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**ISSUE 02/2025** 

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Kai Müller ROWA GROUP

Dear business partners, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Staying on track or, at best, leading the way, even in turbulent times - this is more important than ever. There is no need to sugarcoat the situation; the wind has been blowing strong for a few years now, not to mention the occasional gust. But it is not just my personal optimism that allows me to see a silver lining on the horizon: Both the German Chemical Industry Association and the GKV, the German Plastics Processing Industry Association, see an end to the downturn within reach and are looking forward to the coming year with hope.

The upcoming K trade fair in Düsseldorf may offer just the right atmosphere to fuel cautious optimism with expertise, ideas, and a dose of chutzpah, together with industry representatives and experts.

This is particularly evident at the ROWA GROUP, where even in economically turbulent times, innovative spirit and expertise are used to identify and exploit opportunities, not only to keep up, but to lead the way in many areas. The following pages contain a few examples that testify to this spirit: The ROWA Masterbatch team, for example, has long been addressing the topic of color trends for 2026 and already has sample boards in its trade fair luggage. In addition, the company recently added TPU-based masterbatches to its product range that credibly imitate classic leather with different scents. On this page, ROMIRA presents innovative polymer blends made from post-consumer polycarbonate, and of course there are also exciting new developments at ROWA Lack, which is expanding its highly sought-after range of pigment preparations, and at TRAMACO, which is presenting, among other things, blowing agent masterbatches for PVC foam core pipes.

The ROWA GROUP teams look forward to constructive discussions at the trade fair and to presenting you with the many tangible rays of hope from our companies! You will find us in hall 8, stand B28

With best regards, Your Kai Müller

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Top performance meets sustainability:



# **INNOVATIVE POLYMER BLENDS MADE** FROM POST-CONSUMER POLYCARBONATE

At a time when sustainability and climate protection are rightly becoming increasingly important, ROMIRA is presenting an impressive innovation in the form of new polymer blends made from post-consumer polycarbonate (PoC-PC). These materials impress with their outstanding technical properties and are also an environmentally friendly solution.

#### **TECHNICAL PROPERTIES RETAINED**

ROMIRA polymer blends are characterized by their excellent mechanical and thermal properties, which are fully retained even when recycled polycarbonate is used. These include:

#### » High impact resistance

These blends offer impressive impact resistance, making them ideal for applications where robustness and durability play a decisive role.

#### » Thermal stability

The materials retain their shape and function even at high temperatures, making them ideal for use in demanding environments.

#### » UV resistance

Thanks to their excellent UV stability, the polymer blends are also ideal for outdoor applications.

#### REDUCED CARBON FOOTPRINT

A key advantage of ROMIRA polymer blends is the significant reduction in the product's carbon footprint. By reusing post-consumer polycarbonate, ROMIRA actively contributes to reducing plastic waste and conserving natural resources, and supports companies in achieving their sustainability goals with this more climate-friendly product portfolio.

#### **ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGES**

In addition to the properties already mentioned, the new polymer blends offer a number of other advantages, such as:

#### » Chemical resistance

They are resistant to many chemicals, which expands their range of applications in various industries.

#### » Design freedom

The blends are easy to process and offer a high degree of design flexibility, allowing the manufacturing of complex and aesthetically appealing products.

#### » Colorability

Despite the use of recycled material, our proven Mold In Color concept can also be applied to these blends. Different brilliant colors can thus be adjusted inhouse.

Discover the future of plastics - sustainable, highperformance, and versatile.



#### More information

Wulf-Ole Luthardt +49 4101 706 346 w.luthardt@romira.de



Post-consumer recycled polycarbonate can be used in any polycarbonate blend to significantly reduce the carbon footprint of the end product.







## ROWA Masterbatch sets the tone in a growing segment

### **NEW DEVELOPMENTS FOR VEGAN LEATHER**

Whether in the food service, fashion, or cosmetics industries, the number of vegan products has been increasing for years and is increasingly in demand by consumers. And not just by the approximately 2 million people in Germany who already live a vegan lifestyle, but also by many who are not strictly vegan but would like to choose the animal-free alternative more often. ROWA Masterbatch is responding to current market trends with its latest development and offers three innovative, TPU-based masterbatches in various leather fragrances.

