

## Deringer-Ney Produces Complex Bridge Connector for Oticon's New SUMO™ Hearing Aid



Deringer-Ney and Oticon have jointly designed a multi-part Bridge Connector for Oticon's new SUMO<sup>®</sup> behind-the-ear hearing aid. The component combines a custom metal alloy, precision metal stamping, Kapton<sup>®</sup> and a molded encapsulant to yield an ultra-small connector. The Bridge Connector seals out contaminants to continue performing under harsh environmental conditions.

Oticon A/S of Hellerup, Denmark recently introduced the SUMO, which stands for 'Super Power Maximum Output.' The SUMO provides users with unmatched output power with less distortion and offers a dramatic increase in low frequency amplification. For many people low frequency is their only remaining area of residual hearing and the SUMO uses Output Optimization Technology to significantly improve hearing in this range. In addition, the new battery management system prolongs battery life and ensures consistent output performance throughout the battery lifetime. SUMO is extremely small and attractive, with a full range of interlocking accessories including an ear-level FM receiver. The accessories plug into the Bridge Connector produced by Deringer-Ney.

Deringer-Ney has four manufacturing locations and utilizes a number of unique capabilities to produce the component including custom alloy production, precision metal stamping, insert-molding and automated assembly operations. Production of the connector starts with Deringer-Ney's Paliney<sup>®</sup> 5 alloy. Paliney 5 is a combination of Palladium, Silver and Copper that minimizes precious metal content and cost, yet provides the electrical performance and corrosion resistance required in this demanding application.

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The Paliney 5 is fabricated and stamped into an ultra-small, precision component. Next the Kapton is applied to the metal using a proprietary process developed by Deringer-Ney to protect and seal the component. The final molding operation produces a two-end connector molded to extremely tight tolerances. In addition to providing extensive design assistance, Deringer-Ney is considered one of the few companies in the world that can provide the expertise and vertical integration necessary to develop and produce the SUMO Bridge Connector.

SUMO is a registered trademark of Oticon A/S. Kapton is a registered trademark of DuPont. Paliney is a registered trademark of Deringer-Ney Inc.

## ABOUT DERINGER-NEY

Deringer-Ney is a vertically integrated manufacturer of High Performance Alloys, Precision Metal Components, Precision Insert Molded Components and Part Assemblies. Typical products are Electrical Contacts & Rivets, Ultra-Small Metal and Plastic Components, Screw Machine Parts, Fine Wire and Films. Capabilities include Custom Alloy Development, Product Design and Development, Prototypes, Tooling Design and Build, Part PPAP, Fully Integrated Manufacturing and Project Management. Manufacturing processes include stamping, cold forming, machining, multi-slide forming, brazing, welding and insert molding. The markets we serve include Automotive, Electronics, Medical and Industrial. Deringer-Ney has sales representatives in North America, Europe and Asia. Deringer-Ney has four manufacturing locations - all are registered to ISO 9000 and the domestic facilities are registered to QS-9000.

## DERINGER-NEY MANUFACTURING FACILITIES

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