



# JORNADAS CAUCHO

B O G O T Á 2 0 2 5

**Cómo desarrollar compuestos de  
cloropreno libres de nitrosaminas  
para aplicaciones dinámicas**

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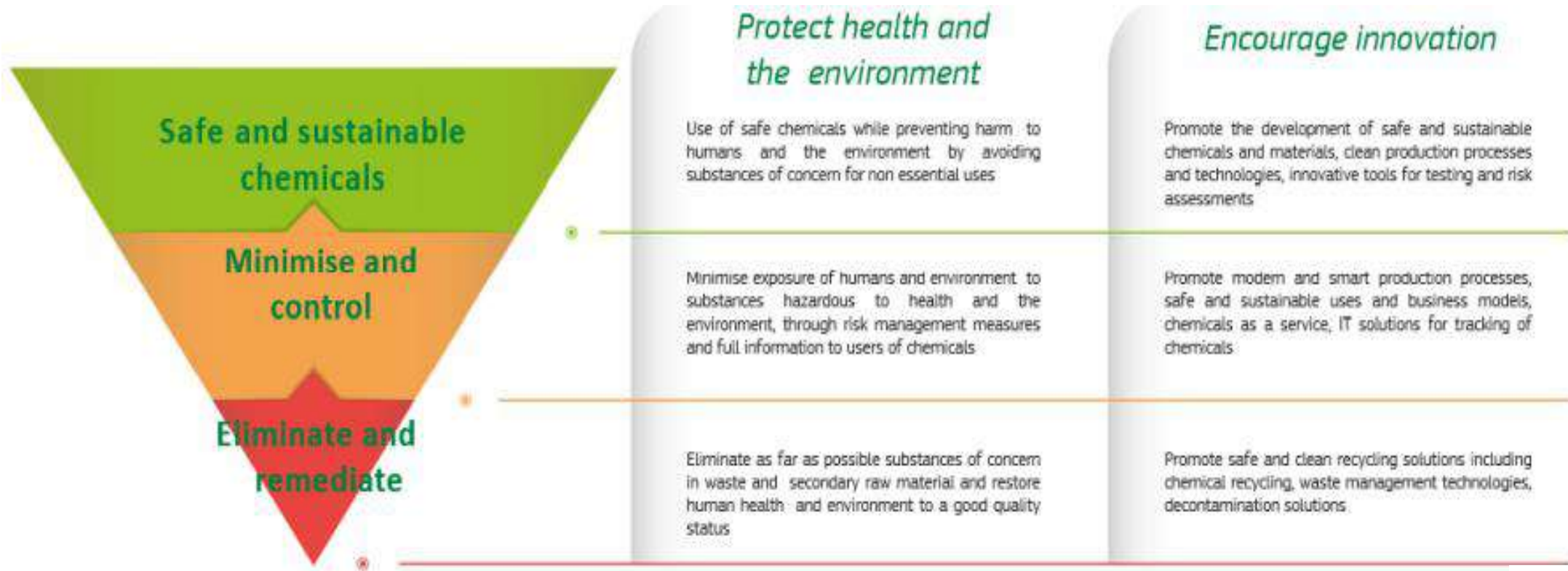
# Agenda

- **Nitrosamines**
  - Rubber Industry
  - Health/Environmental Impacts
- **Modified Chloroprene**
- **How to design a Compound**
- **Application**
  - Air Spring
  - Belts



# EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

## Towards a Toxic-Free Environment



<https://ec.europa.eu/environment/pdf/chemicals/2020/10/Strategy.pdf>

# Health aspects of nitrosamines

## Nitrosamines are a known problem in the rubber industry

**1956**

John Barnes / Peter Magee found that dimethyl nitrosamine causes liver cancer in rats



**1979**

Fajen *et al.* found first traces of *N*-nitrosamines in rubber plants and connected that to increased findings of cancer at US workers



**1990s**

- TRGS 552 was introduced
- regulations define hazard nitrosamines and their limits for exposure in air
- critical thiurames and amines in global industry mainly substituted

Ausgabe: September 2018

Technische Regeln für Gefahrstoffe	Krebserzeugende N-Nitrosamine der Kat 1A und 1B	TRGS 552
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1950

1990

2020

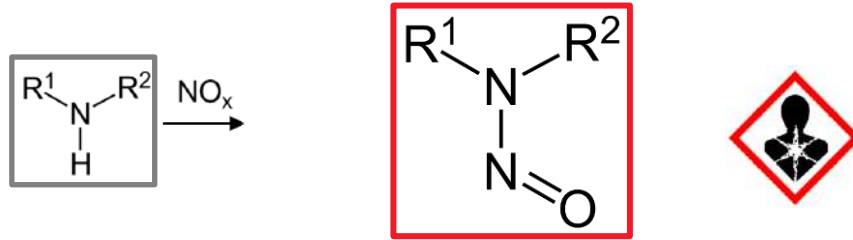


JORNADAS CAUCHO  
BOGOTÁ 2025

# Health aspects of nitrosamines

## Nitrosamines are a known problem in the rubber industry

Nitrosamines feature a nitroso group ( $\text{NO}^+$ ) bonded to a deprotonated amine.



Most nitrosamines are volatile and carcinogenic

Regulations are getting more stringent to limit the level of nitrosamines in rubber goods

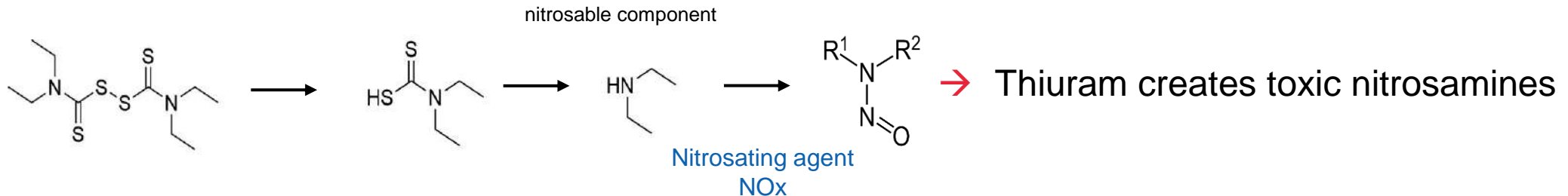
- Nitrosamines can be generated during mixing and vulcanization of rubber from accelerators
- Most of CR sulfur grades are prone to generate nitrosamines due to used polymerization reactants

# Safe and sustainable alternatives needed



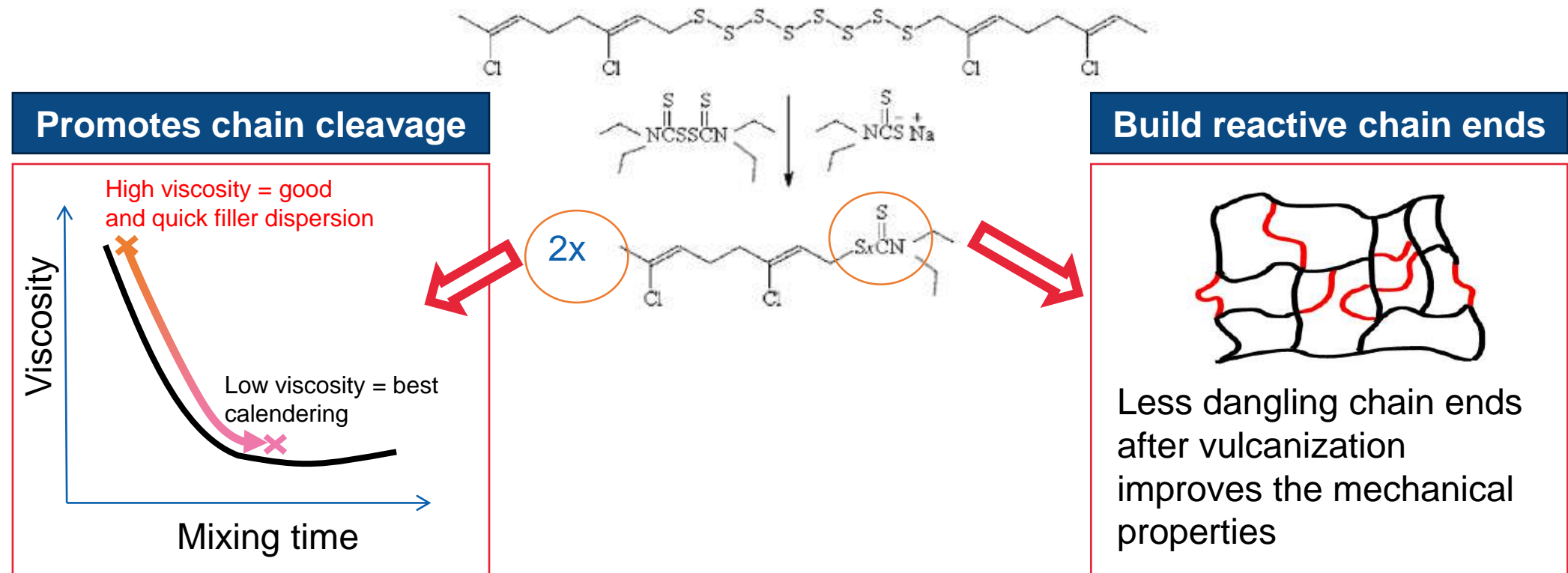
Increased public awareness and legislation towards more sustainable product and production standards leads to an increasing need to offer non-critical raw materials

