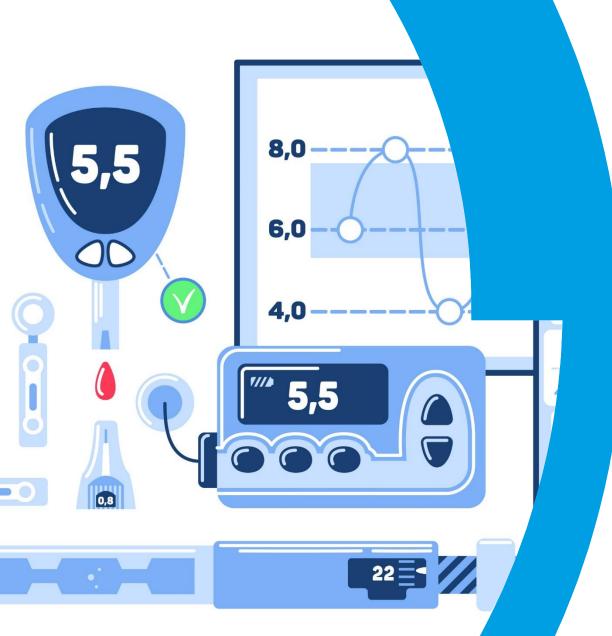
- ~1,300
   employees in research and development
- 80 years<sup>2</sup> of ideas and inventions



Information is based on financial results for 2024.

¹calculated as full-time equivalent (FTE)
²including former legal entities







# Agenda

- Chemical resistance basics
- Testing parameters and material innovations
- Materials portfolio for healthcare devices
- Summary

# Chemical attack on plastics

### Basics



# **Examples of incompatible polymer-chemical interactions:**

- Solvation The chemical can dissolve the plastic
  - ABS plastic with Acetone
- Plasticization Similar to solvation, but is present in small amounts
  - Polyethylene glycol with PLA
- Chain scission (e.g. hydrolysis) The chemical can break bonds in the chain
  - Sodium hydroxide with polyesters or polycarbonates



# Avoiding incompatible combinations is a first-line strategy

# Choosing materials with better chemical resistance

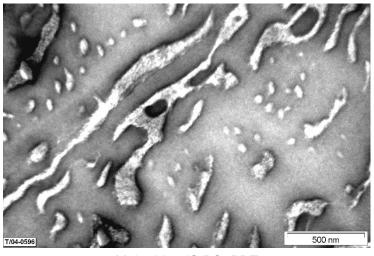


### Molecular weight

 Higher molecular weights deliver higher performance and better chemical resistance

### **Blends**

- Blending polycarbonate often brings benefits to chemical resistance
- PC+polyester provide synergistic combination of properties and chemical resistance through semi-crystallinity

