



VESCONITE

BEARINGS

24370

PO Box 591242, San Antonio, TX 78259

VESCONITE PROVES ITSELF AGAIN AT THE DAKAR RALLY

The 2019 Dakar Rally was a grueling test of endurance for both driver and vehicle. In a race where finishing is an achievement itself, Colcar Racing Team had a competitive advantage. They used no-grease Vesconite Hilube in the suspensions of their Mercedes GLA Prototyp AMG and Can-Am Open UTV entries.

Vesconite Hilube is self-lubricating and excels in the extremely dirty, sandy and muddy environments the Dakar Rally presents—conditions that prematurely wore the nylon-molybdenum bushings Colcar Racing Team previously used. Easy to machine to tolerances of +/-0.001", Hilube won't deform under the massive loads of off-road racing conditions and can be used continuously up to 212° F in dry applications.

The use of Vesconite Hilube in Colcar Racing Team's vehicles builds on a growing record of the advanced polymer's use in the race. Unfortunately, the team's truck had an accident forcing it to withdraw, but its UTV entry won its category and finished 18th overall. Last year, they used the polymer in two trucks, one of which finished 23rd. After finishing 33rd in the 2017 event, the team went on to compete in two additional races that covered a distance equivalent to three Dakar Rallies—using the same Hilube bushings.

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"High-performance Vesconite Hilube bushings have once again triumphed over the grueling 3,478-mile Dakar Rally," said Leandro Panzini, general manager of Buenos Aires, Argentina-based Ves-Arg SRL. "In a passenger car, suspension bushings are important to maintain safe handling and ride comfort. But in the Dakar, where vehicles routinely travel 60 to 125 mph nonstop for hours at a time, they're critical to ensuring suspension and steering integrity and control." A video on the team's use of Hilube is at bit.ly/VesconiteDakar.

Since 2008, the Dakar Rally has been held in South America due to security threats in Mauritania. The 2019 race began on January 6 in Lima, Peru and finished 11 days and 3,478 miles later with only 53% of entrants able to complete the event. In 2020 the race will be held in Saudi Arabia.

Contact Vesconite, P.O. Box 591242, San Antonio, TX 78259. 713-574-7255. vesconite@vesconite.com; www.vesconite.com.