In standard chloroprene sulfur-modified grades thiuram is used as a modifier



# Background: the unique properties of CR sulfur grade

## Peptization and reactive chain ends

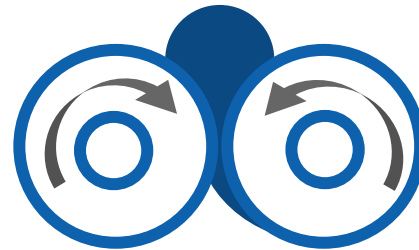
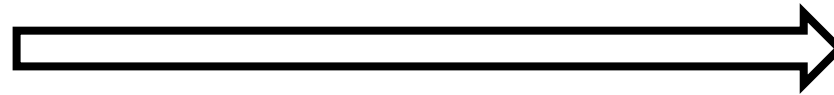


# TETD does not fully react during mixing

80% remains unreacted after compounding

	PHR
Baypren 611	100
Carbon black	30
OCD	1.0
Stearic acid	0.5
MgO	4.4
ZnO	5

20% of the TETD reacts



**80%\***

of the TETD in the CR  
sulfur grade remains  
unreacted in the  
compound

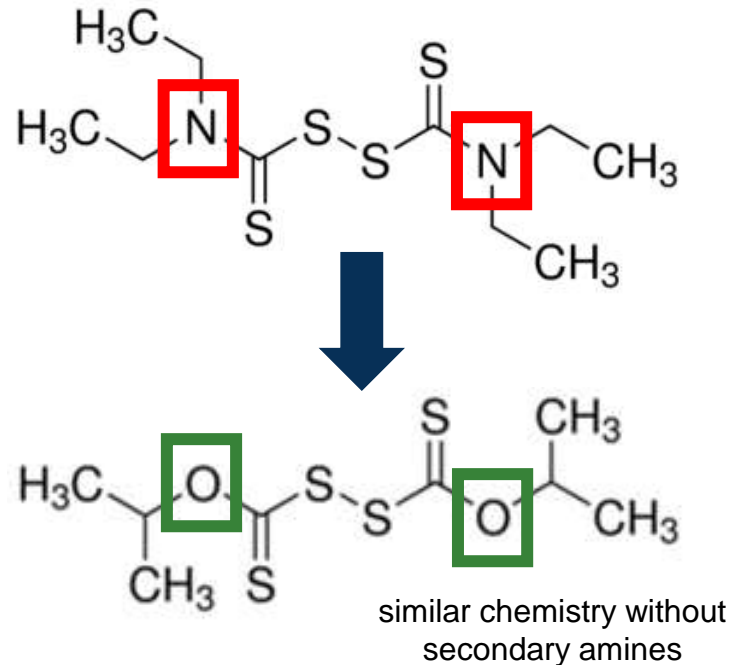
\* In our ISO compound experiment. Value may vary depending on the recipe and the mixing procedure

# New CR - different chemistry for a similar effect

Based on well established chemicals

Replace the amine by an alcohol...

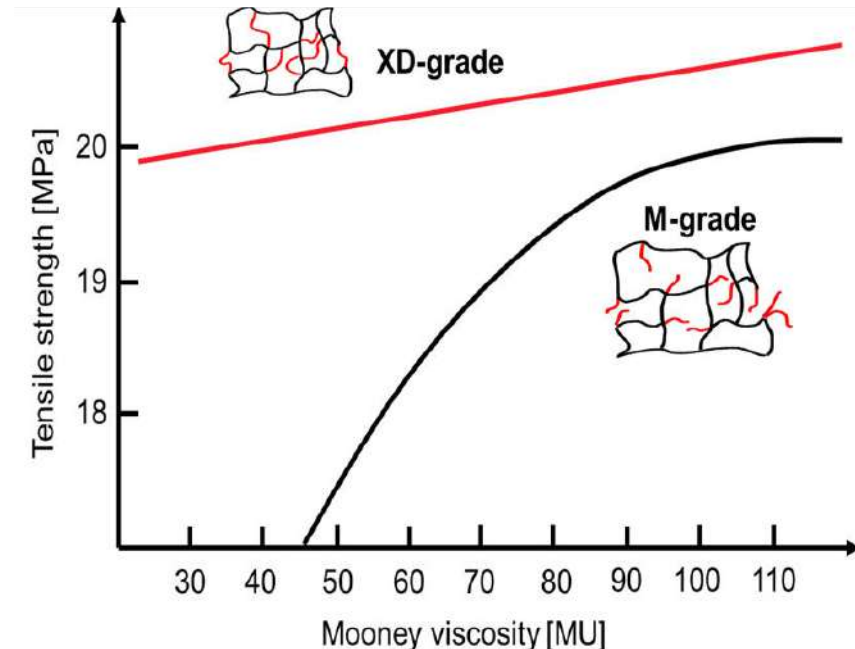
Thiuram replaced by the same class of chemical used in XD Grades



...known from the XD-Grades

Better tensile strength

XD Grades 30% more fatigue resistant than M-Grades

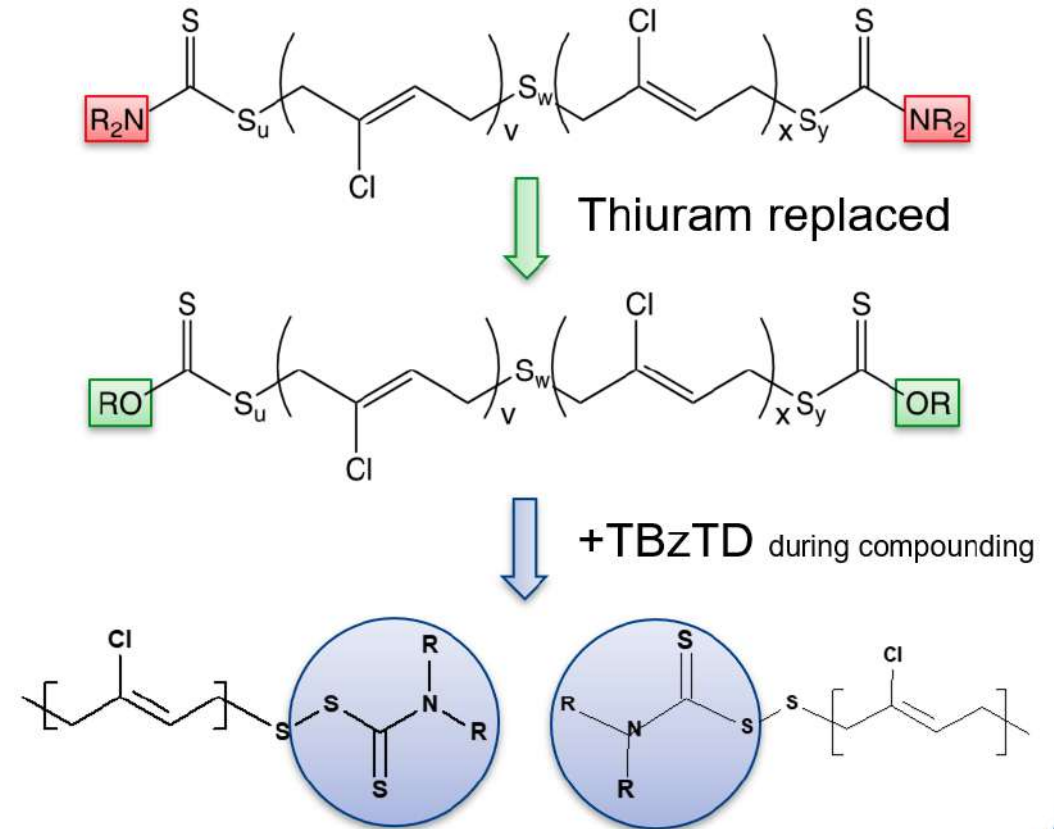


# CR nitrosamine free - close to sulfur grades

Addition of safe a thiuram in the compound makes it even more alike

## Key features preserved

- ☐ Sulfur in chain functionality for mastication is preserved
- ☐ Reactive end group preserved
- ☐ Raw material ageing similar to standard sulfur grades
- ☐ No toxic thiuram in the material: adding TBzTD to the compound introduce end chain functionalization chemically almost identical to standard sulfur grades