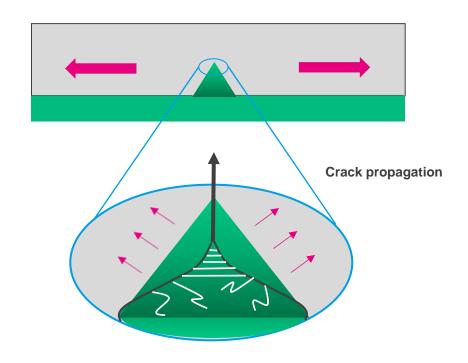


Makroblend® PC+PBT

Understanding the importance of chemical resistance can help choose materials

# Chemical attack on plastics is accelerated by stress and voids

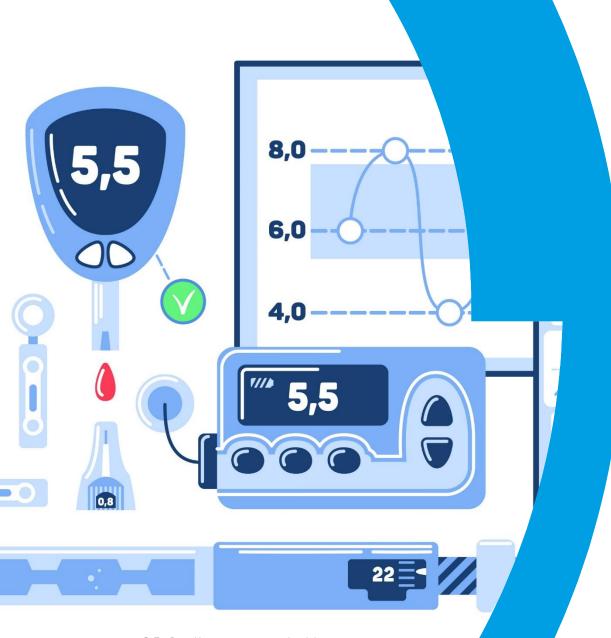




### Optimize part and mold design

- Reduce molded-in stress via molding parameters and subsequent annealing
- Avoid application of external stress upon assembly
- Limit areas where chemicals may concentrate
  - Connection areas (e.g. seams, screw sockets)
  - Surface structures (e.g. cavities, pores)
  - Voids from sample preparation (e.g. notches)

Stress-reduction and prevention of voids significantly improves compatibility





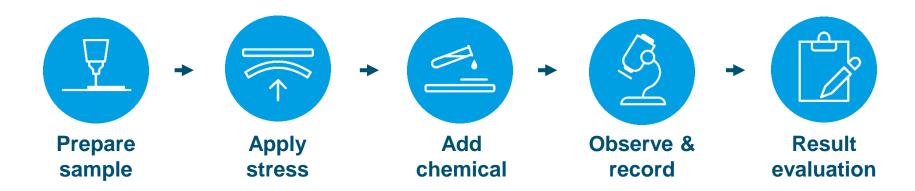
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# Testing for Environmental Stress Cracking (ESC)



# **Typical workflow**



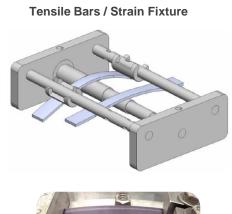
The ESC test workflow analyzes the impact of a certain chemical (disinfectant) to a material sample under applied stress.

Application of defined conditions helps assess severity of attack, and compare material performances

# Wiping versus immersion tests\*



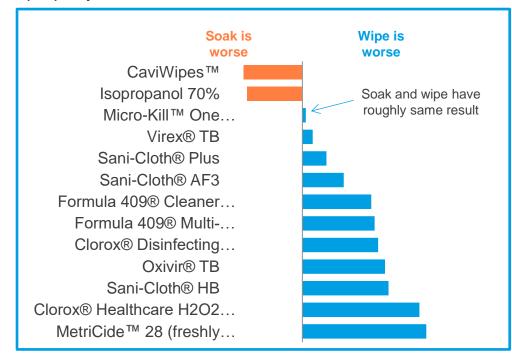
- Wiping better represents actual method of disinfecting housing materials
- Classical "immersion" test method with tensile bars on strain fixtures may miss cases where wiping gives worse results





1% Strain 10x Wipe Cycles Over 24hr

Comparison of test results from wiping vs immersion test with various housing materials. Results based on property retention<sup>1</sup>



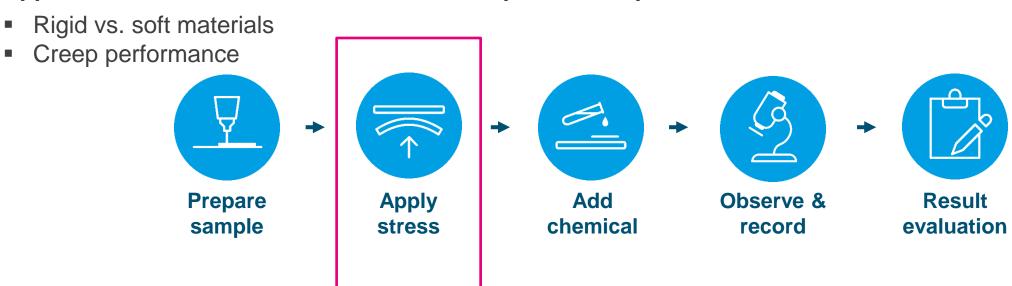
# Choosing representative test criteria is essential

