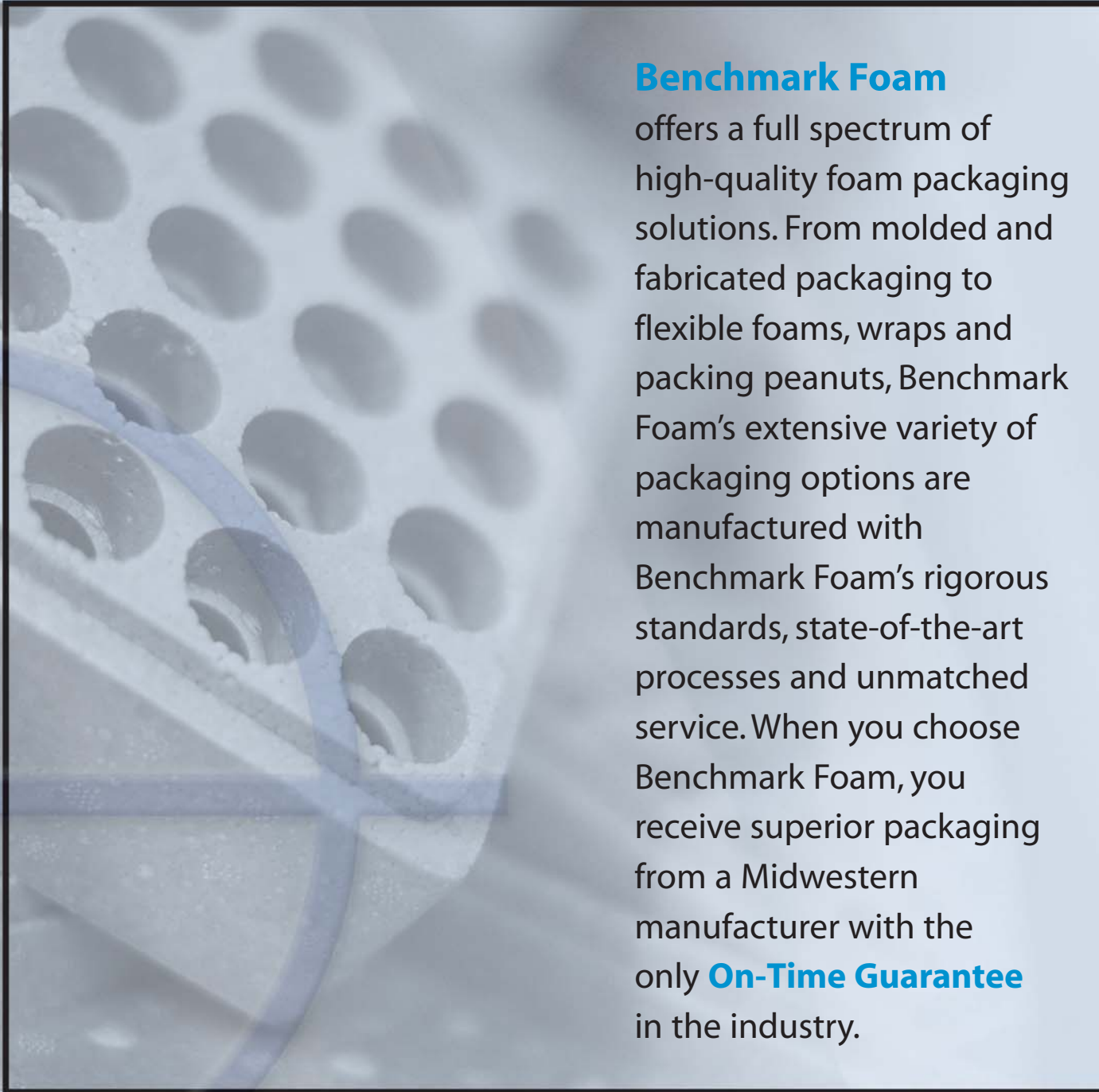


PACKAGING

by Benchmark Foam



Benchmark Foam

offers a full spectrum of high-quality foam packaging solutions. From molded and fabricated packaging to flexible foams, wraps and packing peanuts, Benchmark Foam's extensive variety of packaging options are manufactured with Benchmark Foam's rigorous standards, state-of-the-art processes and unmatched service. When you choose Benchmark Foam, you receive superior packaging from a Midwestern manufacturer with the only **On-Time Guarantee** in the industry.