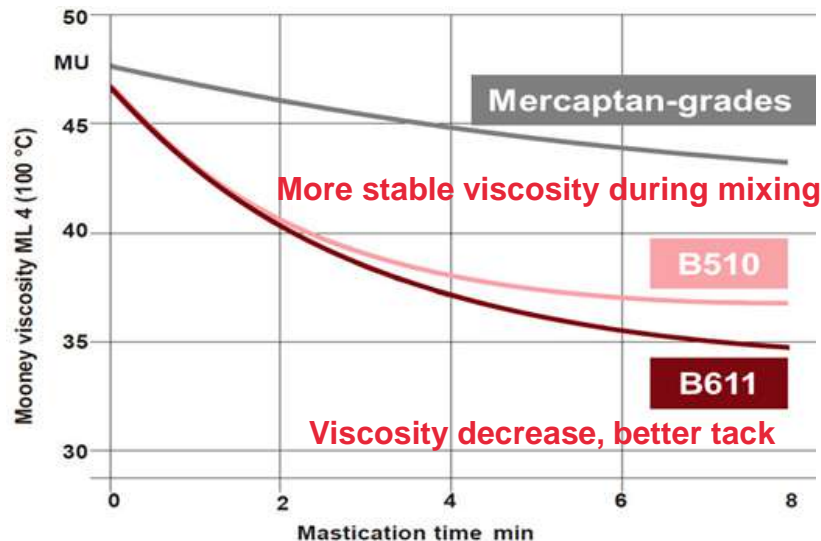
# Designing CR compounds

## CR sulfur grades – limited possibilities

The amount of sulfur has a major impact on the mastication of the polymer:

Two options for compounding:

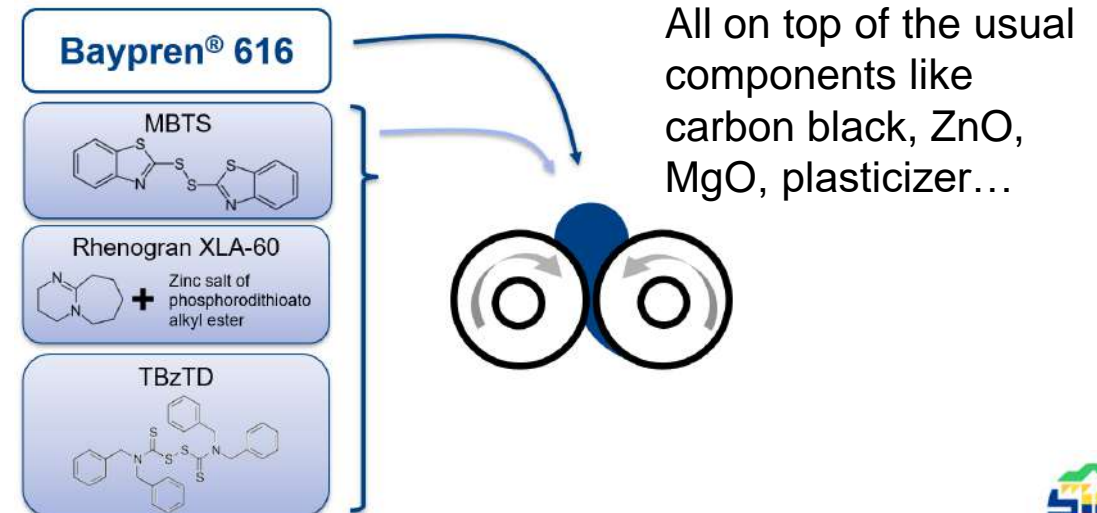
1. Select the right grade
2. Use a combination to achieve the balance dispersion / final viscosity / tack



## CR nitrosamine free - additives based strategy

3 new degrees of freedom to adjust the

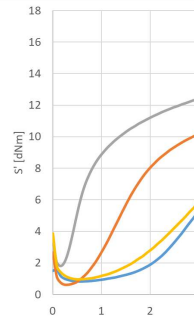
- Compound viscosity
- Vulcanization characteristic
- Mechanical properties
- Adhesion to fabric...



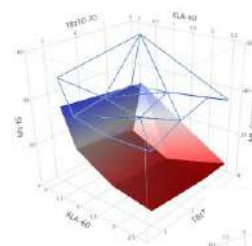
# How to design a compound?

**1**

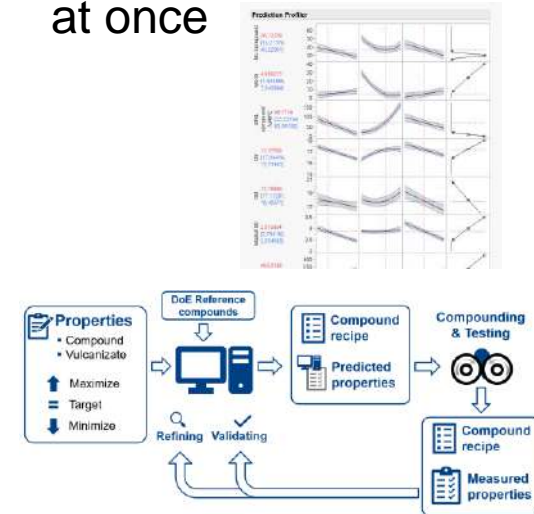
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- One at

**2**

- Surface graph
- Optimize 2 va  
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**3**