The decision to adopt a vegan lifestyle or use individual vegan products is usually based on ethical and environmental considerations, and this applies to leather as well as food. Faux leather is free of animal ingredients, thus avoiding animal suffering, and is also more environmentally friendly in its production. This is because less water is used than in traditional production, the carbon footprint is lower due to more energy-efficient processing, and fewer harmful chemicals are used. Additional advantages arise in the finishing and design, which is significantly more flexible than with the animal-based variant. Vegan leather can not only be produced in a wide variety of textures, designs, and colors, but can also be customized with a matching fragrance, so there are virtually no limits to individual creativity.

With its fragrance creations, ROWA Masterbatch not only strikes the right note, but also sets impressive accents in the truest sense of the word. In addition to appearance and feel, the smell of an object is extremely important, for example when making a purchase decision. Smells are processed in the limbic system of the brain, which is also responsible for emotions and memories. The fact that a certain smell triggers a specific feeling is therefore not just imagination, but scientifically proven. And so these new TPU masterbatches, which are produced with the following three different fragrances, also trigger emotions:

# ROWALID® TPU-A251A SC AUTHENTIC LEATHER STRONG,

as the name suggests, exudes a very classic, genuine, and natural scent, which usually triggers warm and familiar feelings.

#### **ROWALID® TPU-A252A SC EXTREME LEATHER,**

has a more exaggerated and powerful effect, evoking strong, spirited emotions such as a desire for freedom and determination.

#### ROWALID® TPU-A253A SC BLACK LEATHER,

on the other hand, is perceived as dark, mysterious, and enigmatic, and is also associated with glamour.

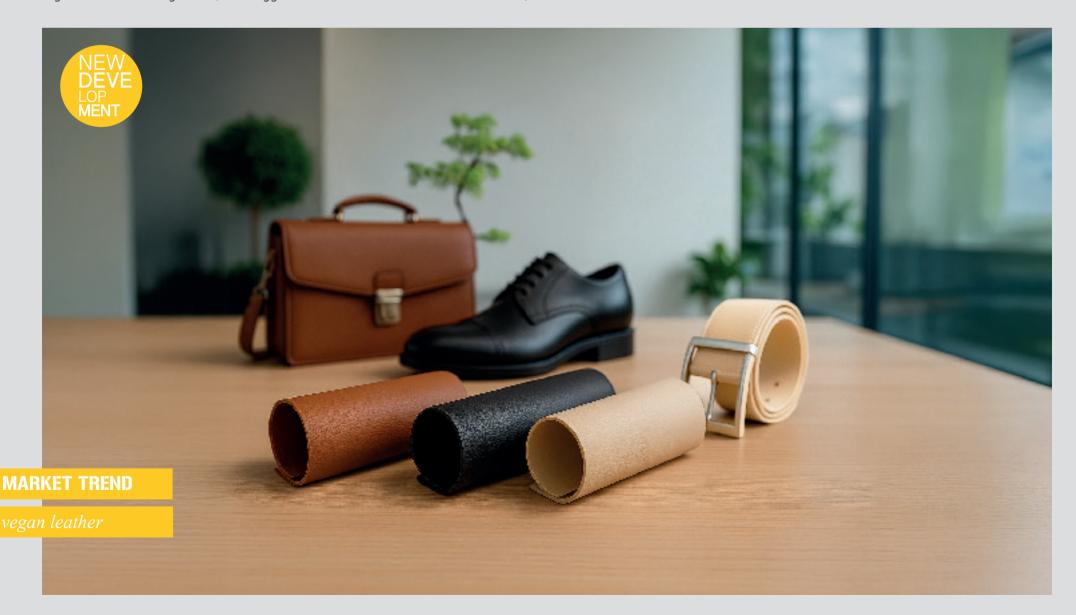
By using combination masterbatches, i.e., linking the right color to the fragrance note, these emotions can be further enhanced or drawn into contradictions through fascinating contrasts – the many possible combinations leave room for creativity and individuality.