<sup>\*</sup> source: "Chemical resistance testing of polycarbonates and blends with hospital disinfectants and cleaners ", P. Nowatzki, ANTEC 2020

# Testing for Environmental Stress Cracking (ESC)



# **Application of stress / deformation can complicate comparison between materials:**



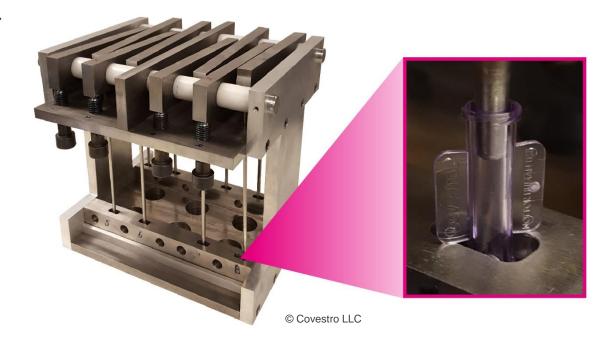
Adapting the test method to mimic the application helps identify better materials\*

# Test stand for IV access components\*



### Controlled strain testing for Luer connectors\*

- Enables immersion testing of IV connectors under realistic loading conditions
- Adjustable force allows accelerated testing
- Capable of testing different geometries and sizes



# Customized, realistic tests support material innovation

# Makrolon® Rx3440 for better IV connectors

offers superior durability, reliable IV connections and oncology drug resistance\*





Makrolon<sup>®</sup>

Solution	Makrolon <sup>®</sup> Rx3440	Makrolon <sup>®</sup> Rx1805	Copolyester	сос	SAN	РММА
70% Isopropyl Alcohol	100%	88%	0%	13%	0%	0%
Etoposide simulant (Benzyl Alcohol)	94%	75%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Busulfex simulant (DMAc + PEG)	75%	63%	0%	75%	0%	0%
Taxol simulant (Castor Oil + IPA)	75%	69%	0%	0%	0%	0%

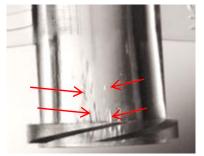
[Table displays passing percentage of female luers (no cracks) while being immersed in oncology drug simulant and subject to downward force]



Copolyester\*



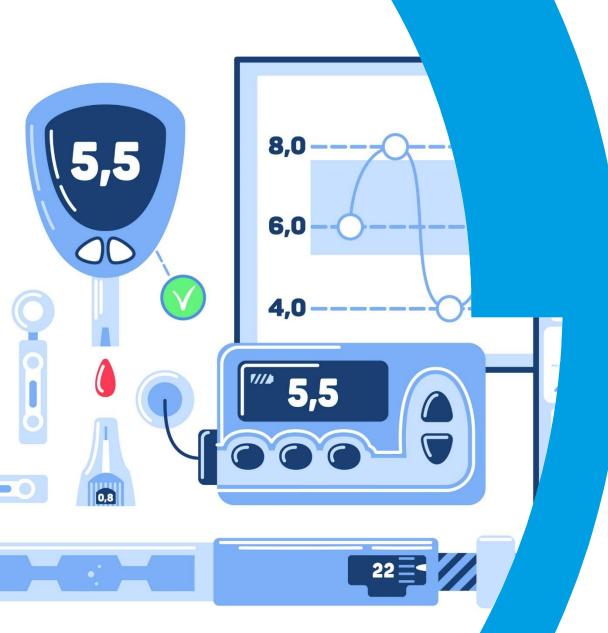
COC\*



SAN\*



PMMA\*





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# Covestro medical grades for healthcare applications





# Covestro medical grades and regulatory compliance



- Biocompatibility: ISO 10993-1 and USP Class VI for contact of 30 days or less
- Compliance to Regulation (EU) 2017/745 on medical devices and (EU) No 722/2012 regarding medical devices manufactured utilizing tissues of animal origin
- Maintenance of FDA Device (MAF) and Drug Master (DMF)
   File and provide letters of authorization
- Product stewardship
- Manufactured at ISO 9001 certified sites that follow GMP standards
- Supplier notification of change



