

A timeline of success

Energy lives here™

More than 50 years of technological advances have helped us keep up with ethylene propylene diene (EPDM) rubber development.

Technology and investment milestones		
1961	Vistalon™ EPDM rubber is born	First commercially manufactured ethylene-propylene elastomer at the plant in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Quickly found acceptance in high voltage electrical applications because it did not degrade over time, offering long service-life.
1966	Dedicated U.S. capacity	Butyl capacity in Baton Rouge converted to EPDM rubber production.
1972	New plant in Europe	Construction of new EPDM rubber plant in Notre Dame de Gravenchon, France.
1981	Santoprene™ TPV development	EPDM rubber cross-linked within a PP matrix to produce Santoprene TPV, another technological innovation that has become renowned for its proven performance.
1989	Tailored molecular weight	First commercial grades of EPDM rubber manufactured using proprietary tailored molecular weight distribution technology were introduced for molded and extruded goods.
Late 1990s	Metallocene technology	Metallocene catalyst technology for development of new Vistalon EPDM grades
2000s	Broadest EPDM rubber portfolio	During the 2000s advanced technology leads to ExxonMobil Chemical offering one of the broadest portfolios of EPDM and other polyolefin elastomers in the world with Z-N and metallocene catalyst technologies complementing each other.
2003	New U.S. plant	New plant added in Baton Rouge, using metallocene catalyst technology, provides greater control of the molecular structure, giving more uniform molecules.
2011	50th anniversary	Celebrating 50 years of Vistalon EPDM, ExxonMobil Chemical is set to maintain its position among market leaders through continued investment in capacity, new grades, and technical and application support. New grades that use the attributes of metallocene catalyst deliver improved compression set at low and high temperatures for molded and extruded applications.
2012	Vistalon EPDM rubber production increase	50kt/year increased production capacity of Vistalon EPDM in our U.S. metallocene plant.
2016	Vistalon EPDM rubber capacity	Start-up of new facility in Saudi Arabia at the Al-Jubail Petrochemical Company (KEMYA), a joint venture petrochemical plant, which includes a new Vistalon EPDM unit.

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