- Full statistical treatment
- Optimize all variables at once



**Optimizing a multi-parameter system  
From one-at-a-time to statistic driven optimization**

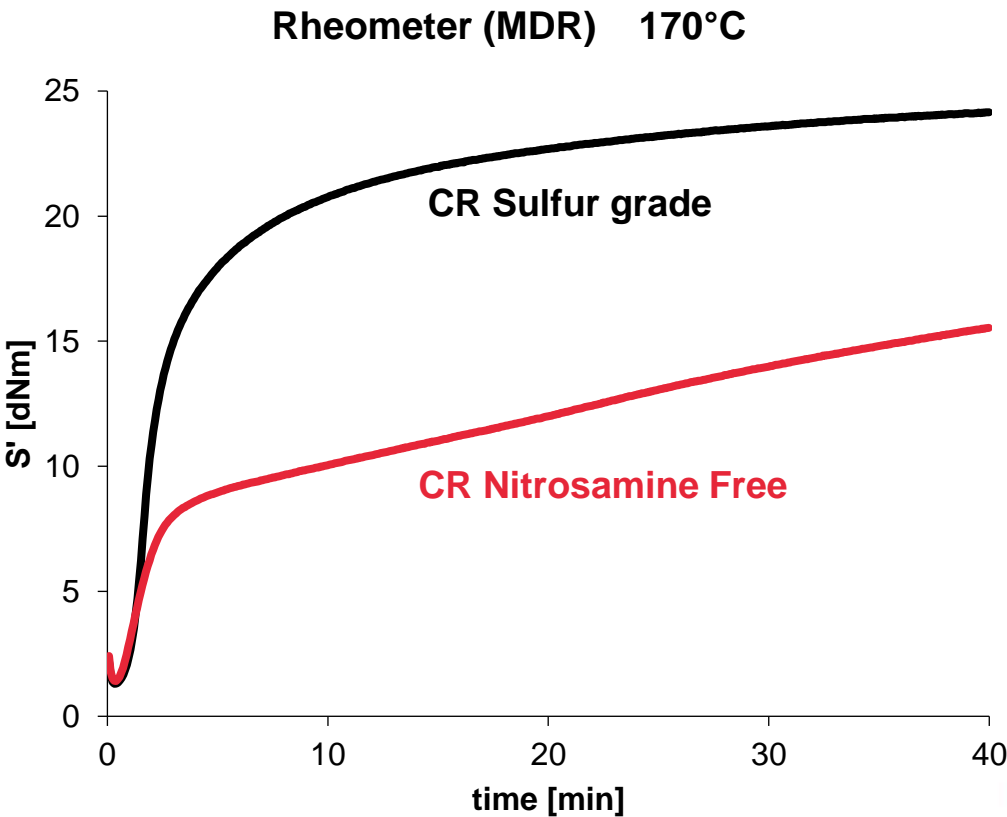
# Compound evaluation

Different modifier: crosslinking density and speed lower

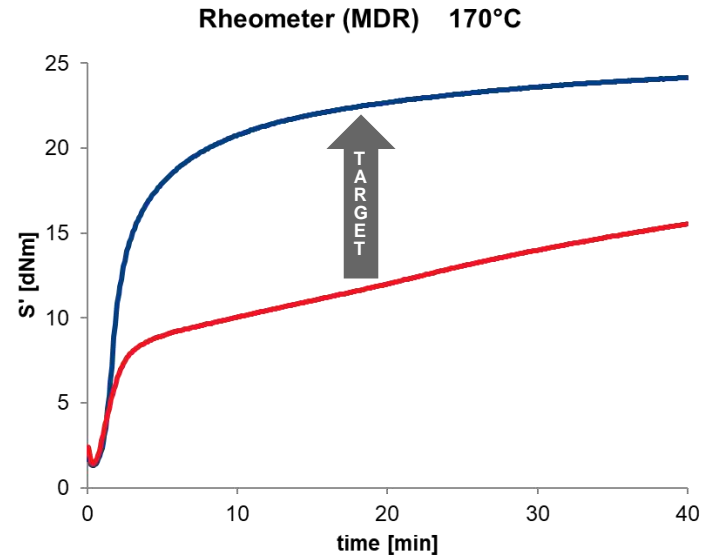
Compound ingredients

Ingredient	Reference	Test
CR Sulfur	100	
CR Nitrosamine Free		100
Carbon black N772	30	30
Stearic acid	1	1
MgO	4.4	4.4
ZnO	5	5

Lower crosslink density observed



# Increase of crosslink density can be achieved by additives



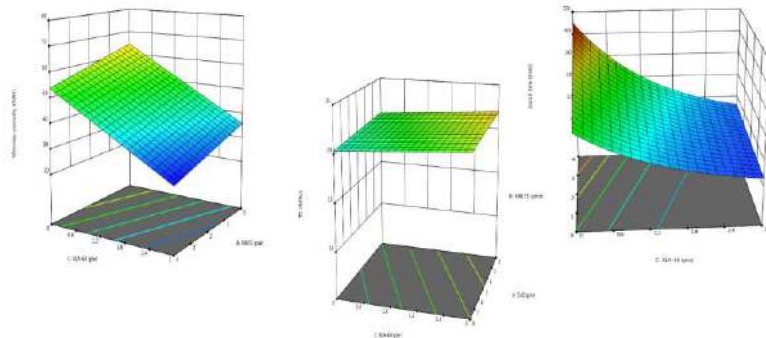
With statistical analysis (Design of Experiment\*) important ingredients with major influence were identified



curing additives can be added to adjust properties to the desired needs



evaluation in an air spring and belt application recipe

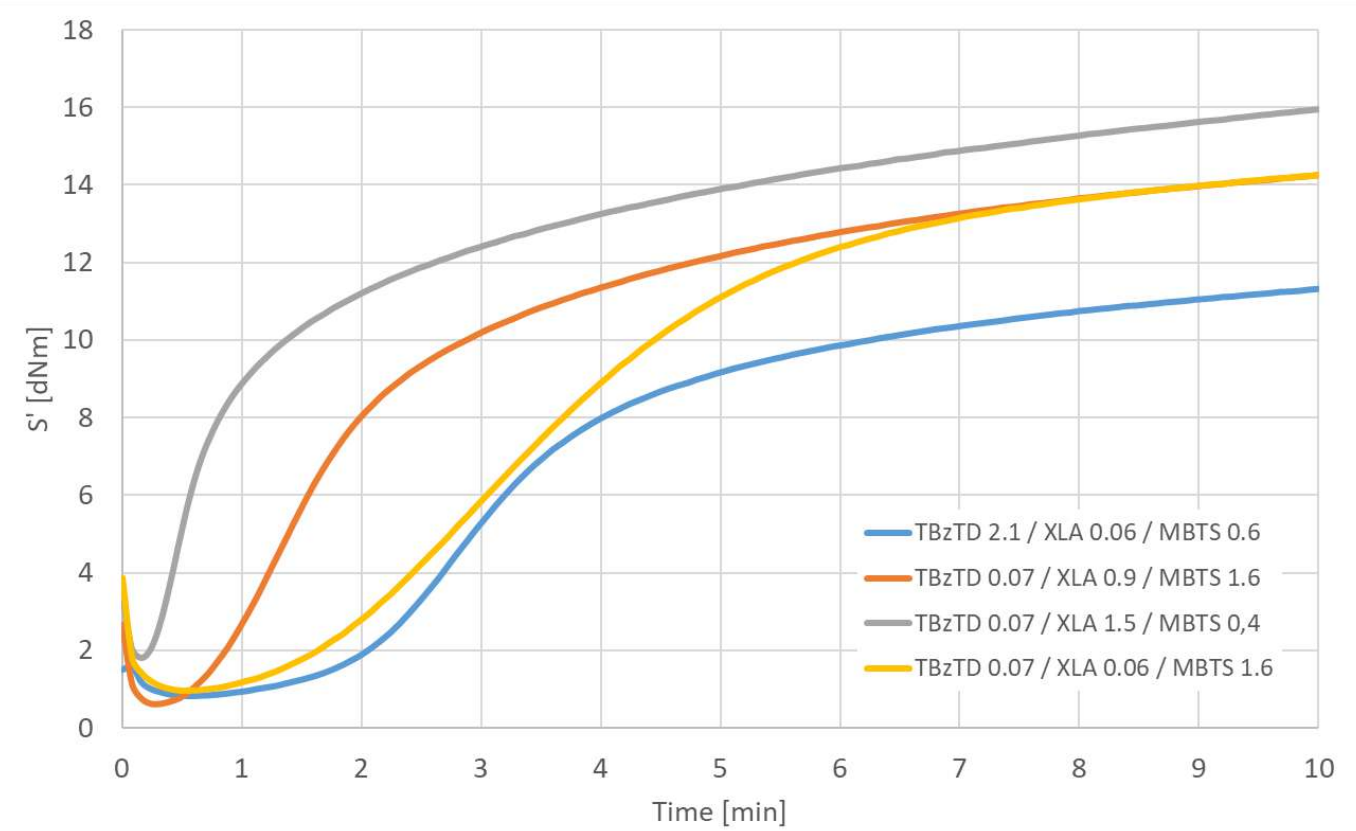


\*[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Design\\_of\\_experiments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Design_of_experiments)

# Initial Screening of compounding additives

## Influence on the vulcanization

Component	phr
CR Nitrosamine Free	100
Cabon black	40
DOS	5
MgO	4
TBzTD	Variable
Stearic acid	0.5
Antioxidants	3.5
ZnO	5
Rhenogran® XLA-60	Variable
MBTS	Variable



# Application examples

Using the DoE results, formulation suggestion was developed to meet requirements of different applications

## Air Springs

- ✓ Matching cure speed
- ✓ Improved friction properties
- ✓ Same dynamic performance
- ✓ Cord adhesion



## Belts

- ✓ Matching cure speed
- ✓ Same moduli
- ✓ Same dynamic performance
- ✓ Cord adhesion
- ✓ Abrasion



