



MORE THAN MATERIAL

The Value of an Expert EPDM Compounding Partner

Why materials science, manufacturing discipline and dependable supply matter as much as the formulation itself.

Presented by Cooper Standard EPDM Compounding Solutions

As production environments grow more complex and performance expectations rise, manufacturers need more than material supply. They need a compounding partner that provides dependable supply coupled with consistent quality, technical expertise and proven operating systems that together drive reliable outcomes. Whether launching a product, solving a persistent processing issue or benchmarking an incumbent compound, the right partner can make a measurable difference.

Cooper Standard combines decades of materials science expertise with manufacturing excellence to deliver engineered solutions for transportation and industrial applications. The Company now extends that expertise to external customers through dedicated EPDM rubber compounding and mixing services. The result is a proven path from material specification to a production-ready compound.

For manufacturers, the challenge extends beyond material properties. A compound can meet laboratory specifications yet create problems on the production floor. Small variations in compound properties can affect processing, product quality and scrap rates. An expert compounding partner understands both the properties a compound must achieve and how it must perform in production.

START WITH THE PRODUCTION CHALLENGE

Strong development programs begin with a business need, not a catalog number. How must the part perform and be processed? Where is the current material creating variability? Which properties offer opportunities to improve cost, processability or consistency?

Cooper Standard translates these conditions into a compound target, aligning performance, processing, validation and commercial objectives. The team then benchmarks the incumbent, optimizes a legacy formulation or develops a purpose-built compound.



An integrated rubber-materials lab platform can support formulation, validation, release testing and troubleshooting during every step of the process.

A PRACTICAL PATH TO VALUE CREATION

Each engagement begins by defining what success looks like. Common opportunities include:

- Too much variability, scrap or rework
- Slow production rates
- Difficult or inconsistent processing
- Product performance shortfalls
- Material or total processing costs

Success measures include:

- Improved compound and process consistency
- Reduced scrap and rework
- Enhanced processing window
- Increased line speed and throughput
- Improved product performance
- Reduced total cost while maintaining performance

THE OBJECTIVE: A compound that achieves or exceeds the required properties and runs consistently in your production environment.

Benchmarking, production-data analysis, formulation changes, processing trials and part validation turn these targets into measurable operational value.

ACCELERATED COMPOUND DEVELOPMENT

Successful EPDM formulation requires balancing multiple variables. Many items can impact compound performance such as polymer selection, oil and plasticizer strategy, cure package, and processing aids. Changes made to improve one attribute can create challenges in another.

Cooper Standard's proprietary Formulink AI-platform analyzes compound recipes and physical-property data to help chemists identify formulation pathways faster. Formulink helps chemists converge on new recipes up to 80% faster.

Formulink does not replace laboratory work or manufacturing trials; it focuses them. Paired with our experts and integrated lab capabilities, it supports development, validation, release testing and troubleshooting, reducing trial and error while accelerating production-ready compounds that balance performance, processability, cost and sustainability.

Are You Facing One of These Challenges?

- Inconsistent processing that creates variability, scrap, rework or production rates below target?
- Finished parts that do not consistently meet performance requirements?
- A new product or requirement your current compound cannot support?
- Compound or processing costs too high?
- Reliance on a single compound source that creates supply risk?

Turn your compound challenge into a measurable solution

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CONNECT LAB RESULTS TO BATCH RELEASES

Reliable production starts with integrated lab support. Development work covers lab scale mixing, prototype builds, physical testing, cure and failure analysis. Production work covers incoming material verification, in process controls and final release testing that drive batch release, traceability and Certificates of Analysis. Core instrumentation includes MDR, Mooney, hardness, tensile, elongation and specific gravity.

BUILD CONSISTENCY INTO EVERY BATCH

A formulation creates value only when it can be consistently reproduced. Cooper Standard's proprietary LOMOS control system connects recipe management, process control, laboratory validation and production traceability. Combined with established quality and sales-and-operations planning, it turns formulas into repeatable commercial compounds, supporting stable rheology, tighter release decisions, fewer production surprises and greater confidence at the line.

SCALE SUPPLY WITHOUT LOSING THE DETAILS

Cooper Standard's EPDM operations in Aguascalientes, Mexico and Stratford, Ontario provide 10,500 metric tons of dedicated external capacity annually. Experienced teams run modern mixing and downstream equipment with digital controls, both sites operating under IATF 16949, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001. Capabilities include dense, micro dense and sponge EPDM; compounds for extrusion, injection, compression and transfer molding; sulfur and peroxide cures; strained or unstrained material; and strip or slab packaging.

TURN YOUR COMPOUND CHALLENGE INTO A MEASURABLE SOLUTION

In manufacturing, small improvements in material performance create significant value. By combining decades of EPDM materials science and manufacturing expertise, Cooper Standard helps define the optimum solution, accelerate development, validate performance and deliver lasting value to our customers.

To learn more, visit CooperStandard.com/EPDM_Compounding.com or scan the QR code above.