



QUEBEC'S VISION 2 "ENVISIONS" BRIGHT FUTURE BY DISTINGUISHING PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR LINE WITH TPES

BOUCHERVILLE, QUEBEC, CANADA (September 12, 2005) – Staying power in the protective eyewear products business requires both innovative and ground-breaking design and technology. That's why, report company officials at Vision 2 in Boucherville, Quebec, the company continues its leadership role designing and manufacturing high quality injection molded protective masks, swim goggles, and eyewear for sport, safety, industrial and military applications. They've done this for more than 32 years.

Part of the innovation contributing to the popularity of their products, developed for brands such as Leader, Itech, Bombardier, Vforce, Hilco and others, is their reputation for providing high quality polycarbonate optical lenses and effective and durable lens coatings, all manufactured in clean room conditions, to their products. Another is the extensive use by Vision 2 of one of the hottest materials to ever penetrate the consumer and industrial products marketplace – TPES (thermoplastic elastomers). These easily processable, soft, comfort-aiding and appearance-enhancing materials, combined with technology brought to Vision 2 designers by GLS Corporation of McHenry, IL, have made quite a difference in the widespread popularity of company products.

The design and manufacturer of protective eyewear that has a sense of fashion combined with comfort and durability is no easy task, notes Raymond Cyr, Director of Research and Development at Vision 2. "That's why our design teams are always on the lookout for newer and improved materials. It was our discovery of TPES that made a difference. In particular," continues the Vision 2 spokesman, "it was the soft touch and ultra soft touch grades. We

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selected grades for the nose pieces that have a tendency to be overmolded onto other materials during the molding process. The GLS TPEs also provide wearers with the right fit. These features and benefits contribute to the popularity of the lines of products which we now make for Hilco.”

(Note, Hilco of Plainville, MA, recently purchased the Leader line of swim goggles from Vision 2. Now, this Quebec-based OEM manufacturer is solely in the business of designing and molding protective eyewear for leading marketers and military worldwide. They specialize in optical molding and coating technologies. These include products sold in North America under the Leader name and as Arena products in Europe.)

Experience with both TPEs and GLS Corporation has enabled Henry Wooding, the Injection Molding Director at Vision 2, to achieve the firm’s needs as well as their customers’ demands for materials that are both easy to process, while attractive, durable and comfortable to the wearer. “From the design as well as processing perspectives,” notes Mr. Wooding, “we selected DYNAFLEX ® thermoplastic elastomer produced with a KRATON ® polymer which GLS had formulated for these types of applications. This TPE overmolds commendably onto the base polycarbonate frames of the eyewear.” Vision 2 boasts a good size plant utilizing 100 to 450 ton injection molding machines made by Engel.

“Depending on the type of safety eyewear being manufactured,” continues Mr. Wooding, “we use either DYNAFLEX G2706 or G6730 TPE formulations, with both grades featuring a soft touch, a rubbery and therefore comfortable feel with enough grip to keep the product in place on the wearer. Important too, for consumer appeal, is the product’s great colorability. For eyewear where we need an ultra soft touch feel, we use the G6730 grade of the GLS DYNAFLEX TPE compound. We find we can achieve the desired results without predrying of the materials.” According to Vision 2 sources, yet another TPE type and grade of TPE from GLS Corporation – called VERSAFLEX TM alloys and also for overmolding applications, particularly nylon

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overmolding applications– are being used on paint ball masks being molded for various manufacturers.

GLS Corporation specializes in the manufacture of application-specific custom formulated soft and ultra-soft thermoplastic elastomers (TPEs) for injection molding and extrusion. GLS has supplied specialty TPEs to the industry since 1979, and is recognized as a global leader in TPE technology solutions. Specific products sold by GLS include proprietary DYNAFLEX® TPE compounds based on KRATON® polymers (available in injection molding and extrusion, as well as medical and FDA grades); VERSAFLEX® TPE specialty alloys (available in soft touch, lightweight, ultra-soft, ultra-clear and overmolding grades); VERSALLOY® TPV alloys; and VERSOLLAN™ TPU alloy compounds. GLS is also the exclusive distributor of KRATON® compounds and polymers for the compounding market in the United States, and also distributes KRATON compounds and polymers globally. Applications for these materials are found in consumer, medical, sports and leisure, automotive, lawn and garden, appliance, kitchen tool, power tool, personal care and industrial markets, among others.

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VERSOLLAN is a trademark of GLS and contains high performance thermoplastic urethanes.**

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