# Value added services for medical devices





# Support from first drawings to mass-production

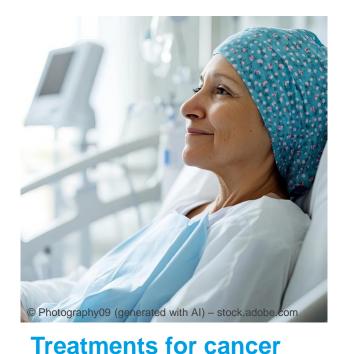
- Utilize our machine lab for design, engineering, tooling and processing support
- CAE tools for design and analysis
- Data for advanced simulations and digital design

# Medical devices increasingly require more durability





Addressing HAIs
Hospitals adopting increased
disinfection protocols



Oncology drugs can contain aggressive solvents



**Everyday use**Wearable and reusable devices
need to withstand everyday lives

# Selection of Covestro grades for medical devices



# **Transparent**

	Makrolon® 2458	Makrolon <sup>®</sup> 2858	Makrolon <sup>®</sup> Rx3440
Izod notched impact strength (23°C) [kJ/m²]	65	85	80
Flow behavior	High flow	Medium	Low
Linear thermal expansion (23 to 55°C) [10-4/K]	0.65	0.65	0.65
Chemical resistance	*	**	***
UL 94 Rating	V2 @<2.6 mm	V2 @ <2.4 mm	HB @ 0.75 mm
Transparency	Yes	Yes	Yes
Biocompatibility	Full	Full	Full



Source: Covestro data and measurements, please refer to Covestro technical data sheets for more information

# Selection of Covestro grades for medical devices



# **Opaque, Non-FR**

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	Bayblend <sup>®</sup> M850 XF	Makroblend® M325	Makroblend® M525	
Izod notched impact strength (23°C) [kJ/m²]	48	11	60	
Flow behavior	High flow	High flow	Medium	
Linear thermal expansion (23 to 55°C) [10-4/K]	0.7	0.9	0.9	
Chemical resistance	*	***	***	
UL 94 Rating	HB @ 0.85 mm	TBD	HB @ 1.5 mm	
Transparency	No	No	No	
Biocompatibility	Full	Skin contact	Skin contact	

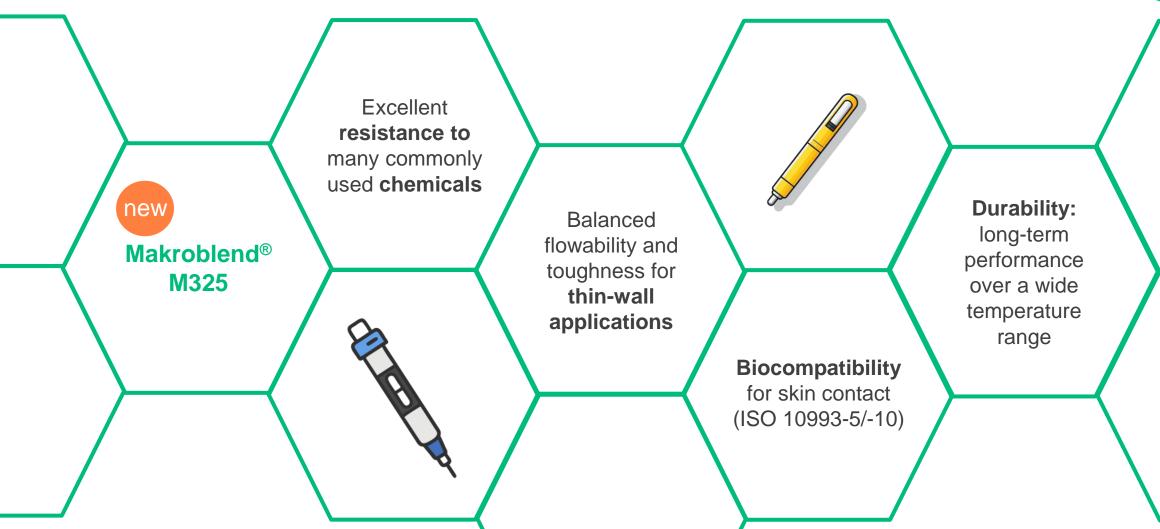


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Source: Covestro data and measurements, please refer to Covestro technical data sheets for more information