# Comparison between compounds

## Example application air springs

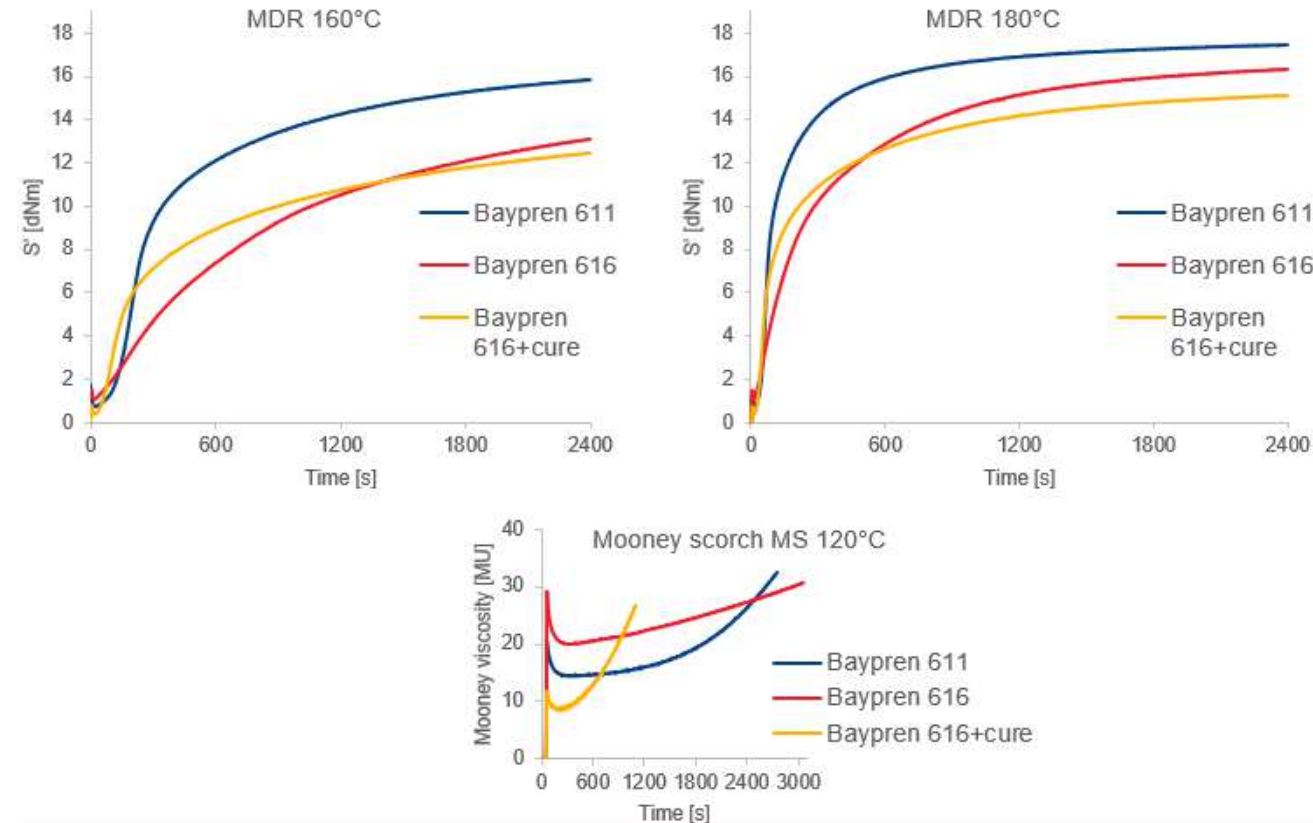
	B611	B616	B616 cure
BAYPREN® 611 (polymer Mooney 40 MU)	100		
BAYPREN® 616 VP (polymer Mooney 58 MU)		100	100
CARBON BLACK N 772	40	40	40
PLASTICIZER DOS	10	10	10
ANTIOXIDANTS	3.5	3.5	3.5
PARAFFIN WAX	1	1	1
STEARIC ACID	0.5	0.5	0.5
MAGNESIUM OXIDE	4	4	4
ZINC OXIDE	5	5	5
CURING AGENTS			4
Total phr	164	164	168
compound Mooney viscosity ML1+4/100°C [MU]	34	45	22

- Typical air spring recipe was used
- Compound viscosity is determined by the polymer viscosity
- Using the adjusted cure package, a strong decrease of compound Mooney for Baypren® 616 VP is achieved
- This can give advantages in processing



# Curing characteristics of compounds

Slower cure speed can be adjusted by additives

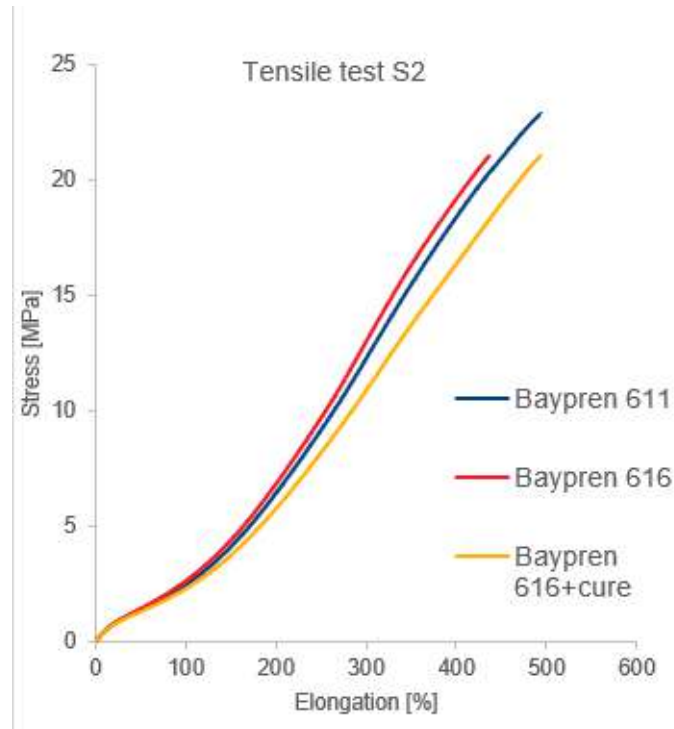


- Slower cure speed and higher marching modulus for Baypren<sup>®</sup> 616 VP vs. standard Baypren<sup>®</sup> 611
- Final state of cure similar at elevated temperatures
- Cure speed can be adjusted by modified curative package
- Scorch safety of Baypren<sup>®</sup> 616 VP is similar to Baypren<sup>®</sup> 611
- Scorch safety is reduced with modified curative package

# Mechanical properties of cured rubber

## Original and after hot air ageing

	B611	B616	B616 cure
Hardness [Shore A]	60	59	58
M50 [MPa]	1.4	1.5	1.4
M100 [MPa]	2.5	2.7	2.4
M300 [MPa]	12.1	13	11.2
EB median [%]	494	438	493
TS median [MPa]	22.9	21.1	21.1
abrasion loss [mm <sup>3</sup> ]	78	74	79
tear Graves [N/mm]	37	34	38



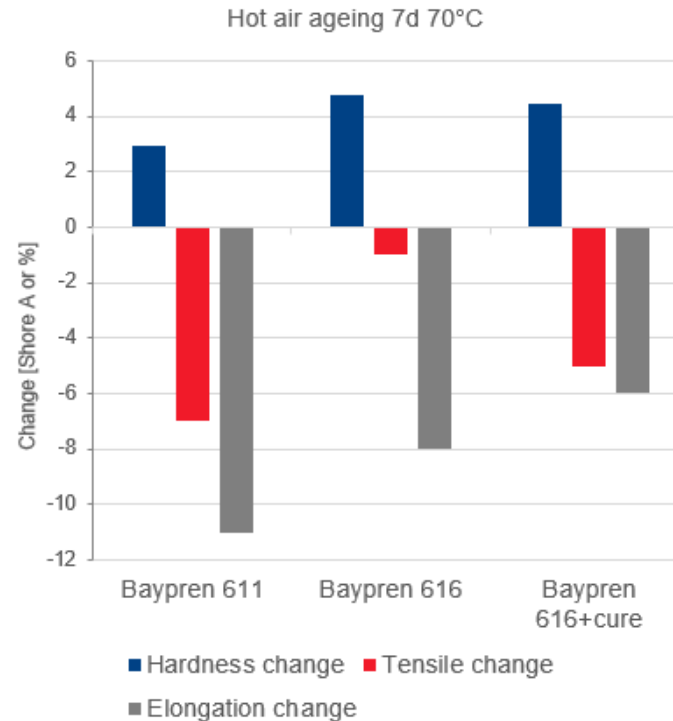
- Same hardness
- Marginally lower tensile strength for Baypren® 616 VP without and with modified cure
- Elongation at break and moduli similar
- Despite lowest compound Mooney with modified cure package, tensile properties are not affected
- Abrasion and tear resistance of Baypren® 616 VP identical with Baypren® 611

