# QUALITY PERFORMS.

# Versatile hydrolysis stabilization

Stabaxol®





# THE SOLUTION TO HYDROLYSIS PROBLEMS

#### Highly effective hydrolysis stabilization

Stabilizers, which extend the service life of plastics and polyurethanes, are often the key components that enable the use of these materials in critical applications.

#### The problem

Products that are produced by polycondensation or that contain polycondensation products generally display a weakness when attacked by water or moisture, particularly at elevated temperatures. The degradation or breakdown of polymers by water and acids is known as hydrolysis.

In hydrolysis, the ester molecule of the polymer is cleaved by the action of water to produce a carboxylic acid and an alcohol. Once initiated, this process accelerates autocatalytically and, in the absence of Stabaxol<sup>®</sup>, results in complete breakdown.

 $R_1OOC-R_2-COOR_3 + H_2O \longrightarrow R_1OOC-R_2-COOH+R_3-OH$ 

#### The solution

Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> has a worldwide reputation as the most effective antihydrolysis agent for many polymers, including PU, PET, PBT, TPU, TPE-E and EVA.

Polymers containing Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> usually show a threefold increase in service life. When Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> reacts with the cleaved products, carboxylic acid or water, it creates urea compounds that have no negative impact on the stabilized material.





# ENHANCED MATERIAL QUALITY

#### Wide range of applications

The extended service life brought about by Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> provides a decisive competitive edge and opens up new applications in higher-quality market segments. The following examples illustrate the effectiveness and versatility of Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> in PU, TPU, TPE-E and PET applications.

#### Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> in PU

Polyurethane elastomers are high-molecular-weight organic materials that are manufactured by the polyaddition process. Depending on the starting materials, a large variety of different polyurethane elastomers can be obtained.

They are used whenever a high degree of wear resistance is demanded. This property is required in particular in caterpillar treads for construction, forestry and agricultural machinery, in roll covers for the paper and printing industry, and also in wheels and rollers for the transport industry.

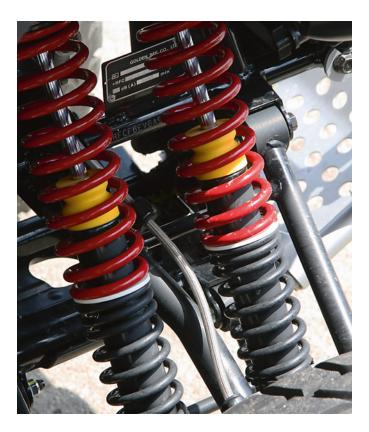
Thanks to their particular vibration-damping properties, polyester-based cellular PU elastomers are used as auxiliary suspension springs in virtually all kinds of vehicles. Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> is used to prevent premature failure of the auxiliary springs due to aging, thus increasing the service life of the complete suspension strut.

Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> is highly effective in improving the hydrolysis resistance of polyurethane-based adhesives. Stabilized hot-melt adhesives, for example, are used for the adhesive bonding of shoe soles, thereby reducing the risk of complaints arising from premature detachment of the outsole as a result of hydrolysis. Further applications include adhesives for seals.

#### Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> in TPU

Thermoplastic polyurethanes (TPU) are well-established as high-quality materials in the shoe industry. Hydrolysis resistance is required in particular for walking and safety shoes and for ski and snowboard boots.

Thanks to its liquid form, Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> P 200 can be easily incorporated into the polyol and provides long-lasting hydrolysis stabilization. Depending on processing conditions, Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> I LF, Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> L, Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> P or Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> masterbatches may also be used.



# ENHANCED MATERIAL QUALITY

### Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> in TPE-E

Thermoplastic polyester elastomers are elastomers that combine the flexibility of rubber with the strength of modern thermoplastics.

Thermoplastic ester elastomers are widely used in cable applications. Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> can offset their susceptibility to hydrolysis. Special Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> masterbatches have been developed for use in polyether/ester and polyester/ester copolymers.



#### Stabaxol® in PET monofilaments

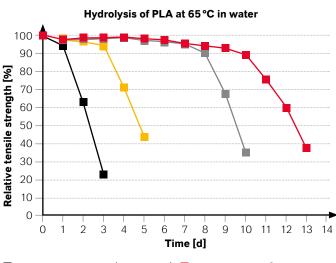
Drying screens made of woven plastic filaments needed for papermaking, which are used in aqueous media at temperatures of around 100 °C, are subject to hydrolytic degradation.

