Since January 2020 Elsevier has created a COVID-19 resource centre with free information in English and Mandarin on the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The COVID-19 resource centre is hosted on Elsevier Connect, the company's public news and information website.

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the company’s existing wide portfolio of PU additives, including silicone surfactants, silicone performance additives and release agents, developed over decades of collaboration with the PU industry. ‘We continue to expand our industry-leading portfolio of polyurethane additives, combining unrivalled polyurethane knowledge, technical customer support capabilities, and the strongest silicone chemistry history in the industry’, remarks Justin Weare, North America marketing manager for Polyurethane Additives at Dow.

In related news, Dow has appointed Univar Solutions as a distributor of its Vorasurf family of silicone PU additives across North America. This new partnership will allow North American customers to benefit from Dow’s product development, technical support and manufacturing experience in the field of PU materials and silicones, the company says.

Elsewhere, Dow and Johnson Matthey have granted a technology licence to Chinese company Zibo Qixiang Tengda Chemical Company to use their LP OxoSM Technology to produce isononyl alcohol (INA) at a new 200 000 tonnes/year manufacturing facility under construction in Zibo City. Among other applications, INA is used in the production of diisononyl phthalate, diisononyl adipate and triisononyl trimellitate plasticizers.

Dow operates 109 manufacturing sites in 31 countries and employs some 36 500 people. It generated sales of about US$43 billion in 2019.

More information: www.dow.com

Tests confirm antiviral properties of selected Sanitized additives on polymer surfaces

Swiss antimicrobials producer Sanitized AG reports that tests conducted at independent laboratories in accordance with ISO 21702:2019 have confirmed that several of its products are effective against viruses on non-porous polymer surfaces. The antiviral efficacy was confirmed in various polymer carriers, the company says. Tests were performed using a feline coronavirus with structures and mechanisms similar to the SARS-CoV-2 novel coronavirus responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sanitized additives are ‘the perfect tool’ for an antiviral and antibacterial treatment of different polymer types that play a central role in healthcare applications, technical applications, mattress protectors, public transportation, food industry or everyday necessities, the company says, noting the importance of comprehensive hygiene management in combatting the coronavirus crisis. However, it explains that viral tests must be performed on treated articles in specialized laboratories before any product’s antiviral properties can be claimed. In addition to this standard procedure, compliance with local legal regulations is also essential, Sanitized points out.

Earlier impartial testing (in accordance with ISO 18184:2019) using the same model feline coronavirus also confirmed that the company’s Sanitized T 99-19 and Sanitized T 11-15 products are effective at reducing the viral load on polyester fabrics by up to 99%, the company reports. Patented technology featuring an ammonium silicate compound is employed in Sanitized T 99-19 while Sanitized T 11-15 is based on tried and tested silver technology, according to the company. These additives are ideal for the antimicrobial treatment of face masks, protective professional medical clothing, bed linens and mattresses, Sanitized says.

Located in Burgdorf, Switzerland, Sanitized has been developing and manufacturing antimicrobial additives for polymers and textiles for more than 80 years. It offers its active ingredients in powder, liquid, masterbatch and paste formats, depending on the specific production engineering requirements.

More information: www.sanitized.com

Clariant additives for biopolymers gain certification for industrial compostability

Several of Clariant’s bio-based processing and dispersing additives for biopolymers have received industrial compostability certification. Test and certification body TÜV Austria Cert GmbH awarded the OK compost INDUSTRIAL certificate to the Licocare® RBW Vita range, Licolub® FA 1 and Licowax® C. In addition, Licocare RBW 102 Vita received the OK biodegradable SOIL label, which is a key attribute for agricultural applications, Clariant says. The certifications will support the development of industrially compostable plastics and biodegradable coatings for agriculture, according to the company.