



THERMOSET MOLDING FOR APPLIANCE APPLICATIONS

As a custom thermoset molder, Woodland Plastics Corporation offers extensive thermoset molding services and expertise to appliance OEMs seeking molding materials durable enough to withstand harsh environments while retaining excellent aesthetic properties after thousands of hours of use. With high chemical and dimensional stability, molded thermoset components provide both performance and aesthetic benefits at a competitive cost vs metals or similarly-performing engineered thermoplastics.

AESTHETICS

The first challenge for many appliance OEM engineers and designers is to design a part or component that consumers want to buy. Appliance OEMs seek out the most aesthetically pleasing, vibrant products they can bring to market in order to maximize sales and market share. Thermosets provide a multitude of color and surface finish options to match existing décor, without incurring costly secondary painting or finishing services.

- ▶ May be matched to nearly any surface finish or color standard
- ▶ Resistant to scratches, stains, blistering, and chemicals or other cleansing agents
- ▶ Keeps a highly aesthetic look after thousands of hours of use when exposed to excessive heat or weather conditions
- ▶ May be molded with FDA food contact safe approved material



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FUNCTIONALITY AND DURABILITY

In addition to looking great for a long time, appliance components must offer excellent functionality and performance characteristics throughout the life of the product. Whether an application is exposed to outdoor environments or cycling temperatures, thermoset components remain dimensionally and chemically stable vs engineered thermoplastic components that can disfigure when exposed to the same harsh environments.

- ▶ Offer outstanding thermal stability, even after thousands of hours of use
- ▶ Provides excellent weatherability for outdoor or underground applications
- ▶ Resistance to corrosion, moisture absorption, and UV exposure
- ▶ Can take on high operating temperatures without diminishing dimensionally or chemically
- ▶ Offer a high strength-to-weight ratio
- ▶ May be certified by UL with a flammability rating



COST SAVINGS

Without substantial cost-savings over alternatives, there would be minimal argument to implement thermoset materials into your appliance application. Fortunately, thermoset components offer much lower overall manufacturing costs vs metal or thermoplastic components. Major cost benefits of thermosets include:

- ▶ Part consolidation, limiting the # of components in a product assembly
- ▶ Longer life expectancy of thermoset tooling vs die cast tooling
- ▶ Lower part weight over metal components
- ▶ Excellent moldability, limiting or eliminating secondary operations and machining
- ▶ Stable material costs, allowing for more accurate cost forecasting

