

PowerPlastics Pool Covers manufacture an innovative range of pool cover solutions and is the oldest specialist pool cover manufacturer in South Africa. School and commercial pool owners are among our biggest customers. We continually refine our range to maximise water, power and chemical savings in order to shrink the overall carbon footprint of the pool and reduce pool operating costs. Numerous swimming professionals and water athletes favour pools covered by PowerPlastics Pool Covers and we have an excellent track record within the industry. Furthermore, because the water hygiene is improved when the pool is covered, chemical input can be reduced, resulting in a far less harsh training environment. Our products consistently stand out and we are known for our approach to covering large pools. We are experts in pool cover design and take care in recommending the correct materials and Rollup Stations. Our quality workmanship, cover longevity, perfect installations and on-going customer care are what keeps us at the top end of the market, with large pool covers being our speciality.

### Why cover a school or commercial pool? .....

For schools and managers of large high-traffic commercial pools, a pool cover has numerous benefits, including:

- **Heat generation and retention:** thermal covers raise the water temperature by 6 to 8°C, an ideal solution for those wanting a heated outdoor pool without the power overheads and environmental impact. On heated pools, a thermal cover reduces heat loss, making heat pumps more effective and allowing their settings to be lowered. This results in a far more cost effective heated pool that uses only the sun's energy to supplement the electrical heating system.
- **Save water:** evaporation is reduced by 98%, allowing for remarkable water savings and reducing the pool's water footprint.
- **Water hygiene:** dirt and debris are prevented from collecting in the pool, making the water cleaner which in turn lowers filtration times by 50% and less time is spent on pool maintenance.
- **Reduced chemical input:** in sunlight, chlorine naturally evaporates and is lost into the atmosphere. With a thermal cover, chlorine is contained in the water, works more efficiently and input can be reduced by up to 60%.
- **Professional training environments:** thermal covers make for a more professional training environment given the more stable water temperatures and improved water hygiene. Those training in unheated outdoor pools for competitive swimming and water sports can add eight weeks to their training season either side of summer when a thermal cover is applied.

### PowerPlastics Pool Covers' thermal range for large pools .....

- **EnergyGuard:** this eco-smart thermal cover is unique in that it offers all the benefits of a thermal cover but does not allow light to penetrate the water. This means that photosynthesis cannot occur thus inhibiting the growth of algae, offering savings in electricity and chemicals. EnergyGuard has a grey surface and black underside.  
**Lifespan:** workmanship and materials can be expected to last 6 to 7 years with correct care.
- **Sol+Guard:** the most affordable way to heat a pool using only solar energy. Sol+Guard adds up to 8°C to the water temperature and has excellent heat retention properties, protecting the water from overnight dips in temperature. The swimming season can be extended by 6 to 8 weeks with Sol+Guard. Available in light blue.  
**Lifespan:** workmanship and materials can be expected to last 6 to 7 years with correct care.
- **Thermal GeoBubble:** a cover traditionally used on domestic and larger pools, designed to raise the water temperature by 6 to 8°C using the sun's rays. It boosts heat retention, prevents evaporation and improves water hygiene by preventing dirt and debris collecting in the water. Available in blue.  
**Lifespan:** workmanship and materials can be expected to last 4 to 6 years with correct care.



*Thermal GeoBubble cover on school pool*



*Single lane thermal cover on school pool with Rollup Station accommodating starter blocks*



*Single lane thermal cover on gym pool with standard Mercury Rollup Station*

## Materials

The Sol+Guard GeoBubble and EnergyGuard GeoBubble covers are made from durable 500 microns polyethylene. The additives used combine weather and chemical resistant pigments with high performance light, weather and chemical stabilization, formulated for South African climate conditions.

Thermal GeoBubble is made from 400 micron polyethylene. (See right for more on the GeoBubble design specifications. >> )

## Rollup Stations for school and commercial pools

Given the size of covers normally fitted at schools and other large pools, a Rollup Station is always required as the covers will be too large for one person to remove it manually. The Rollup Station is secured to the paving via stainless steel anchor bolts and is fitted with castors so that they may be secured or removed as required for galas, water polo etc.

On large pools, the addition of a Rollup Station is vital to extend the lifespan of the pool cover. It prevents dragging of the cover over the paving around the pool, which causes abrasive wear and tear. A Rollup Station also serves as a neat and safe storage solution, protecting the cover from harsh sunlight and weathering by the natural elements when not on the pool. When removing the cover, a Rollup Station significantly reduces the amount of water lost.

Each cover will require an attachment kit and leading edge kit to secure the cover to the Rollup Station and to facilitate the closing of the cover over the pool. Reinforcing on both ends of the cover are required to secure the attachment kit and leading edge to the cover.

Rollup Stations stand 50cm high and are 50cm wider than the pool lane covered.

## Pools with starter blocks in place

PowerPlastics Pool Covers can accommodate starter blocks on school and gym pools.

Using a V-shaped frame, the winding mechanism and the pool cover are hosted on the back bar, while a parallel front bar extends over the starter blocks at a 45 degree angle, ensuring the cover comes into contact with only the water, not the pool's coping or the starter blocks. The design means that starter blocks do not have to be removed when using the Rollup Station and pool cover, and does away with the need to modify other Rollup Stations to suit starter blocks.

Aside from convenience and ease of use, this refined design significantly extends the lifespan of the cover as abrasive damage and wear and tear is avoided. Castor brakes keep the Rollup Station in place, and the entire frame is lightweight and easily movable by one person.

Water run-off, as the cover is rolled in, is reduced as the parallel bars means the cover leaves the water ahead of the pool's edge and water falls back into the pool, not on the coping and surrounds. On large pools, this notable water saving reduces operational overheads, especially where covers are deployed several times a day.

