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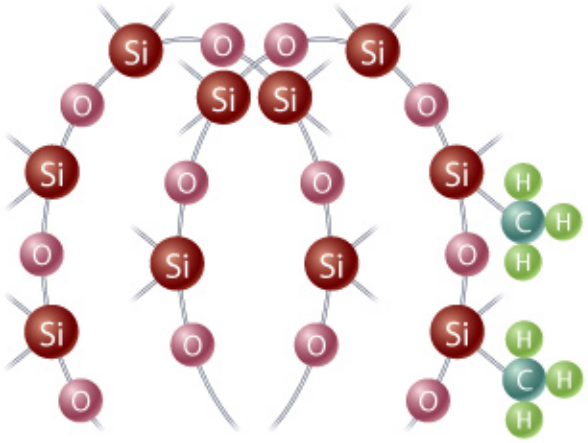
05 Features of silicone: Part 2

The molecular structure of dimethyl silicone, containing six Si–O bonds in a 360° helical twist, is highly flexible. The surface of a silicone polymer is covered by hydrophobic methyl groups (organic), and surface energy is low. This molecular structure is what gives silicones their unique properties, including cold-resistance, water-repellency, and easy release (non-adhesiveness); and their properties are largely temperature-independent.



Features attributable to molecular structure

- Water repellency
- Mold releasability
- Cold resistance
- Little temperature-dependence

FYI

The possibilities of silicones

The varied structures of silicone molecules are what give silicones their many distinctive features. Engineers have also developed blending technologies to add functionality, creating composite materials that combine the properties of silicones and other materials. Silicones can thus be used to create materials with greater functionality. As you can see, silicones are a family of advanced functional materials that offer nearly limitless possibilities.

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