The PET monofilaments used for this purpose often do not completely meet the stringent hydrolysis stability requirements for such applications. Adding Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> to PET can counteract such degradation and improve the service life considerably compared to unstabilized grades.

In addition to the cost savings for the screens themselves, the distinct reduction in downtime and replacement time for screen changes also has a positive impact on operating costs.

#### Stabaxol® in bio-based polyesters

In recent years, more and more bio-based polymers entered into the 3rd generation of bioplastics targeting durable applications e.g. automotive interiors, electronic products or the fiber industry, and PLA (Polylactic acid) is currently the most common biobased material. However, PLA still faces the deficiencies of low melt stability and limited hydrolysis resistance, the latter causing failure in long-term durability tests. Studies using LANXESS Stabaxol® stabilizers have shown that both insufficient melt and hydrolysis stability can be improved. The newly-designed Stabaxol® P 110 improves the hydrolytic stability up to several times even using lower dosage rates and increases the molecular mass within a well-defined range while the polydispersity of PLA does not broaden. The higher molecular mass leads to decreased melt volume rate (20 – 30 % compared to a 1 x extruded, non-stabilized grade) allowing for consistent and easier processing.





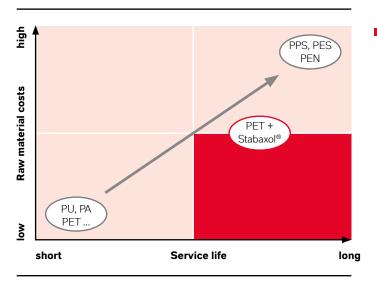




# **OPTIMIZING** ECONOMIC VIABILITY

#### Performance advantages add value

Using Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> improves the cost/benefit ratio in wellestablished applications. Considerable raw material-related cost advantages may also be achieved in applications that normally require more expensive materials (e.g. high-performance plastics such as PPS).



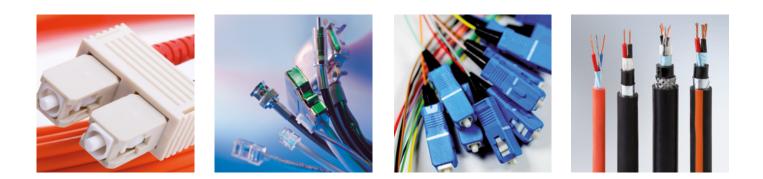
### Cost/benefit ratio of using Stabaxol®

#### **Expertise from the specialist**

#### More than 30 years' experience

LANXESS's Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> product range has a leading position in the worldwide market for hydrolysis stabilization.

- A large range of quality products based on the most varied active ingredients and masterbatches
- Development of Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> masterbatches tailored to customer requirements
- Extensive processing know-how from years of experience of producing masterbatches
- Analytical expertise to evaluate the use of Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> in customer applications
- Fully equipped laboratories in Germany, the United States and China



# APPLICATIONS OF STABAXOL® OVERVIEW

The appropriate grade of Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> is determined by the target polymer and what is required of the finished product.

#### PET

Fibers, films, screens, filters

#### PBT

Sheathing for optical fibers, injection-molded articles for electrical/electronic applications

### PLA

Automotive, electronics, appliances, construction, bath and office equipment

### PA

Monofilaments, industrial injection moldings, tubes, containers

#### TPE-E

Cable sheathing, industrial injection moldings

### TPU

Cable sheathing (automotive), shoe systems, injection molding (electrical/electronic), sealings

### PU

PU hot/cold casting systems (automotive auxiliary springs, Vulkollan® applications), ester flexible foam, rollers

#### **PU Rubber**

Rollers, drive belts, membranes, seals









# VERSATILE HYDROLYSIS STABILIZATION

## Stabaxol® application

| Product                 | Application | IS  |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----|-----|----|----|-----------|-----|-------|-----|
| Active ingredients      | PET         | PBT | PLA | PU | PA | PU rubber | TPU | TPE-E | EVA |
| Stabaxol® I             |             |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
| Stabaxol® I LF          |             |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
| Stabaxol® L             |             |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
| Stabaxol® P             |             |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
| Stabaxol® P LF          |             |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
| Stabaxol® P 100         |             |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
| Stabaxol® P 110         |             |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
| Stabaxol® P 200         |             |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
| Masterbatches (standard | grades)     |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
| Stabaxol® KE 7646       |             |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
| Stabaxol® MB PET 3040   |             |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |
| Stabaxol® MB TPE 6030   |             |     |     |    |    |           |     |       |     |

