Discover An Innovative Solution for Achieving Premium Matte Finish and Skin-Like Tactility in TPU

Chengdu, Sichuan Apr 20, 2026 (Issuewire.com) - Why Do High-End TPU Products Need a Surface Performance Upgrade?

In sectors such as consumer electronics, smart wearables, home robotics, and automotive interiors, TPU (Thermoplastic Polyurethane Elastomer) has become the material of choice for manufacturing

protective cases, cable sheaths, overmolded enclosures, and similar components due to its outstanding abrasion resistance, mechanical strength, and processability. However, as consumer expectations for product quality continue to rise, a critical pain point has become increasingly evident: **How can manufacturers achieve a premium matte finish while maintaining a skin-friendly tactile feel and ensuring long-term performance stability?**

Conventional TPU products often face a dilemma: pursuing a high-gloss, transparent appearance typically makes surfaces prone to fingerprints and scratches, with a higher susceptibility to yellowing under UV exposure. Conversely, achieving a matte effect often comes at the expense of surface smoothness, resulting in a tacky feel, increased dust attraction, and—after several months of use—potential plasticizer migration, surface stickiness, and other serious degradation issues.

This is precisely where **Si-TPV Innovative Elastomer** demonstrates its value as a functional additive. It not only imparts **a durable, premium matte aesthetic** to TPU products but also simultaneously delivers **a skin-friendly, dry-touch feel, excellent stain resistance, and completely migration-free eco-performance**. It offers an integrated solution rooted in the fundamental logic of material science for high-end TPU applications.

Limitations of Traditional Methods for Achieving Matte Effects

Prior to Si-TPV, the industry primarily relied on several technical approaches to achieve matte effects in TPU products, each with inherent performance drawbacks:

Inorganic Fillers (e.g., Talc, Calcium Carbonate): These rely on adding micron-sized particles incompatible with the TPU matrix. Light scattering occurs due to the refractive index difference between the filler and the base polymer, creating a matte appearance. However, the addition of such fillers often leads to a significant decline in mechanical properties—reduced tensile strength, lower elongation at break, and increased material brittleness. Furthermore, the weak interfacial adhesion between inorganic fillers and TPU can lead to surface chalking or filler leaching over time, negatively affecting both appearance and feel.

Styrenic Elastomers (e.g., SEBS): Commonly used as matting agents, SEBS forms a micro-phase-separated structure within TPU, creating surface micro-roughness for a matte effect. However, its softening nature can significantly reduce the surface hardness and abrasion resistance of the TPU product. More critically, the limited compatibility between SEBS and TPU poses a long-term migration risk, potentially leading to uneven surface "blooming" and a progressively tacky feel.

Physical Texturing (Mold Finishing): This method creates microscopic structures on the TPU surface through mold etching or subsequent mechanical abrasion to achieve a matte effect. While avoiding issues related to additives, it has clear limitations: texture depth and precision are constrained by the mold, making design changes costly; the surface texture is susceptible to wear from friction over time, gradually regaining gloss; and it does not improve tactile feel—in fact, the roughened surface may exacerbate dust attraction

The common dilemma of these traditional methods is that they **either sacrifice mechanical properties for appearance** or **rely on migratory substances, leading to performance decay**. None successfully achieve a true balance between **premium matte aesthetics, skin-friendly tactility, and long-term stability**.

Si-TPV: An Integrated Solution Starting from Molecular Structure

The innovation of Si-TPV originates from its unique dynamic vulcanization technology and characteristic "sea-island" phase morphology—where micron-sized (1-3 μm) cross-linked silicone rubber particles are uniformly dispersed within the TPU matrix, forming a stable micro-heterogeneous structure. This architecture fundamentally determines its comprehensive advantages as a matting modifier for TPU:

Durable and Stable Premium Matte Finish: The silicone microparticles in Si-TPV possess an optimal refractive index difference relative to the TPU matrix. They create a uniform microscale light-scattering layer on the material's surface, achieving a **stable and consistent matte effect without migrations**. Unlike conventional matting agents that require precise temperature control during processing, Si-TPV operates within the standard TPU processing window. The matte effect is insensitive to process fluctuations, ensuring high batch-to-batch consistency.

Skin-Friendly, Dry-Touch Feel**:** Si-TPV inherits the **low surface energy and low coefficient of friction** inherent to silicone materials. When incorporated into TPU, the silicone phase forms a micro-rich domain on the surface, imparting a smooth, silky texture that is **non-tacky and resistant to dust attraction**. This tactile improvement is permanent—because the silicone exists as cross-linked particles rather than migratory low-molecular-weight oils, the effect does not diminish or change over time.

Non-Migrating, No Stickiness: This is a core advantage distinguishing Si-TPV from traditional additives. As a product of dynamic vulcanization, the cross-linked silicone rubber particles are physically bonded within the TPU matrix through specialized compatibilization technology, **becoming permanently anchored and incapable of migration**. This effectively resolves the inevitable "blooming" and "tackiness" issues associated with conventional low-molecular-weight additives, ensuring the product maintains its original surface quality over its entire lifecycle.

Enhanced Abrasion and Scratch Resistance: The microstructure formed by silicone particles on the material's surface contributes to improved scratch resistance. TPU modified with Si-TPV exhibits superior abrasion resistance compared to pure TPU or TPU modified with traditional matting agents under equivalent conditions. For high-frequency contact parts like phone cases or robot housings, this translates to extended service life and sustained aesthetic appeal.

Material Thinking: From Functional Implementation to Experience Enhancement

For industries pursuing the ultimate user experience—such as consumer electronics, smart wearables, and home robotics—material selection has long transcended mere functional fulfillment. Choosing Si-TPV as the matting solution for TPU products means more than acquiring a performance-enhancing additive. It represents a forward-looking product philosophy: the seamless integration of **premium visual aesthetics, a skin-friendly tactile experience, enduring performance stability, and eco-conscious design**—united within a single material through cutting-edge material science.

Contact us via amy.wang@silike.cn or visit www.si-tpv.com to explore how to integrate Si-TPV into your formulations today.

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Source : Chengdu Silike Technology Co.,Ltd.

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