

PRESS RELEASE

Number 3

European Coatings Show 2019

WACKER Presents Dispersible Polymer Powders for Biocide-Free Wall Paints

Munich/Nuremberg, February 6, 2019 – WACKER, the Munich-based chemical company, will be introducing its new NEXIVA® product line at this year's European Coatings Show. Thanks to these dispersible polymer powders, manufacturers can now produce interior wall paints in powder form. The technology does not require the addition of biocides and offers key advantages when it comes to storing and transporting paints. The 2019 European Coatings Show will be held in Nuremberg, Germany, March 19 – 21.

Most wall paints are produced using water-based binders or raw materials. When used in paints, however, water provides a favorable environment for microbes and bacteria. In order to kill these organisms, the paints are typically formulated with biocides to make them last longer. According to the German Paint and Printing Inks Industry Association, one in four buckets of paint will spoil unless preservatives are added. That translates to eleven million buckets per year, at a cost of €470 million.¹ There is a problem with biocide use, however: once the paint has been applied to the wall and begins to

¹ German-language website only: <http://www.wirsindfarbe.de/presse/lacke-farben-aktuell/farben-brauchen-schutz/>

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dry, liquid components evaporate, allowing biocides to escape into the air. In some people, biocides can trigger allergic reactions upon inhalation or skin contact.

By developing NEXIVA®, WACKER has now created a technology for the production of biocide-free paints. At the 2019 European Coatings Show, the Munich chemical group will present a product line based on spray-dried polymeric binders suitable for producing interior wall paints in either liquid or powder form. Paint manufacturers can use NEXIVA® to create individual paint formulations, just as they can with traditional binders in dispersion form.

Powder paints remain stable, even without the addition of preservatives. Water for redispersing the paints is not added until just prior to application, thus eliminating the need for adding biocides during production. As the paint dries, all that evaporates is water. Thanks to the polymers, the paint adheres well and has good spreading properties. In addition, paints are easier to transport and store when they are in powder form, as they weigh less, for instance, and can be packaged differently from liquid paints. Unlike traditional wall paints, powdered versions do not freeze in the cold, nor do they thicken when exposed to heat.

WACKER will be unveiling the first products from its new NEXIVA® line over the course of 2019.

New at ECS 2019: the WACKER Forum

WACKER will be devoting a total of 240 square meters of floor space to solutions for paints, coatings, construction and adhesives applications at the 2019 European Coatings Show. More than 70 experts will be on hand at Booth 1-510 in Hall 1 to discuss the products and their applications with interested parties. Making a new appearance this year will be the WACKER Forum, right beside the main booth. Here, 30-minute presentations aimed at an international specialist audience will be held on technology, trends and innovations under the motto "Let's talk about..." More information about the program of presentations at the WACKER Forum can be found at www.wacker.com/ECS2019.

About WACKER POLYMERS

WACKER can look back at over 80 years' experience in the manufacture of polymer binders. Today, WACKER POLYMERS is a leading producer of state-of-the-art binders and polymeric additives based on polyvinyl acetate and vinyl acetate copolymers. These take the form of dispersible polymer powders, dispersions, solid resins, and solutions. The products are used in construction chemicals, paints, surface coatings, adhesives and nonwovens, as well as in fiber composites and polymeric materials based on renewable resources. WACKER operates production sites for polymer binders in Germany, China, South Korea and the USA, as well as a global sales network and technical centers in all major regions.

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A WACKER lab assistant adds pigments to a dispersible polymer powder. (Photo: Wacker Chemie AG)



Paint containing NEXIVA® in powder form (left) and redispersed with water (right). (Photo: Wacker Chemie AG)

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A WACKER lab assistant checks the hiding power of paint.

(Photo: Wacker Chemie AG)



The new NEXIVA® product line can be used to make powder-form interior wall paints. (Photo: Wacker Chemie AG)

Note:

These photos are available for download at:

<http://www.wacker.com/pressreleases>

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The company in brief:

WACKER is a globally-active chemical company with some 13,800 employees and annual sales of around €4.9 billion (2017). WACKER has a global network of 23 production sites, 21 technical competence centers and 50 sales offices.

WACKER SILICONES

Silicone fluids, emulsions, rubber grades and resins; silanes; pyrogenic silicas; thermoplastic silicone elastomers

WACKER POLYMERS

Polyvinyl acetates and vinyl acetate copolymers and terpolymers in the form of dispersible polymer powders, dispersions, solid resins and solutions

WACKER BIOSOLUTIONS

Biotech products such as cyclodextrins, cysteine and biologics, as well as fine chemicals and PVAc solid resins

WACKER POLYSILICON

Polysilicon for the semiconductor and photovoltaic industries