### Stabaxol<sup>®</sup> description

| Product                              | Chemical name   | Appearance,<br>supply form                      | Melting<br>range in °C         | Carbodiimide content                                      | Dosage level  |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Active ingredients                   |   |   |                                |   |   |
| Stabaxol® I<br>Stabaxol® I LF        | Monomeric carbodiimide                                      | Pale yellowish<br>crystalline melt<br>or powder | Approx.<br>45-50               | min. 10%  | Addition approx. 1 part by weight per 100 parts<br>by weight polyester polyol; in TPU approx. 1.0-2.0<br>parts by weight during extrusion.            |
| Stabaxol <sup>®</sup> L              | Monomeric carbodiimide                                      | liquid or<br>solidified melt                    | Approx.<br>40-50               | min. 8.0 %  | Addition approx. 1 part by weight per 100 part by weight polyester polyol; TPU approx. 1.0-2.0 parts by weight during extrusion.                      |
| Stabaxol <sup>®</sup> P              | Polymeric carbodiimide                                      | Pale yellowish<br>powder/pellets                | Approx.<br>50-60               | min. 12.5%  | Addition approx. 0.5-2.5 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of finished product  |
| Stabaxol® P LF                       | Polymeric carbodiimide                                      | Pale yellowish<br>powder/pellets                | Approx.<br>60-70               | min. 13.0%<br>(for pellets)<br>min. 12.5%<br>(for powder) | Addition approx. 0.5-2.5 parts by weight per 100 part by weight of finished product   |
| Stabaxol <sup>®</sup> P 100          | High molecular weight<br>Polymeric carbodiimide             | Pale yellowish<br>powder/pellets                | Approx.<br>75-85               | min. 13%  | Addition approx. 1.5-2.5 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of finished product  |
| Stabaxol <sup>®</sup> P 110          | Polymeric carbodiimide                                      | Pale yellowish<br>powder/pellets                | Approx.<br>60-70               | min. 12.5%  | Addition approx. 0.5-2.5 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of finished product  |
| Stabaxol <sup>®</sup> P 200          | Polymeric carbodiimide                                      | Pale yellowish powder/pellets                   | Freezing<br>point<br>approx. 5 | min. 6%   | Addition approx. 1.0-4.0 parts by weight of<br>Stabaxol® P 200 per 100 parts by weight of the<br>polyol component of the PU system used               |
| Masterbatches (sta                   | indard grades)  |   |                                |   |   |
| Stabaxol® KE 7646                    | Polymeric carbodiimide<br>15% in PET                        | Yellowish<br>cylindrical<br>granules            | Approx.<br>260-275             |   | Addition approx. 10-20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight PET. This corresponds to an active ingredient content of approx. 1.5-3.0 wt% Stabaxol® |
| Stabaxol <sup>®</sup> MB<br>PET 3040 | Polymeric carbodiimide,<br>15 wt% in PET                    | Yellowish<br>cylindrical<br>granules            | Approx.<br>260-275             |   | Addition approx. 10-20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight PET. This corresponds to an active ingredient of approx. 1.5-3.0 wt% Stabaxol®         |
| Stabaxol <sup>®</sup> MB<br>TPE 6030 | Polymeric carbodiimide,<br>20 wt% in TPE-E<br>(Hytrel-Type) | Yellowish cylin-<br>drical granules             | Approx.<br>150-225             |   | Addition approx. 10-20 parts by weight per 100<br>parts by weight TPE-E. This corresponds to an<br>active ingredient of approx. 2.0-4.0 wt% Stabaxol® |



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Unless specified to the contrary, the values given have been established on standardized test specimens. The figures should be regarded as guide values only and not as binding minimum values. Kindly note that the results refer exclusively to the specimens tested. Under certain conditions, the test results established can be affected to a considerable extent by the processing conditions and manufacturing process.

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