One obvious option, for example, is to combine the BLACK LEATHER fragrance with BLACK. This creates an intense, powerful impression that evokes depth, freedom, and something mystically forbidden. The combination of EXTREME LEATHER and BEIGE transports you to another world – far away from the familiar. On the one hand, there are similarities between

these two sensory components, above all their connection to nature: the leathery scent and the color beige, which is reminiscent of sand, stone, or linen. On the other hand, the combination presents fascinating contrasts – a powerful fragrance on the one hand, and a soft, light, almost neutral color on the other. This exciting combination evokes a feeling of inner wildness beneath an outer calm. If emotions such as security and a nostalgic aura are to be created, the synthesis of AUTHENTIC LEATHER and DARK BROWN, for example, is ideal, as it evokes memories of nature, pine forests, or even traditional craftsmanship.

A multitude of other combinations are not only conceivable but also feasible. With these new TPU masterbatches, which reflect the trend theme of veganism, ROWA Masterbatch once again demonstrates that the company is at the cutting edge of research and development. Interested parties can see the fragrant masterbatches for vegan leather for themselves at the upcoming K trade fair. Visit us in hall 8a at stand B28 and let yourself be moved.







### ROWA Masterbatch shows its colors: THESE ARE THE TRENDS FOR 2026

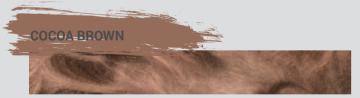
The days are getting shorter, speculoos lovers are already smiling delightedly in the supermarket, and here and there people are already looking back on the year 2025, which is drawing to a close ... Looking back? 2025? At ROWA Masterbatch, these are not topics of discussion – quite the contrary: here, the future dictates the present! And not only in terms of technical innovations, but also in terms of color designs. Here we reveal which color worlds will be particularly trendy next year.

#### **AMBER HAZE**

In 2026, we will be enchanted by Amber Haze: a greentinged yellow with a radiant effect reminiscent of crystals, inspired by the themes of earth and longevity. The shade is associated with spirituality and encourages us to slow down in a screen-based, digital world and pay attention to regenerative resources. In other words, this shade embodies both deep roots and a progressive approach. With these characteristics, Amber Haze appeals to many designers, brands, and, last but not least, consumers who are interested in a conscious, sustainable lifestyle – accordingly, this rich, radiant yellow with a green tint will certainly be found in many different forms.

#### **BLUE AURA**

This tinted pastel shade has long since won the hearts of designers and can already be seen in many variations – from powdery to transparent to metallic and lacquered – and will be even more so in the coming months: Blue Aura impresses with its calm, soothing and at the same time futuristic character, inspired by the interplay of light and shadow. Since this shade can be applied in layers or unprocessed, it is ideally suited to the "Designing with light" trend. Its shimmering appearance is reminiscent of biodegradable designs, recycled industrial waste, or dyed plaster. Blue Aura is also a gender- and season-independent color, fluid in its tonality and application, making it one of the most comprehensive trend colors for the coming year and certainly beyond.



The name says it all for this 2026 trend color: Cocoa
Brown is as comforting as hot chocolate on a dreary
winter day. A deep, intense brown tone that radiates
warmth thanks to its red pigments. The versatility of
brown makes it possible to create different moods and
styles. From soft and soothing combinations with pastel shades to intense contrasts with bold colors – the
possibilities are endless. Already widely seen: Cocoa
Brown as the perfect partner to add warmth to cool
shades.

TRANSFORMATIVE TEAL

Last but not least, Tra
fusion of blue and green p
widespread ecological mi
tation for responsible ac
diversity of nature and a

#### **ELECTRIC FUCHSIA**

Another color that will leave its mark on the fashion industry, shop windows, and product advertising is Electric Fuchsia: a particularly vibrant neon color with a kinetic and digital quality. This bright shade, which shifts between pink and purple, represents a progressive and rebellious attitude. Electric Fuchsia offers its viewer an invigorating, almost intoxicating effect, a small colorful escape from reality. The idea of artificial intelligence comes to mind here, as this trend color can also be described as a psychedelic neon color that adds a multisensory element to the virtual future. One thing is certain: product designers from particularly forward-looking fields and technologies will place Electric Fuchsia high on their color agenda for 2026.

