LANXESS at the ACLE 2009 in Shanghai, September 2–4, Hall W2, Stand D03

Modern tanning materials and finishing agents for environment-friendly and cost-effective technologies

Leverkusen – Specialty chemicals group LANXESS is exhibiting a comprehensive range of products for the leather industry at the All China Leather Exhibition (ACLE) in Shanghai, China, on September 2–4, 2009. Jürgen Hackenbroich, head of the Asia Pacific region in the Leather business unit, comments: “The focus of our presentation at this year’s fair is on premium products and on environment-friendly technologies for ‘ECO’ products. This means production processes that are energy-saving, conserve resources and minimize both the amount of waste generated and the use of critical substances during leather manufacturing.”

Levotan LB reinforces LANXESS’s role as one of the leading suppliers of softening polymer tanning materials, which are increasingly replacing between 55–75 percent of the fatliquor offer because of their technical and ecological advantages. New, versatile Levotan LB permits the cost-effective production of shoe and upholstery leather that are lighter, fluffier and softer than conventional fatliquored leather but nevertheless very durable.

Retingan R12 is a dicyandiamide-based resin tanning material with good selective filling properties in particular for loosely structured parts of the hide. It can be combined with conventional synthetic and vegetable tanning materials, giving leather with a fine, smooth grain.

Tanigan CF liquid was developed specifically for the manufacture of wet white leather. It improves the tightness of loosely structured raw material to a level that is not possible with conventional syntans. The product has an excellent grain-tightening effect and good filling properties and gives a firm, smooth and very flat grain even on articles that are dry-drummed.
for prolonged periods. All this makes Tanigan CF liquid the ideal syntan for the production of both smooth and embossed leather.

New Tanigan VR combines all the advantages of modern chemistry with those of a vegetable tanning material. Because of its extremely well-balanced property profile, Tanigan VR can be used to replace some or even all of the vegetable tanning materials in the retannage, depending upon the raw material quality. Compared with certain vegetable tanning materials, this sulfone-based synthetic organic tanning material has outstanding heat resistance and lightfastness properties and a pale, neutral color giving a brilliant dyeing. It also gives excellent filling and embossing characteristics.

Aquaderm XL 100 EXP 2008 and Aquaderm XL DI 100 EXP 2009 are VOC (volatile organic compound)-free isocyanate crosslinking agents for top coat formulations. Used in combination with polyurethane and acrylic dispersions, they give excellent physical fastness properties such as are required in particular by the automotive industry.
Aquaderm XL 100 EXP 2008 is used in “hotpot” systems, i.e. it is added directly to the top coat, whereas Aquaderm XL DI 100 EXP 2009 was developed specifically for the “inline activation” process. Both new crosslinking agents give leather with outstanding physical fastness properties and optimal VOC values.

Bayderm X-tra Finish TV is an NMP-free, medium-hard, aliphatic polyurethane dispersion with good flow-out and high elasticity for glossy top coats. The product has good lightfastness, good resistance to heat yellowing and excellent physical fastness properties, e.g. good wet and dry rub fastness and water drop resistance. Leather finished with Bayderm X-tra Finish TV has a natural appearance, a pleasant feel and a brilliant gloss.

The silica-free acrylic dispersion Opti-Matt™ A-2000 is based on an innovative matting technology. Leather made with this product has good wet rub fastness and flex resistance, a pleasant feel, good depth of color, lightfastness and reduced repolishing properties.
Opti-Matt™ UD-4 is a combination of a modern organic dulling agent with a high-performance silica in an aliphatic polyurethane dispersion. It can be used together with polyurethane or acrylic binders and permits the production of very dull finishes. The low tackiness of the film means that the leather can be stacked immediately after spraying. Further advantages are reduced repolishing properties, a more uniform surface appearance and an extremely pleasant feel.

For further information go to http://www.lanxessleather.com.

LANXESS is a leading specialty chemicals company with sales of EUR 6.58 billion in 2008 and currently 14,335 employees in 23 countries. The company is represented at 44 production sites worldwide. The core business of LANXESS is the development, manufacturing and marketing of plastics, rubber, intermediates and specialty chemicals.

Leverkusen, August 24, 2009
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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:
100 years of synthetic rubber – interesting information about the anniversary and the numerous areas of application can be found at http://worldrubberday.com.

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

All LANXESS news releases and accompanying photo, video and audio material can be found at http://press.lanxess.com.