**Did you know?** A school pool 25m long by 12.5m wide with an average depth of 1.5m holds as much as 469,000 litres of water. In an average year in South Africa, the pool may lose as much as 312,000 litres of water through evaporation. A thermal cover reduces that loss by 98%.

To demonstrate the many benefits of thermal covers, PowerPlastics Pool Covers compiled a case study, conclusively demonstrating the water, power and chemical savings achievable with a thermal pool cover.

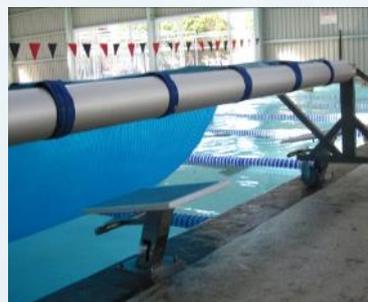
Download the case study from [www.powerplastics.co.za](http://www.powerplastics.co.za)

**GeoBubble** is the material used for all our thermal covers, 25% more resilient than a traditional thermal cover which then extends the lifespan and improves chemical and energy efficiencies instantly.



A GeoBubble is the shape of the bubble that performs significantly better in respect of heat retention. This new design brings overall superior performance to our thermal range and sets a new benchmark for heating pools naturally.

Chat to our sales consultants about converting your school or commercial pool's thermal cover to a GeoBubble cover.



Above: Single lane Rollup Station over starter blocks



Above: A-frame manual Mercury Rollup Station, can be sized to fit single or multiple lane covers on large pool. Easily movable, the frame is on castors and can be anchored to the paving.

## RollerBench - get extra functionality from your Rollup Station

This innovative design has been likened to the concept of a letterbox, making RollerBench our most compact manual Rollup Station yet. Favoured by gyms with lane covers, the design incorporates a durable fibreglass frame, under which the Rollup Station and its mechanisms sit and are completely concealed. Using a simple detachable winder, the cover is rolled in through the front slit running along the length of the unit, and when rolling out, one simply guides the cover over the pool using the leading edge ropes.

This innovative design effectively adds a handy bench seat and storage unit to the edge of the pool, creating a more aesthetically pleasing setting.



*RollerBench, the sturdy yet lightweight bench unit conceals the actual workings of the Rollup Station.*



### Frequently asked questions: school and commercial pool covers

- **My outdoor pool is in a particularly windy area. Will wind affect the cover?** In areas subject to frequent high winds, a thermal pool cover can be modified with wind protection measures to avoid the cover lifting, something that can result in abrasive damage to the cover and damage to the pool's surrounds. Wind protection can be fitted to the cover in the form of a wind protection skirt. Alternatively, the cover should be removed completely in high winds and stored safely.
- **What happens if one of the covers tears or is damaged?** They can be successfully repaired either on site (in the case of small tears) or in our factory for more complex repairs.
- **Can the pool cleaner unit operate under the pool cover?** Yes, it is perfectly safe to have the pool cleaner operating as usual under the cover.
- **The pool has starting blocks—can I still cover it?** Yes, where permanent starting blocks are in place, PowerPlastics Pool Covers supplies a specially designed Rollup Station to accommodate such starting blocks.
- **Will our staff be taught how to handle the cover?** Yes, it is highly recommended that ground staff are shown how to deploy and remove the cover. Staff and pupils who remove covers without training may damage and shorten the cover's lifespan. When the pool is open, the cover must be secured to the Rollup Station with the leading edge rope. When off the pool for long periods, it should be stored out of direct sunlight. We will assist with staff training upon installation.
- **Should the covers run across the length of the pool or the width?** Across the width has its advantages in as much as covers are then shorter but wider and thus easier to remove. However, this style requires more Rollup Stations and will not allow swimming along the length unless all the covers are removed. Covers installed across the width also prevent the use of lane ropes while the covers are on the water. Along the length may mean narrower covers but will allow training in individual lanes without removing all the covers and will also mean less Rollup Stations. We'll guide you through the best solution for your particular pool based on the nature of its use. Along the length is the more common approach.
- **Is a thermal cover a child safety cover?** No, a thermal cover offers no protection against drowning. Ask about our PowerPlastics Solid Safety Cover, the best cover choice for safeguarding children around a pool.
- **How do I care for my cover?** Please request a Thermal Cover User Guide from your sales consultant for all you need to know about cover care.

### Some of our school and gym customers

- ◆ Pretoria Boys High
- ◆ Bishops Diocesan College
- ◆ Sweet Valley Junior School
- ◆ Muizenberg Junior School
- ◆ Sun Valley Primary
- ◆ Wynberg Girls
- ◆ Reddam
- ◆ The German School
- ◆ Elkana High
- ◆ Rustenberg Girls High School
- ◆ SACS
- ◆ Potchefstroom University
- ◆ Klerksdorp Municipal pool
- ◆ Saldanha Bay Naval Base
- ◆ Rondebosch Boys High
- ◆ St. Benedicts
- ◆ St. Theresa's
- ◆ Planet Fitness Jhb
- ◆ Fox Fitness
- ◆ Virgin Active Steenberg
- ◆ Virgin Active Windhoek
- ◆ Virgin Active Humewood
- ◆ Virgin Active Randburg
- ◆ Virgin Active Broad Acres
- ◆ Virgin Active Vodaworld
- ◆ Virgin Active Loriane
- ◆ Virgin Active Constantia
- ◆ Virgin Active Paarl
- ◆ Virgin Active Table View
- ◆ Virgin Active Tygervalley
- ◆ Virgin Active Benoni
- ◆ Virgin Active Gateway
- ◆ Virgin Active Maponya Mall
- ◆ Virgin Active Somerset West
- ◆ Virgin Active Foreshore
- ◆ Virgin Active George

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