# Mechanical properties of cured rubber

## Original and after hot air ageing

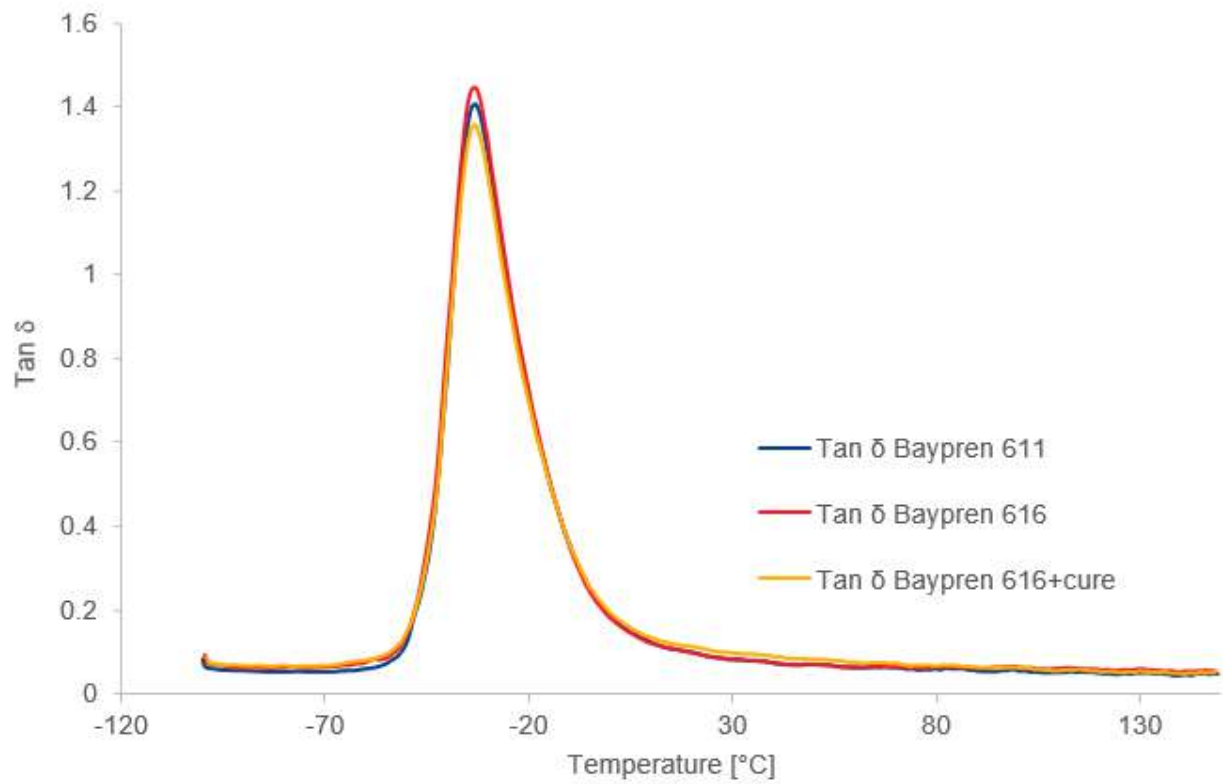
	B611	B616	B616 cure
EB original [%]	494	438	493
TS original [MPa]	22.9	21.1	21.1
M50 aged 7d 70°C [MPa]	1.6	1.8	1.5
M100 aged 7d 70°C [MPa]	2.8	3.2	2.6
EB aged 7d 70°C [%]	441	404	464
TS aged 7d 70°C [MPa]	21.3	20.8	20
compression set* 24h 70°C [%]	15	16	16

Compression Set DIN ISO 815 method A, sample type B



- Hot air ageing at 70°C similar for all three compounds
- Compression set identical

# Dynamic properties

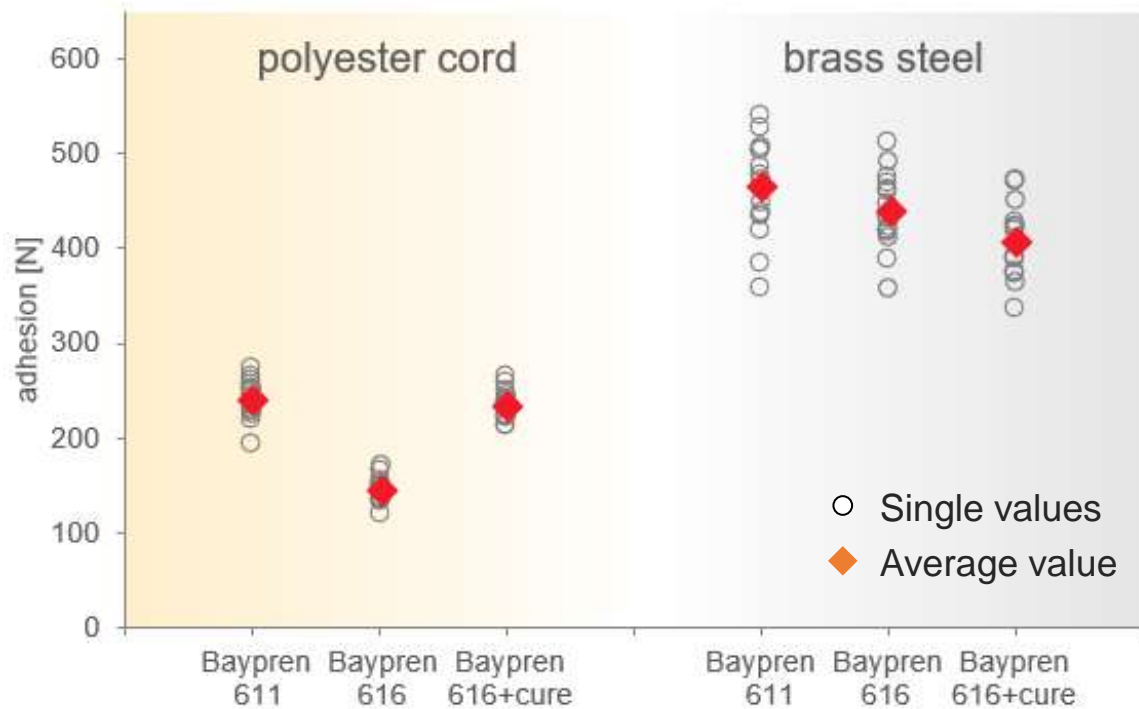


	B611	B616	B616cure
Goodrich flexometer set [%]	0.8	0.4	0.4
Goodrich flexometer Temperature rise [°C]	19.9	20.8	21.9
Eplexor T sweep temperature tan d max [°C]	-33.2	-33.2	-33.2
MTS frequency sweep dynamic stiffness	1.206	1.23	1.236
MTS amplitude sweep tan d max	0.135	0.126	0.147

- Goodrich heat build-up similar for all three compounds
- No differences in Eplexor temperature sweep seen → T<sub>g</sub> the same for all three compounds
- Dynamic stiffness from MTS frequency sweep is identical

# Cured properties: cord adhesion T-test

Adhesion to polyester cord and brass steel can be adjusted



- Slightly lower adhesion of standard Baypren® 616 VP compound for polyester cord
- Adhesion is improved when using modified cure package
- Similar adhesion of standard Baypren® 616 VP compound for brass steel
- Adhesion is slightly reduced when using modified cure package
- Curatives need to be adjusted according to application needs

	B611	B616	B616 cure
adhesion to cord T-test [N]	239	143	232
adhesion to brass T-test [N]	462	438	404

