

Did You Know...

When you sneeze or need to blow your nose, chances are good that you will ask for a Kleenex, even if the box being handed to you doesn't bear Kimberly-Clark's distinctive Kleenex logo. When you use a brand name as a generic term, you're using a generic trademark. Trade names like Google, Xerox (if you're old enough), Tylenol, Jell-O, Band-Aid, and even Frisbee are some examples.

The same can be said of the elastomers used in our valves. Teflon[®], Neoprene[®], Hypalon[®] and Viton[®] are all registered trademarks of their respective manufacturers and formulations. Things can get confusing when someone uses the generic name or abbreviation instead of the more common "household" name for these materials. Or vice versa.

Below are some examples. Next to the chemical name is the ASTM (American Society for Testing Materials) abbreviation and then some trade names of each compound. The red highlighted ones are how they are often called out.

CHEMICAL NAME	ASTM D1418 ABBREVIATION	TRADE NAME(S)	OTHER COMMON TERMS
Chloroprene Rubber	CR	Neoprene[®] Baypren [®]	
Chlorosulfonated Polyethylene Rubber	CSM	Hypalon[®]	
Ethylene Propylene Diene Rubber	EPDM	Buna AP [®] Dutral [®] Epsyn [®] Keltan [®] Nordel [®] Polysar [®] Royalence [®]	EPT EP Terpolymer
Fluorocarbon Rubber	FKM	Viton[®] Fluorel [®] Noxtite [®] Tecnoflon [®] Dai EL [®]	
Acrylonitrile Rubber – Butadiene	NBR	Buna N [®] Breon [®] Butacril [®] Butakon [®] Chemigum [®] Europrene N [®] Hostaform [®] Hycar [®] Krynac [®] Nipol [®] Nitriflex [®] Paracril [®]	BUNA NITRILE
Polytetrafluoroethylene	PTFE	Teflon[®] Algoflon [®] Enflon [®] Fluon [®] Halón [®] Hostaflon [®]	TFE (incorrectly)

You might ask, "But what about Reinforced-Teflon?". Technically speaking, there is no such thing, since Teflon is a trademark of Chemours (formerly DuPont), and any modification would no longer be called Teflon. The correct terminology would be "Reinforced-Polytetraflouroethylene" or RPTFE, as stated in literature. It is also important to note that there are any number of ways that PTFE can be "reinforced"... with glass, carbon and/or graphite fillers. For instance, the Milwaukee Valve -03 seat is RPTFE (15% glass fillers) with additional carbon fillers. The NXT seat is another variation of PTFE, with additional fillers for increased strength.

Milwaukee Valve makes every effort to avoid identifying generic compounds as the trademarked compounds. We also make every effort to protect these trademarks, as well as our own. We urge specifying engineers to take appropriate care in spelling out trademarked compounds in their project specifications. For more information, please contact your [Milwaukee Valve](#) representative or regional manager.



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