

State-of-the-art biocides for the sustainable optimization of paints and coatings

Leverkusen – Specialty chemicals company LANXESS – one of the world's leading manufacturers of biocidal active ingredients and biocide formulations – recently started using a new formulation method for algicides in paints. This new method delivers added benefits for algicidal formulations. Several tests showed that it reduced active ingredient leaching from paints caused by rain by over 50 percent compared to conventional algicides. By improving leaching behavior, the method extends the lifetime of facade coatings and can reduce the amount of active ingredient required.

In many European countries, architects and construction companies are legally obligated to deliver defect-free buildings, which means they need to protect building surfaces from microbial coverage for a certain period of time. In many cases, biocides are indispensable as a means of significantly extending the lifespan of facade coatings and satisfying the ever burgeoning demands of the construction sector. Nonetheless, their effectiveness slowly decreases over time.

Researchers in the Material Protection Products (MPP) business unit of LANXESS have now succeeded in using cutting-edge “slow-release technology” to develop a new algicidal product formulation that exhibits a far better active ingredient retention rate in the color matrix than standard dry-film preservation products. Widely accepted test methods have verified the resultant benefits. For example, far lower quantities of the active ingredient can deliver results that are comparable with those achieved using a product based on conventional formulation methods. In many examples, just half or even a third of the original dose is needed to deliver effective surface protection against algae growth. Nicolas Gallacier, Product Manager Paints and Coatings in the Biocides business line at MPP, underlines the cost-effectiveness: “If we stick with the original dose, the service life of the coating can be significantly extended.” Dr. Frank Sauer, Manager Regulatory Affairs at MPP, continues: “The slow-release

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technology simultaneously improves ecotoxicological properties in relation to the EC50 value. That means its behavior in the environmental compartment under consideration has been significantly improved without compromising microbicidal efficacy at the point where film protection agents are actually needed, i.e. the surface of the facade.”

Presentation at the European Coatings Show

MPP is presenting its biocidal active ingredients and biocide formulations at the European Coatings Show, which is taking place in Nuremberg, Germany, from March 19 to 21, 2013.

At the European Coatings Congress, Sauer will deliver a 30-minute talk on cutting-edge biocides from LANXESS at 11:30 a.m. on March 19, 2013. The title of his presentation is “Squaring the circle: Full potential of biocides in place needed - sound behavior in environment”.

The LANXESS Inorganic Pigments, Functional Chemicals and MPP business units are participating in the leading trade fair, the European Coatings Show. The company's presentation spans a broad portfolio including the high-performance pigments from the lightfast, weather-stable and chemical-resistant Bayferrox and Colortherm lines, the organic and inorganic pigment preparations Levanyl and Levanox, the extensive Preventol range of biocides and the phosphorus-based halogen-free flame-retardant additives Levagard and Disflamoll.

LANXESS is a leading specialty chemicals company with sales of EUR 8.8 billion in 2011 and currently around 17,100 employees in 31 countries. The company is currently represented at 48 production sites worldwide. The core business of LANXESS is the development, manufacturing and marketing of plastics, rubber, intermediates and specialty chemicals. LANXESS is a member of the leading sustainable indices Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) World and FTSE4Good as well as the Carbon Disclosure Leadership Index (CDLI).

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Forward-Looking Statements.

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Information for editors:

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You can find further information concerning LANXESS chemistry in our WebMagazine at <http://webmagazine.lanxess.com>.

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