# Makroblend® - For long service time and reusability





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# Selection of Covestro grades for medical devices



### FR

	Bayblend <sup>®</sup> M301 FR	Makroblend <sup>®</sup> M4000 FR	Makroblend <sup>®</sup> M5005 FR	Makrolon <sup>®</sup> M6011 FR
Izod notched impact strength (23°C) [kJ/m²]	35	>30	45	70
Flow behavior	High flow	High flow	High flow	Medium
Linear thermal expansion (23 to 55°C) [10-4/K]	0.76 - 0.8	0.9	0.9	0.65
Chemical resistance	**	***	***	***
UL 94 Rating	V-0 @ 1.5 mm	V-0 @ 2.0 mm	V-0 @ 2.4 mm	V-0 @ 1.5 mm
Transparency	No	No	No	No
Biocompatibility	Skin contact	Skin contact	Skin contact	Skin contact



Source: Covestro data and measurements, please refer to Covestro technical data sheets for more information

# Makrolon® M6011 FR – Chemical-resistance and additional FR



Makrolon® M6011 FR offers superior chemical resistance against daily chemicals, next generation flame retardancy, skin contact biocompatibility and global availability

- Izod notched impact strength of 70 kJ/m²
- V-0 in UL 94 test at 1.5mm wall thickness
- Dimensional stability: Low and isotropic CLTE (coefficient of linear thermal expansion)



# The way towards a circular and climate neutral future



# Climate neutrality as objective: Scope 1 & 2 by 2035

### Net zero<sup>1</sup> by 2035

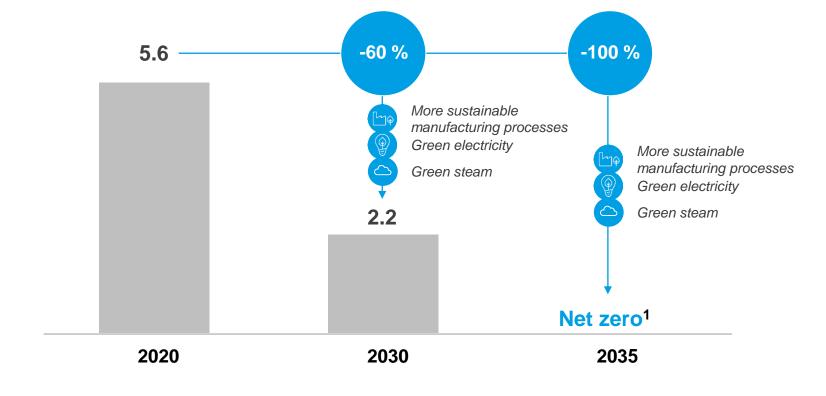
By 2035, Covestro aims for net zero for our own emissions (scope 1) and external energy sources (scope 2)

### Three key levers for reduction:

- More sustainable manufacturing processes
- Green electricity
- Green steam

All efforts contribute towards the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Climate Agreement

Greenhouse gas emissions in million t, scope 1 and 2



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions is defined as a balance between anthropogenic emissions (from own operations and energy procurement) and anthropogenic removals of greenhouse gases.

