

## ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY BEARING SOLUTIONS

# NEW THORPLAS<sup>®</sup> THERMOPLASTIC BEARING COMPLEMENTS THORDON'S POLYMER GRADES

Thordon Bearings Inc., a world leader in grease and oil-free bearing solutions has announced the introduction of ThorPlas<sup>®</sup> a new proprietary engineered (non-elastomer) thermoplastic bearing.

ThorPlas<sup>®</sup> has been formulated to complement the existing range of Thordon elastomer bearing grades and significantly expands the range of applications where Thordon bearings can be specified, while still maintaining many of the recognized Thordon performance benefits.

ThorPlas<sup>®</sup> offers the following advantages:

- **increased strength and rigidity allowing working pressures in an interference fit bearing up to 31MPa (4500 psi)**
- **improved ability to operate at elevated temperatures up to 80°C (175°F) in water**
- **improved chemical resistance in all major chemical product categories**
- **eliminates grease**
- **easily machined and no nuisance dust**
- **scrap can be recycled and reused**



As part of Thordon's StageGate New Product Development program, Thordon has been test marketing ThorPlas<sup>®</sup> since 2003 and has many installations in operation and working successfully. Some of the test applications follow.

*(...cont'd. on page 2)*



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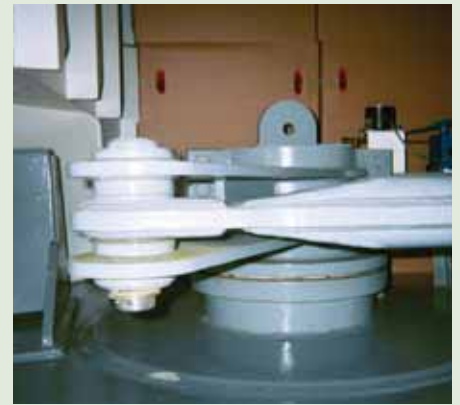
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**New ThorPlas® ... (cont'd. from cover story)**



**End User:** Kody Marine, LA, U.S.A.  
**Application:** Rudder tiller arm bushings on workboat  
**Application Details:**  
 Bearing sizes: 64 mm (2.52") x 51.5 mm (2.03") x 50.55 mm (1.99")  
 Pressure: ~ 20 MPa (3000 psi)  
 Previously greased; operating dry after ThorPlas® installation  
**Installation Date:** April 2004  
**Note:** Repeat orders for sister workboats after successful installation of ThorPlas®



**End User:** New York State Electric & Gas - Saranac River, NY, U.S.A.  
**Application:** Wicket Gate Bearings  
**Application Details:**  
 Horizontal turbine, 4.0 MW  
 Dimensions to suit: 57.15 mm (2.250") x 41.22 mm (1.623") x 38.1 mm (1.500")  
 Radial pressure: ~ 24 MPa (3,500 psi)  
**Installation Date:** February 2003  
**Note:** Thorseals also included to prevent debris from entering



**End User:** Berman Brothers, FL, U.S.A.  
**Application:** Grapple Bearing - Scrap Metal Recycling  
**Application Details:**  
 Four finger grapple bearings  
 Radial pressures: ~ 7 MPa (1,000 psi)  
 Bearing Dimensions to suit: 76.9 mm (3.028") x 57.6 mm (2.267") x 194.2 mm (7.647"). Dusty, dirty, high impact, required greasing  
**Installation Date:** December 2003  
**NOTE:** ThorPlas® bearings lasted 5 months compared to nylon's life of 3 weeks



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**End User:** Automobile Manufacturer, U.S.A.  
**Application:** Washline roller conveyor bearings  
**Application Details:**  
 Bearing sizes: 44.5 mm (1.75") x 31.8 mm (1.25") x 38.1 mm (1.50")  
 Radial pressures: ~ 10.3 MPa (1500 psi)  
 Wet, dirty greased application  
**Installation Date:** December 2004  
**Note:** ThorPlas® eliminated greasing and second order placed



Typical Washline Roller Conveyor Bearings