#### **JELLY MINT**

The next trend color for 2026 embodies the Japanese concept of "kawaii," which means cute: Jelly Mint is a lively, vibrant, and youthful shade that promotes the cartoonization of product design. The strength of this color lies in its ability to not only challenge norms, but to change them. While this shade was previously considered childish and frivolous, its inherent cuteness has now developed into a strength and influential force in contemporary culture.

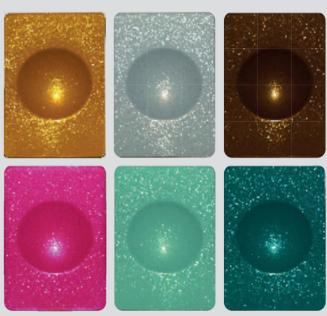
At the same time, Jelly Mint is a nostalgic and playful shade that represents small pleasures, radiates calm, and strengthens resilience. Brands that want to appeal to so-called kidult consumers, i.e., adults who are interested in hobbies or products associated with children, will find Jelly Mint a very suitable shade. But this trend color will also make a big splash with many other target groups, for example, within the cosmetics industry.



Last but not least, Transformative Teal: this fluid fusion of blue and green pays tribute to the increasingly widespread ecological mindset and the growing expectation for responsible action. The color respects the diversity of nature and also offers a new perspective on biology, one that focuses primarily on what makes the most sense for the Earth, regardless of whether the solution is natural, post-natural, organic, or synthetic.

Transformative Teal is also associated with the "over view effect": the calming and renewing effect of the color corresponds to the effect that says that looking at Earth from space has a life-changing effect on the viewer.

As in previous years, ROWA Masterbatch has once again developed extraordinary variations of these shades based on the 2026 color trends from Coloro and WGSN and in collaboration with effect pigment manufacturer KUNCAI, so that exciting effects can be created in addition to the pure shades – perfect for showcasing a product at the point of sale.



Sample panels with new, exciting effects

ROWA Masterbatch will have sample plates of the color trends and effects at the upcoming K trade fair! Come visit us in hall 8a, stand B28 and let our color experts advise you.



More information
Dorit Krienke
+49 4101 706 125

d.krienke@rowa-masterbatch.de

TREND COLORS

and color world





## Well positioned for tomorrow's requirements:

### **ROWA MASTERBATCH DEVELOPS PTFE ALTERNATIVES**

At the beginning of 2023, Germany, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden submitted a proposal to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) to restrict all per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) for all areas of application and use. The reason for this is that PFAS are considered persistent, bioaccumulative, and potentially toxic substances that accumulate in the environment and cause long-term pollution of water, soil, and organisms.

A gradual introduction of PFAS bans, staggered by product group and with corresponding transition periods, is currently considered certain. And even though there are currently indications that the bans are not expected to come into force before 2027, ROWA Masterbatch is already working intensively and successfully on the development and testing of alternatives.

Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) is one of the high-performance plastics within the PFAS group of substances. Due to its non-polar structure, the semi-crystalline fluoropolymer has exceptional physical and chemical properties that enable a wide range of industrial applications. PTFE is used in industrial applications such as seals and coatings, in medical implants and prostheses, and as non-stick coatings in cookware.

PTFE is used as a versatile additive in thermoplastics. Among other things, it serves as a flame retardant to increase flame resistance and reduce dripping in the event of a fire, as a solid lubricant to minimize friction and abrasion, and as a polymer process aid (PPA) to improve processing properties – for example, as a lubricant and release agent in the injection molding of polyamides or the film extrusion of polyolefins.