# Comparison between compounds

## Example application belts

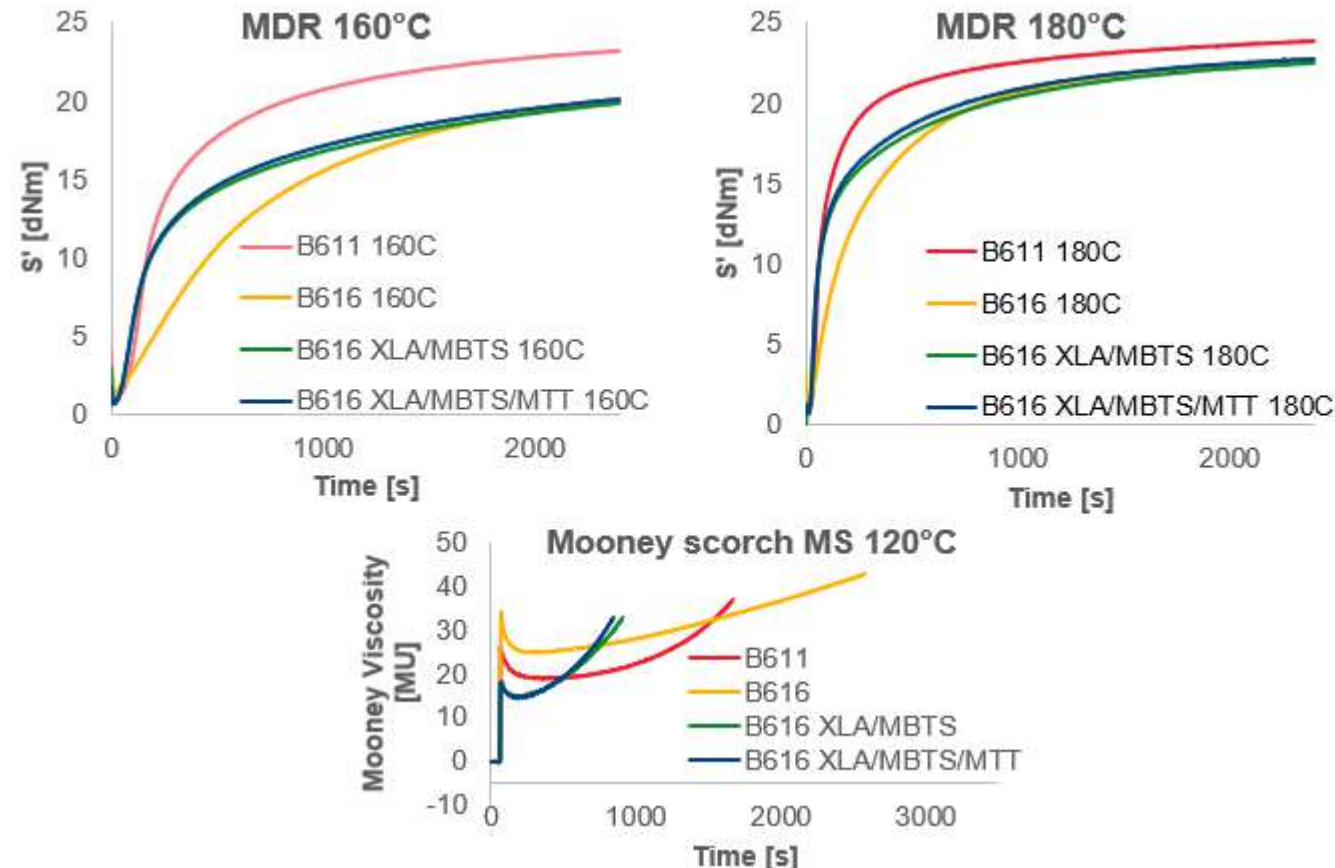
	B611	B616	B616 XLA/ MBTS	B616 XLA/ MBTS/ MTT
BAYPREN® 611 (polymer Mooney 37 MU)	100			
BAYPREN® 616 VP (polymer Mooney 58 MU)		100	100	100
Carbon black N 660	50	50	50	50
VULKASIL S	10	10	10	10
Plasticizer DOS	10	10	10	10
Antioxidants	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Stearic Acid	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Magnesium Oxide	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Zinc Oxide	5	5	5	5
RHENOGRAN MTT-80	0.3	0.3		0.3
RHENOGRAN XLA-60			1.67	1.67
RHENOGRAN MBTS-80			1.25	1.25
	187.7	187.7	190.32	190.62
compound Mooney viscosity ML1+4/100°C	44	55	36	35

- Typical belt recipe was used
- Compound viscosity is determined by the polymer viscosity
- With the adjusted curing package a strong decrease of compound Mooney for B616 is achieved, even below B611
- This can give advantages in processing
- MTT does not influence Mooney



# Curing characteristics of compounds

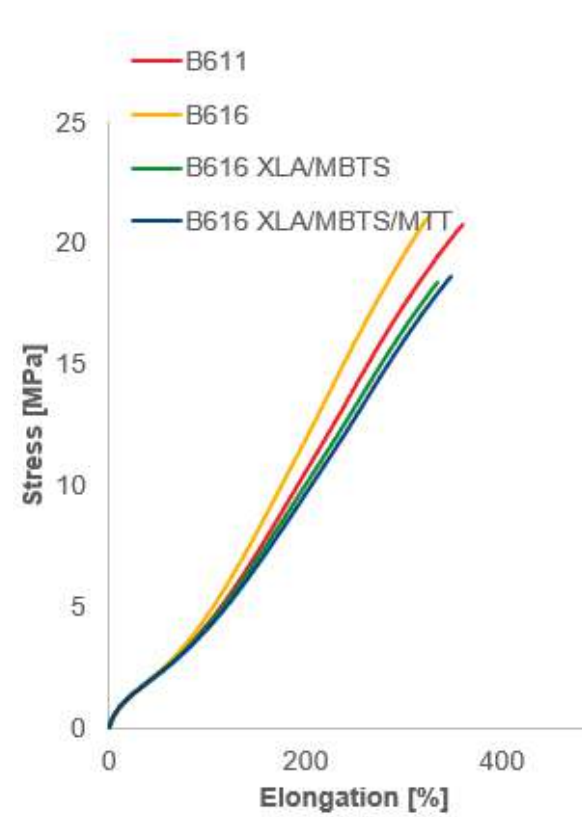
Slower cure speed can be adjusted by additives



- Slower cure speed and higher marching modulus for Baypren<sup>®</sup> 616 VP vs. standard Baypren<sup>®</sup> 611
- Final state of cure similar at elevated temperatures
- Cure speed can be adjusted by modified curative package
- Scorch safety of Baypren<sup>®</sup> 616 VP is similar to Baypren<sup>®</sup> 611
- Scorch safety is reduced with modified curative package

# Mechanical properties of cured rubber

## Original and after hot air ageing



	B611	B616	B616 XLA/MBTS	B616 XLA/MBTS/MTT
Hardness [Shore A]	70	68	71	71
M50 [Mpa]	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2
M100 [Mpa]	4.3	4.6	4.3	4.1
M300 [Mpa]	17.3	19.4	16.7	16.1
EB median [%]	362	328	335	348
TS median [Mpa]	20.8	21.2	18.4	18.6
Abrasion loss [mm³]	75	100	76	75
Tear Graves [N/mm]	33	31	33	33

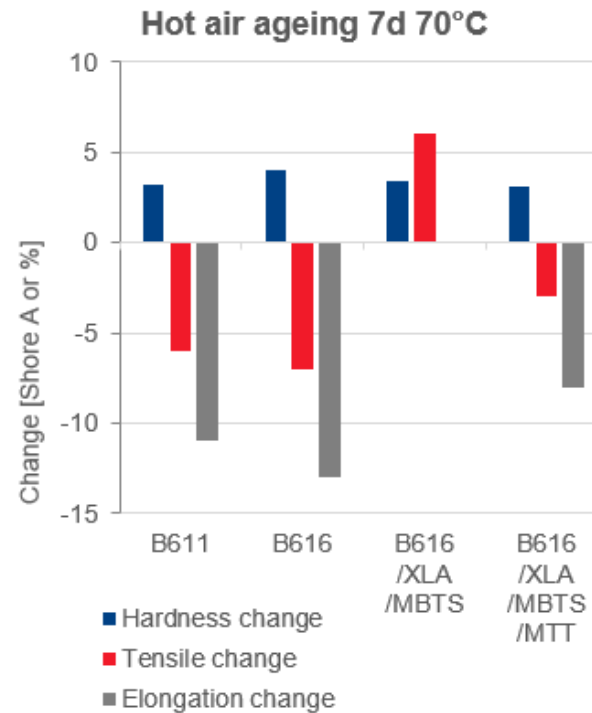
- Similar hardness
- Marginally higher tensile strength for Baypren® 616 VP without and lower tensile strength with modified cure
- Elongation at break and modulus 50 and 100 similar
- Abrasion and tear resistance of Baypren® 616 VP with adjusted curing package same as Baypren® 611
- Adhesion to cords can be adjusted by curing package

