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New additive line of bio-based polyesters

Additive solutions to expand the range of applications of bio-based polyesters

Mannheim, Germany – The new product line under the trade name BioAdimide™ of the Rhein Chemie's Engineering Plastics Division enables the production of renewable, bio-based polymers for durable applications with a lower environmental impact.

BioAdimide™ additives are specially suited to improve the hydrolysis resistance of bio-based polyester, specifically polylactide (PLA), and to expand its range of applications. Currently, there are two BioAdimide™ grades available. The BioAdimide™ 100 grade improves the hydrolytic stability up to seven times that of an unstabilized grade, thereby helping to increase the service life of the polymer. In addition to providing hydrolytic stability, BioAdimide™ 500 XT acts as a chain extender that can increase the melt viscosity of an extruded PLA 20 – 30 percent compared to an unstabilized grade, allowing for consistent and easier processing.

The two grades can also be combined, providing both hydrolysis stabilization and improved processing, for an even broader reach of applications.

The BioAdimide™ line comes out of Engineering Plastics's Global Product Development Group that has been researching plastics additives for more than 25 years, and continues to explore new areas of polymer stabilization development to meet the market's growing demands.

Rhein Chemie's Engineering Plastics Division has already introduced its new line of plastic additives at this year's Bioplastics Compounding & Processing international conference in Miami, Florida, on March 29 and 30.

Learn more about BioAdmide™: www.bioadimide.com

About Engineering Plastics Division

Additives from the Engineering Plastics Division are used to protect polymers from hydrolysis and the premature aging associated with this process. The company's product portfolio also includes catalysts and activators for the manufacture of cast nylon and modifiers that improve the impact resistance of polyamides. In addition, highly developed catalysts, crosslinking agents and stabilizers from Rhein Chemie are used in the manufacture of flexible and rigid polyurethane foams.

About Rhein Chemie

Rhein Chemie is a chemicals company that has had a successful track record in customized additives and service products stretching back over 100 years. The approximately 800-strong workforce develops, produces and sells products for various sectors of the rubber, lubricant and plastics industries worldwide. The company is headquartered in Mannheim-Rheinau, Germany and has production facilities in Europe, Asia and North and South America. Rhein Chemie is a wholly owned subsidiary of the LANXESS Group, Leverkusen, Germany.

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Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by the management of Rhein Chemie Rheinau GmbH. 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 our sole stockholder LANXESS Deutschland GmbH and the estimates given here. These factors include those discussed in LANXESS AG's reports to the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. LANXESS AG and Rhein Chemie Rheinau GmbH assume no liability whatsoever to update these forward-looking statements or to conform them to future events or developments.