Given the wide range of applications for PTFE, there is currently no universally applicable alternative as an additive. The selection of suitable substitutes depends heavily on the specific application and the specific requirements of the end product. ROWA Masterbatch works with customers to develop application-specific solutions for PFAS-free products. The following is a selection of PTFE alternatives:

Lubricants are effective both during processing and in the end application: they facilitate demolding by reducing adhesion between the melt and the mold surface and later contribute to reducing friction and noise. Since classic lubricants are usually migrating substances, their effect is limited in time. PFAS-containing lubricants and PPAs can be replaced by suitable alternatives. ROWA Masterbatch has extensive expertise in the development of PFAS-free solutions for a wide range of applications and polymer types, including PET, TPU, TPE, PA, PC, styrene copolymers, polyolefins, and other engineering plastics.

Unlike classic lubricants such as stearates, waxes, or amides, solid lubricants – such as metal sulfides or graphite – are permanently bound into the polymer matrix and thus have a long-lasting effect. These "lubricants" improve the tribological properties and thus increase the service life of moving plastic components. Like PTFE, they reduce the coefficient of friction and abrasion loss.

The portfolio of products developed to date using metal sulfides and graphite includes:

Masterbatches based on metal sulfides and graphite				
PRODUCT NAME	Substrate	Active ingredient	Intrinsic color	
ROWALID® PBT-8269 GL	PBT	Molybdenum disulfide	Gray-black, shiny metallic	
ROWALID® PP-9569 GL	PP-Homopolymer	Molybdenum disulfide	Gray-black, shiny metallic	
ROWALID® PA-A233A GL	PA 66	Molybdenum disulfide	Gray-black, shiny metallic	
ROWALID® PA-A234A GL	PA 66	Metal sulfide	Brown black	
ROWALID® PA-A258A GL	PA 6	Natural graphite	Anthracite	

ROWA Masterbatch also offers a PFAS-free, polymer-based masterbatch with permanent effect to improve the sliding properties and abrasion resistance of engineering plastics and rubbers. Unlike the products listed in the table above, this product can be individually colored:

Polymer-based masterbatch solution				
PRODUCT NAME	Substrate	Active ingredient	Intrinsic color	
ROWALID® UN-A232A GL	Universal	Polymeric system	Natural	

As an expert in customer-specific and polymer-specific master-batches, ROWA develops a suitable solution for every application − please feel free to contact us for more information! ■



#### More information

Janina Bailer +49 4101 706 394

j.bailer@rowa-masterbatch.de

PTFE ALTERNATIVES

Step into the future



## **ROWALID® PVC pigment preparations**

# **EXPANDED RANGE IN THE COLOR RANGES ORANGE, BROWN, AND VIOLET**

ROWA Lack GmbH continues to set standards in the field of ROWALID® PVC pigment preparations and underscores its ambitions in this market segment with its product range policy. ROWALID preparations have long been an established player in the market, characterized by steadily growing demand.

With the expansion of its ROWALID® PVC pigment preparations, ROWA Lack is consistently continuing its enlargement of this product range. The focus of development was on pigments in the orange, brown, and violet color ranges, complementing the existing offering. ROWALID® PVC preparations are highly concentrated single-color preparations embedded in a PVC carrier

system. A special production process is used to manufacture ROWALID® preparations, which aims to achieve a maximum degree of pigment dispersion, something unattainable with conventional methods. The "micropowder" delivery form, available in a defined grain size range, enables not only a wide range of compatibility but also high color strength and transparency.

With its ROWALID® PVC preparations, ROWA Lack offers a standard range of colors that impress with their outstanding properties. Together with our customers and based on individual requirements, we are also happy to develop project-specific special settings. Pigment types and pigment contents can be adapted to suit the application.

