

Rhein Chemie Rheinau GmbH

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Hycasyl™: Expanding the performance of polyurethane adhesives

Rhein Chemie launched new product

Mannheim – Rhein Chemie’s Engineering Plastics Division is introducing a family of stabilizers under the new Hycasyl™ name which improve the performance of many types of polyurethane adhesives.

With more than 45 years of experience in polyurethane and plastics additives research and development, Rhein Chemie has developed the Hycasyl™ family of hydrolysis stabilizers to prolong the performance life of many types of polyurethane adhesives, particularly in the flexible packaging, electrical, electronics, and shoe sole markets. The new stabilizers are especially useful for higher temperature and moisture applications, where they have demonstrated in lab tests up to 13 times longer adhesive life and up to twice the adhesive strength of unstabilized adhesives.

“One of the key benefits Hycasyl™ stabilizers offer formulators is the opportunity to enter new markets,” said Bruce Ernst, Global Head of Sales & Marketing for Rhein Chemie’s Engineering Plastics Division. “Not only can they extend the performance range of high-performance adhesives, they can also allow formulators to push medium-performance adhesives into more demanding higher-performance applications – in a cost-effective way.”

Currently, Rhein Chemie offers four Hycasyl™ grades covering a range of temperature, solubility and application conditions: Hycasyl™ 500, Hycasyl™ 100, Hycasyl™ 1001, Hycasyl™ 510. The choice of product is dependent on the end-

use market, processing conditions and polymer backbone type. The new family comes out of Rhein Chemie's Global Product Development group that continues to explore new areas of stabilizer development. Through the continual pursuit of new product development and differentiation, Rhein Chemie aims to push further into the globally expanding CASE markets.

About Engineering Plastics Division

Additives from the Engineering Plastics Division are used to protect polymers in humid environments 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 which has 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.

Mannheim, October 5, 2010

sch (2010-10-807 EN)

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Forward-Looking Statements

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