 **BENCHMARK FOAM INC.**

Quick response is our guarantee.



Benchmark Foam uses a Drop Tester to test prototypes and finished samples. Product is placed in the packaging and dropped. In order to pass the test, the product must be undamaged after 10 standardized drops.

BENCHMARK FOAM BENEFITS

PACKAGING SPECIALIST

Benchmark Foam is a packaging specialist and is able to offer packaging options for most applications. Whether your product is large or small, fragile or heavy duty, Benchmark Foam can manufacture the protective packaging that will ensure it reaches your customers in perfect condition.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

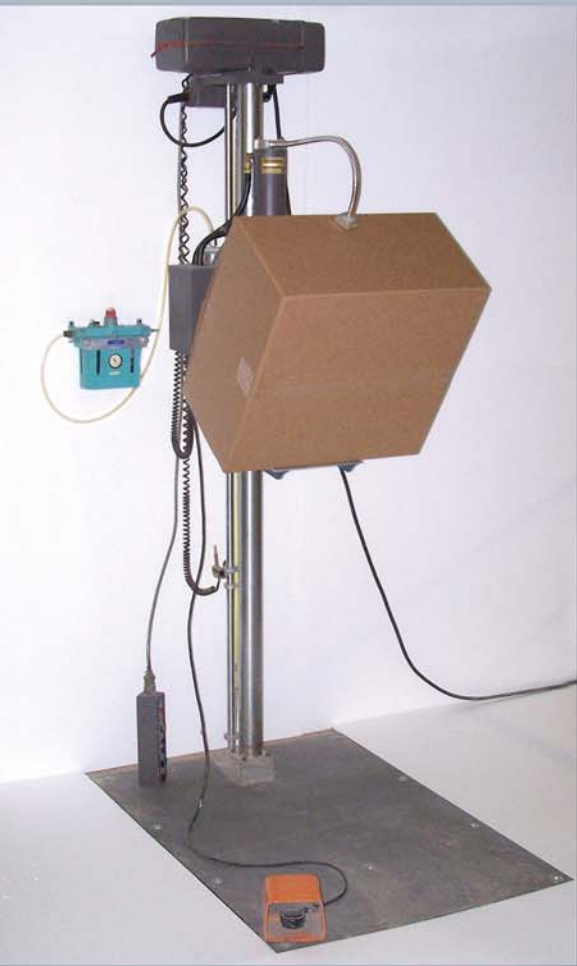
Benchmark Foam is committed to providing customers superior value and quality. We adhere to the strictest industry standards for raw materials, manufacturing processes and final product. We ensure our expanded foam meets density standards and that our packaging products meet Benchmark Foam's high standards for strength, durability and protection.

CUSTOMIZED SOLUTIONS

If you have a packaging challenge, Benchmark Foam has the answer. Benchmark Foam is an innovation leader and has the capabilities to manufacture both shape-molded and custom-fabricated designs for EPS, EPE and EPP.

Benchmark Foam has been shape molding and fabricating foam packaging since 1977, so we have the expertise to solve any packaging challenge. We work with customers to develop the optimum packaging solution for each application and offer both design assistance and prototype sampling.

Benchmark Foam matches experience with state-of-the-art equipment and techniques throughout our molding and fabricating processes. Our computerized (CNC) hot-wire cutting equipment is able to produce shapes and contours to exacting tolerances and enables us to design and develop custom parts for the most complex packaging solutions.



Call Benchmark Foam toll free at 800-658-3444.

