

Keeping the corona infection risk under control with innovative plastic profiles

Even with a lockdown and comprehensive awareness campaigns, the risk of corona infection remains omnipresent. With innovative plastic profiles from Switzerland, the risk of infection can be significantly reduced.

When talking about protection against infection with SARS-CoV-2, the breathing mask is at the center of attention. Since the first months of the pandemic, which continues to this day, experts have also warned against transmission by smear infection. A reliable way of minimizing this risk is to disinfect contact surfaces in combination with regular hand washing. In everyday life, however, this is often complicated and time-consuming, which is why shopping at the supermarket or traveling by bus or train can become a risk even if you observe distance rules and wear suitable respiratory protection.

With the "Clip-On-Tube", the Swiss company K-Profile AG from Bischofszell, created a simple but highly effective way to additionally protect oneself in such everyday situations from a corona infection as well as from other viruses and bacteria that are transmitted via surfaces. The special clip profiles are designed by the plastics processing specialist, K-Profile AG, in such a way that they can be attached, for example, to shopping cart handles or to bars and grab rails in public transport. They are mounted using the clip-on process that gives them their name, so that there is no need to touch the surface to be covered.



However, the actual protective function does not result from covering a contaminated surface alone, but from the special formula of the processed plastic. This is the result of several years of research in the medical field. The raw material and the clip-on tubes made from it have an antibacterial and antiviral effect and so kill germs. Silver particles integrated into the plastic are responsible for this. In close cooperation with the Swiss company Impromat Sàrl, which developed the antiviral and antibacterial additive for the clip-on tube, this profile was designed and mass-produced in just a few weeks.

"Protection against corona infection requires innovative products and discipline in the practical use of the various methods of self-protection and the protection of people around you," notes Reinhard Lechthaler, CEO of K-Profile AG. "With innovative products, such as the "Clip-On Tube" designed and produced by us, we will be able to make an additional effort to reduce infection rates. In addition, the material offers numerous other possible applications, which we can turn into new products very quickly on customers' requests."



In just a few weeks, the experts at K-Profile developed the clip-on tube together with the customer. In this process, K-Profile uses the 3D printers available in the company for the first prototypes. The design of the profiles and extrusion tool is done using CAD, so that the tools are manufactured in the shortest possible time in the company's own tool shop.

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K-Profile AG from Bischofszell in Switzerland develops and produces extruded profiles from a wide range of plastics. As a well-known specialist for complex profiles, K-Profile offers its customers many years of know-how and cost-effective, perfected high-quality engineering solutions for individual requirements and applications. Customized products include profiles for mechanical engineering, sensor technology, the electrical industry and medical technology. But also special profiles for rail vehicles, the bus industry and fiber-reinforced products for lightweight construction, window and door constructions and other applications are among the K-Profile capabilities.

Engineering is carried out in close cooperation with the customer, using modern working tools such as CAD and 3D printing. All work steps are carried out in-house, which ensures optimal development and production processes and additionally shortens the production time.

In addition to the plastic profiles, K-Profile also design and manufacture the necessary extrusion tools for this purpose in its own tool shop. In the entire manufacturing process, K-Profile takes aspects of environmental responsibility into consideration. If the individual quality criteria allow, plastic recyclates are processed or biodegradable, CO2-neutral materials are used.

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