# Mechanical properties of cured rubber

## Original and after hot air ageing

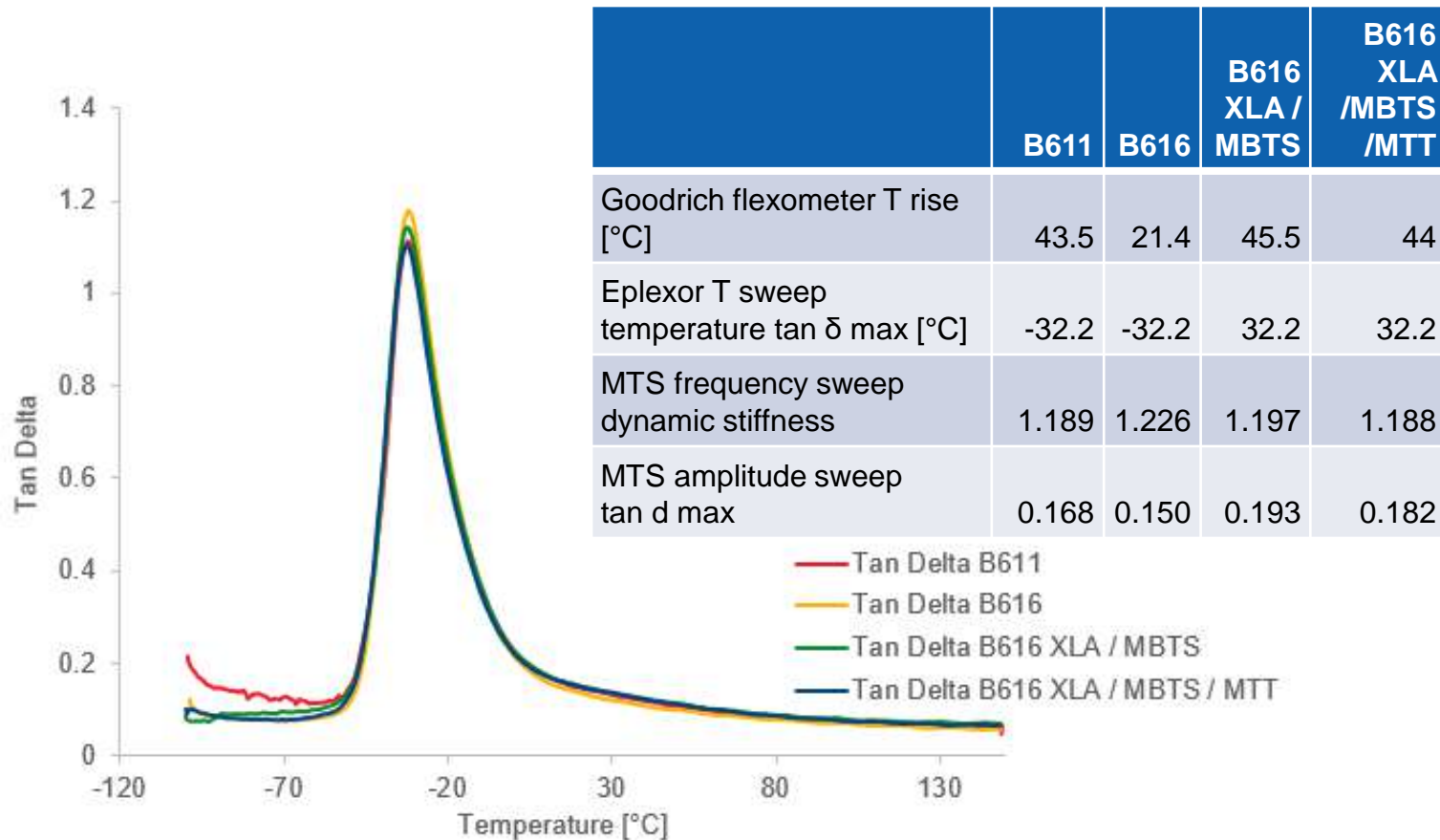
	B611	B616	B616 XLA/ MBTS	B616/ XLA/ MBTS / MTT
EB [%]	362	328	335	348
TS [MPa]	20.8	21.2	18.4	18.6
M50 aged 7d 70°C [Mpa]	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.6
M100 aged 7d 70°C [Mpa]	4.9	5.6	4.9	4.8
EB aged 7d 70°C [%]	323	284	336	319
TS aged 7d 70°C [Mpa]	19.6	19.7	19.5	18.1
CS* 24h/100°C [%]	28	25	36	33

\* Compression Set DIN ISO 815 method A, sample type B



- Similar aging performance Baypren® 611 as Baypren® 616 VP
- Curing package gives slightly improved ageing performance
- Compression set similar with Baypren® 611 and Baypren® 616 VP and is somewhat higher with adapted curing package

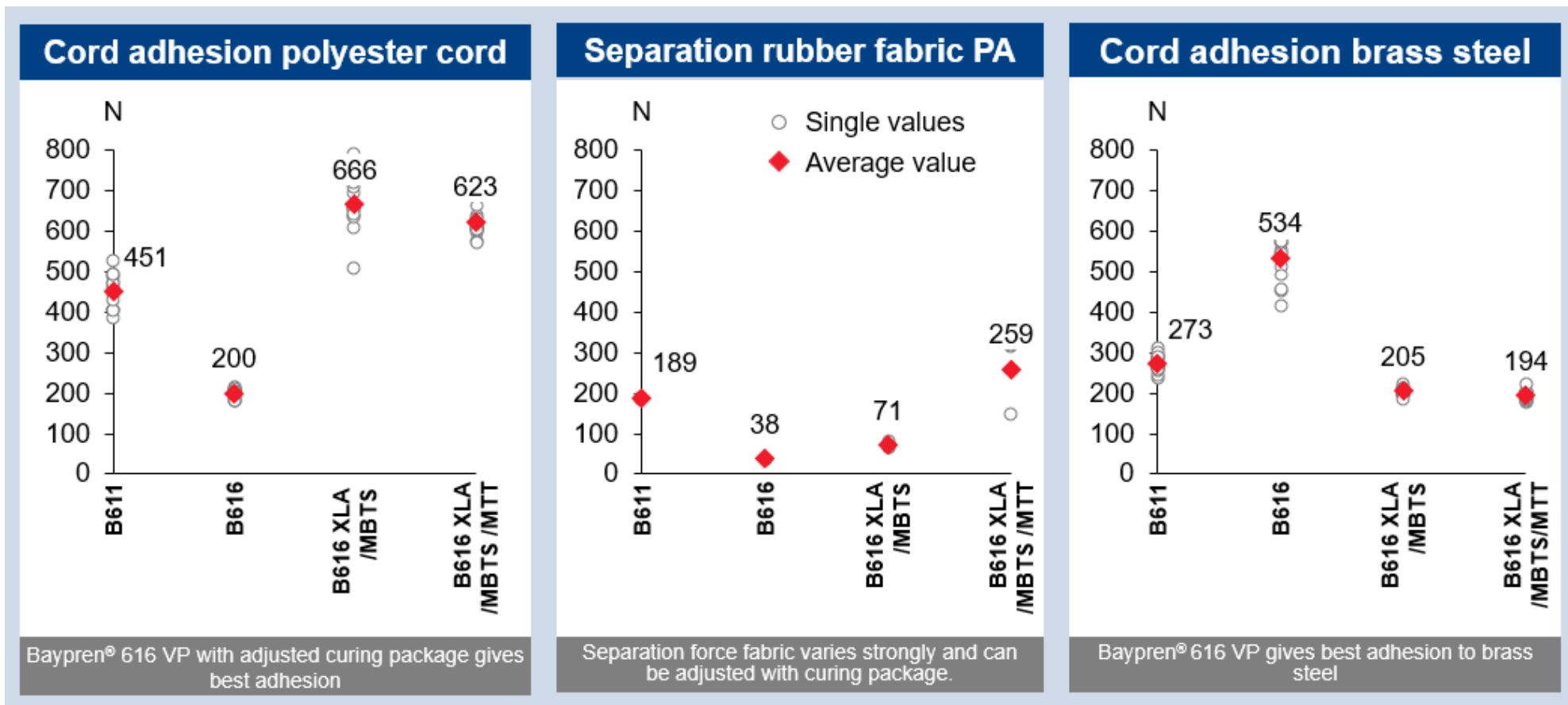
# Dynamic properties



- Goodrich heat build-up of Baypren® 616 VP and Baypren® 611 is similar with adjusted curing system
- No differences in Eplexor temperature sweep seen → maximum tan  $\delta$  =  $T_g$  are the same
- Dynamic stiffness from MTS frequency sweep is identical

# Cured properties: cord adhesion T-test + separation

Adhesion can be adjusted



# Summary

1. CR sulfur grade without thiurams has different crosslinking reactivity and can be adjusted with curing additives
2. Mechanical and dynamical properties are similar to the standard sulfur grade.

## Influence of different additives after statistical evaluation

	ZnO	MBTS	XLA 60	TBzTD	MBTS TBzTD
Mooney viscosity	0	-	--	-	0
scorch time	0	+	-	+	0
delta S	++	-	+	-	0
TS	-	0	-	0	0
EB	--	++	0	++	0
M 100	+	-	0	0	0
Hardness	++	--	0	-	--
CS 100°C, 24h	--	++	--	0	0
MTS-dynamic creep	-	0	0	0	+
MTS-Internal temperature	0	+	0	-	++
cord adhesion	++	--	++	--	0

+ = value increases  
- = value decreases



**JORNADAS CAUCHO**  
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**Gracias /** Thank you

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