PACKAGING OPTIONS

Benchmark Foam offers packaging solutions that will meet almost any specification. Because we are able to mold and fabricate packaging from three different types of expanded foam (EPS, EPE and EPP), we can manufacture protective packaging for the most fragile or most heavy-duty products and parts. Benchmark Foam also offers flexible foams, bubble wraps and packing peanuts, ensuring that any packaging need can be met with a call to Benchmark Foam. The packaging experts at Benchmark Foam will work with you to determine or develop the right solution for your application.

MOLDED OR FABRICATED PACKAGING

General Applications: Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) is the most versatile foam we offer and is utilized in a large variety of industrial and consumer applications. EPS is stable and water resistant. It is resilient and provides excellent cushioning and thermal protection. EPS is also lightweight, which reduces shipping and handling costs for you and your customers.

Fragile Applications: Expanded Polyethylene (EPE) is a soft and resilient packaging material that provides multiple impact protection and will not abrade or scratch the surface of plastic products, making it ideal for applications like computers and other electrical appliances. EPE offers high solvent resistance and has a low permanent set and good shear resistance.

Heavy-Duty Applications: Expanded Polypropylene (EPP) provides maximum impact protection for challenging packaging applications. EPP has a good compressive creep and is often used to protect heavy equipment, machinery and similar manufactured products. EPP also offers thermal protection.

FLEXIBLE FOAMS

Benchmark Foam offers multi-functional packaging products in flexible foams, bubble wraps and ethylene foam wraps. These are available in a variety of colors and densities. Anti-static treatment is also available.

PACKING PEANUTS

Benchmark Foam's line of EPS and starch-based packing peanuts provide all the advantages you expect from this packaging option. They are lightweight, resilient, durable, clean, easy to use and static free. Benchmark Foam's starch-based packing peanut dissolves in water, and has the added benefit of easy and environmentally conscience disposal.



On-Time Guarantee:

*Benchmark Foam knows that your business depends on our product arriving on time. Our service response is so dependable we back it up with Benchmark Foam's On-Time Guarantee. Your product will be shipped and arrive by the agreed-to arrival date or we will **discount your invoice 10 percent**. We work to accommodate customer needs, giving you confidence when you place an order, even if it needs to be rushed. And we do not have truckload quotas, so no matter how large or small, your order will be shipped on time.*



EPS SPECIFICATIONS

Typical properties* of EPS molded packaging:

| Density* per cubic foot (pcf) | Stress at 10% Compression (psi) | Flexural Strength (psi) | Tensile Strength (psi) | Shear Strength (psi) |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1.0 | 13 | 29 | 31 | 31 |
| 1.5 | 24 | 43 | 51 | 53 |
| 2.0 | 30 | 58 | 62 | 70 |
| 2.5 | 42 | 75 | 74 | 92 |
| 3.0 | 64 | 88 | 88 | 118 |

*70°F Test Temperature

Note: Values based on ASTM short-term, laboratory-load conditions.
Both temperature and time period may affect end-point values.

EPE SPECIFICATIONS

Available densities (pcf) for fabrication: 1.0 lb, 1.30 lb and 2.80 lb

Density range for molded parts: 1.0 lb to 3.0 lb

EPP SPECIFICATIONS

Available densities (pcf) for fabrication: 1.0 lb, 1.30 lb and 2.80 lb

Density range for molded parts: 1.0 lb to 3.0 lb

CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Benchmark Foam recognizes the importance of caring for the environment. Benchmark Foam was recognized in 2005 by the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources for our environmentally conscious operations.

In the manufacture of EPS, EPE and EPP, Benchmark Foam does not use CFCs, HFCs or hydrocarbon-based blowing agents. Benchmark Foam also offers a starch-based packing peanut that can be safely dissolved in water for environmentally sound disposal.

Benchmark Foam operates as an EPS recycling center for our customers and invites you to participate. Contact Benchmark Foam about our recycling program and procedures.



 **BENCHMARK FOAM INC.**

Quick response is our guarantee.

3200 9th Ave. SE • Watertown, SD 57201

Phone: 605-886-8084 • 800-658-3444 • Fax: 605-886-8099

www.BenchmarkFoam.com