Interested customers can obtain further information about the product range in a personal discussion – for example at the K trade fair in Düsseldorf, in hall 8a, stand B28. ■



More information Jörk Krumwiede +49 4101 706 124 j.krumwiede@rowa-lack.de



ROWALID® PVC Orange	PIGMENT CONTENT	COLOR INDEX
ROWALID® PPO 4787	50%	Orange 38
ROWALID® PPO 503	50%	Orange 43
ROWALID® PPO 5057	50%	Orange 64
ROWALID® PPO 505	50%	Orange 68
ROWALID® PPO 5046	50%	Orange 72

ROWALID® PVC Brown	PIGMENT CONTENT	COLOR INDEX
ROWALID® PPN 701	50%	Brown 23
ROWALID® PPN 703	50%	Brown 25
ROWALID® PPN 702	50%	Brown 41

PIGMENT CONTENT	COLOR INDEX
50%	Violet 19
50%	Violet 23
50%	Violet 32
50%	Violet 37
50%	Violet 55
	50% 50% 50%









# **INTERN**

### Reinforcement for the ROWA GROUP: OUR NEW TRAINEES

At the start of the 2025 training program, ROWA GROUP employees were delighted to welcome two new colleagues from the "next generation": On August 1, Aileen-Thea Schumann and Leon Wuzik began their professional careers at the Pinneberg site with their training as industrial clerks. Our HR officer Beate Bernauer will accompany the two on their three-year journey through all commercial departments. Their first stops will be HR recruiting and financial accounting.

One month later, Rostyslav Driapko and Roman Eggers began their training as IT specialists for system integration under the guidance of IT manager Stefan



Voultsidis. Sadek Hassen, who is completing a twoyear training program as a plant and machine operator specializing in metal and plastics technology under Stefan Filter, a process enginering employee with a training certificate, also started at the beginning of September.

"We are very pleased to welcome our new trainees and look forward to hearing their impressions, ideas, and perspectives. We wish them all a good start to their professional careers with us," said Kai Müller, Managing Director of ROWA GROUP Holding GmbH, commenting on this year's start of training.







OCTOBER 8 - 15, 2025 DÜSSELDORF HALL 8A, STAND B28 **ROWA GROUP** 





**OCTOBER 15, 2025** HAMBURG, BARCLAYS ARENA **ROWA GROUP** 





**DECEMBER 3 - 6, 2025 ISTANBUL** HALL 2, STAND 216A **ROMIRA** 









FEBRUARY 25 - 26, 2026 **ULM** STAND 3-D9

**ROMIRA** 

**COME AND VISIT US** 







**Technology day Hein** MARCH 12, 2026, HANNOVER-LANGENHAGEN ROMIRA, ROWA Masterbatch

**Kesterke Technology days** MARCH 24, 2026, RHEIN/MAIN **ROMIRA** 





#### **STAY TUNED!**

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ROWA Masterbatch GmbH Siemensstraße 1-3 25421 Pinneberg Phone: +49 4101 706 01 info@rowa-masterbatch.de

www.rowa-masterbatch.de

TRAMACO GmbH Lise-Meitner-Allee 8 25436 Tornesch Phone: +49 4101 706 02 info@tramaco.de www.tramaco.de

ROMIRA GmbH Siemensstraße 1-3 25421 Pinneberg info@romira.de www.romira.de

**ROWASOL GmbH** Siemensstraße 1-5 25421 Pinneberg Phone: +49 4101 706 03 Phone: +49 4101 706 04 Phone: +49 4101 706 05 info@rowasol.de www.rowasol.de

**ROWA Lack GmbH** Siemensstraße 1-5 25421 Pinneberg info@rowa-lack.de www.rowa-lack.de

**ROWA France S.a.r.L** 7. rue Albert Einstein 77420 Champs sur Marne Phone: +33 1 646 81 616 info@rowa-france.com

**ROWA Inc.** 110 Phyllis Dr Croydon, PA 19021 USA Phone: +1 609 567 8600 sales@rowainc.net www.rowainc.net

**ROWA Korea Co., Ltd** 511-16, Joogyo-Ri, Yesan Yeon Yesan-Gun, Chungnam-Do Phone: +82 41 335 42 03 info@rowa-korea.com

**Ningbo ROWA Coatings** Technology Co., Ltd Rm.1218, Block A2, R&D Park, Lane 587, Juxian Rd, Hi-Tech Zone, Ningbo City Zhejiang Province, P.R.China

Phone: +86 574 87229282 info@rowa-china.com