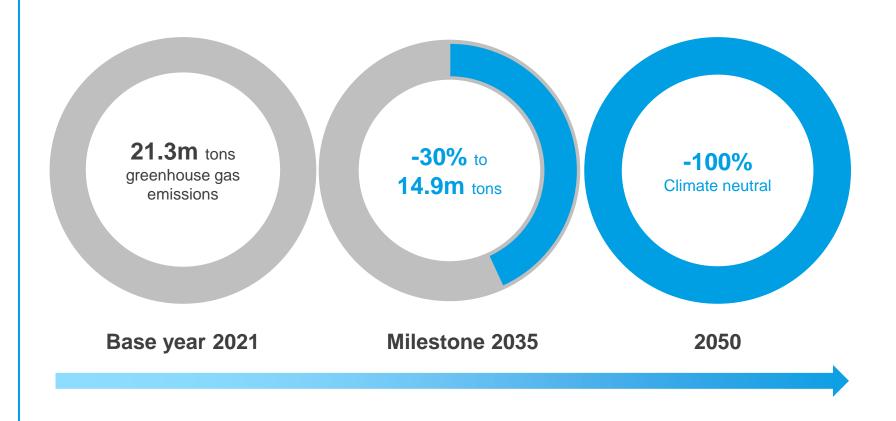


# Climate neutrality as objective: Scope 3 by 2050

By 2050, Covestro aims for net zero emissions upstream and downstream in the value chain, so called scope 3 emissions.

### Four levers for reduction:

- Suppliers reduce their scope 1and scope 2-emissions
- Selling products made from alternative raw materials
- Advancing investments projects (MAKE projects)
- A large number of different factors as a fourth lever



Our CO portfolio offers renewable energy solutions tailored to



#CircularIntelligence

sustainability needs

Using a mass-balance approach\*, we provide sustainable alternatives across all products

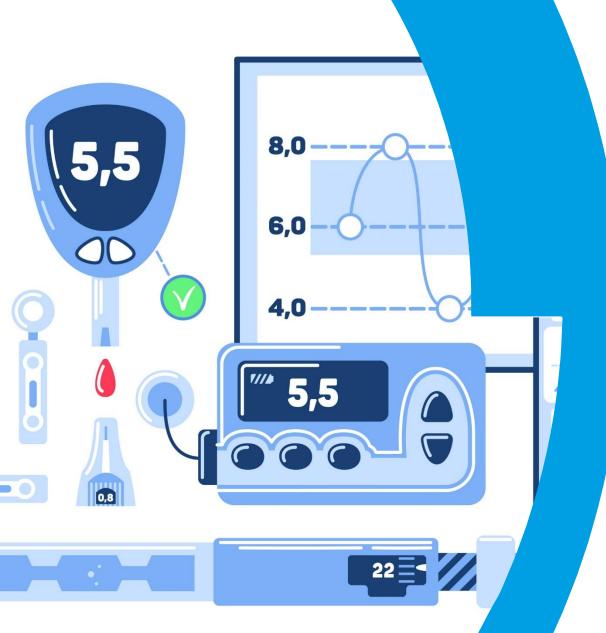
Makrolon® RE

Bayblend® RE

Makroblend® RE

Apec® RE

Helping achieve climate goals while maintaining highest quality standards of Covestro.





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# Summary



Proper selection of material, process, and disinfectants is key to meet chemical resistance requirements of an application

Our Application Development team provides support

Tailored polycarbonate materials offer well-balanced properties for many healthcare devices featuring impact strength and chemical resistance:

- Makrolon® Rx3440 for IV access components
- Makrolon® M6011 FR and Makroblend® M5005 FR for durable device housings requiring additional FR
- Makroblend® M325 for reusable device housings



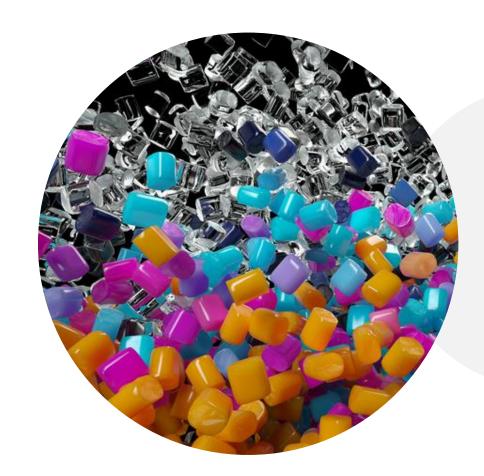


# Thank you for your attention



Bernd Garska – Technical Marketing bernd.garska@covestro.com

Christopher Schirwitz – Market Manager <a href="mailto:christopher.schirwitz@covestro.com">christopher.schirwitz@covestro.com</a>



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