

LANXESS' new water-based Aquaderm X-Pigments Performance meets sustainability

Cologne – Specialty chemicals producer LANXESS has developed a new water-based pigment range for the finishing of leather. The defining features are premium-level leather appearance and brilliancy combined with the satisfaction of a wide range of essential environmental and safety requirements. Offered under the brand name Aquaderm X-Pigments, the products deliver state-of-the-art performance characteristics while meeting all current demands for future-oriented finishing.

Ultimately, the process step of finishing gives leather its beautiful color, its brilliance and its unique appearance. A strong demand for top-level leather products to create articles of the highest quality has to go along with innovative solutions to comply with challenging environmental regulations and specific industry requirements regarding eco-efficiency and consumer safety.

Aquaderm X-Pigments have been designed for all kinds of premium leather applications where a very high standard of finishing quality is required, e.g. in the automotive segment. On the basis of carefully selected raw materials, excellent light fastness, heat and migration resistance, brilliancy and exact dosing properties can be achieved with the pigments. Besides that, finishers benefit from their reliable product consistency, which is extremely important to ensure consistent color reproducibility.

Improved sustainability

Another decisive strength of these organic pigments is the improved sustainability profile of the advanced water-based pigment range. The entire product range consists of solvent-free pigment dispersions featuring very fine particles and only a low polymer binder content. Furthermore, all products are casein-free and do not contain any emulsifiers, brightening agents or other additives capable of causing

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migration. According to current RSL, REACH and GDSL obligations, the new Aquaderm X-Pigments meet all important criteria which means they are free of VOC, heavy metals, chrome VI, formaldehyde and phthalate.

The Leather business unit is part of LANXESS' Performance Chemicals segment, which achieved total sales of EUR 2.13 billion in fiscal 2013.

LANXESS is a leading specialty chemicals company with sales of EUR 8.3 billion in 2013 and roughly 17,000 employees in 31 countries. The company is currently represented at 52 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 sustainability indices Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI World and DJSI Europe) and FTSE4Good as well as CDP's Climate Disclosure Leadership Index (CDLI).

Cologne,	May 19, 2014
mfg	(2014-00053e)

Forward-Looking Statements.

This news release may contain forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by LANXESS AG management. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors could lead to material differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development or performance of the company and the estimates given here. The company assumes no liability whatsoever to update these forward-looking statements or to conform them to future events or developments.

Information for editors:

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

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