

Press Release

BPA- and melamine-free protecting varnish for flexible packaging

Grevenbroich, June 2010 – A globally leading manufacturer of specialty packaging coatings, ACTEGA Rhenania GmbH has developed a water-based protecting varnish for flexible packaging that is in accordance with FDA requirements for direct and indirect food contact.

Customer requirements for legally compliant finishing coatings to be used on pharmaceutical blisters, menu trays, yoghurt or membrane lids for children's favourites such as chocolate milk are highly demanding. ACTEGA has been taking on their responsibility very seriously and - by comprehensive quality measures and constant research efforts - strives for permanent adherence of the highest safety standards with regard to systems that stay in direct or indirect contact with foodstuffs.

Upon several years of development a water-borne protecting varnish is now ready to hit the shelves. This varnish is entirely free of BADGE (Bisphenol A diglycidyl ether), BPA (Bisphenol A) and melamine resin. Moreover, it does not contain any PVC copolymer, phthalates, and other plasticizers. At the same time VOC-containing organic solvents were limited to a total amount of less than 10%. All employed raw materials comply to FDA §175.300.

As of such ACTEGA is introducing a trend-setting water-based protecting varnish which is perfectly suited as a finish for flexible packaging being directly or indirectly exposed to foodstuffs.

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About ACTEGA:

ACTEGA Coatings & Sealants is a division of ALTANA group. ACTEGA develops and produces specialty coatings, sealants, printing inks, and adhesives for the rigid and flexible packaging and the graphic arts industry. These products deliver an attractive appearance to materials such as paper, paper board, plastic and metal. They also provide clearly defined chemical and physical properties to the materials' surface.

The continuous development of customer-oriented and sustainable products, processes and services is a particular responsibility for ACTEGA. A global organization is ready to meet these requirements.

Business Line Converting Specialties stands as specialist for sealing compounds used in metal and plastic packaging (cans, glass closures, bottle closures), protective coatings and hot seal lacquers as well as primers and adhesives which are mainly used in the food and the pharmaceutical industry.

Business Line Graphic Arts is a leading manufacturer of water-borne and UV-curable overprint varnishes, effect lacquers, adhesives and printing inks mainly for paper, board and polymeric surfaces.

About ALTANA

ALTANA develops and produces high-quality innovative products in the specialty chemicals business. The ALTANA Group, with headquarters in Wesel/Germany, is a genuine "global player" with 84% of its sales generated by international activities. The ALTANA Group has four divisions: BYK Additives & Instruments, ECKART Effect Pigments, ELANTAS Electrical Insulation, and

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ACTEGA Coatings & Sealants. All of these divisions occupy a leading position in their target markets with respect to quality, product solution expertise, innovation and service.

ALTANA offers innovative, environmentally compatible solutions with the matching specialty products for coating manufactures, paint and plastic processors, the printing and cosmetic industries, and the electrical and electronic industry. The product range includes additives, special coatings and adhesives, effect pigments, sealants and compounds, impregnating resins & varnishes, and testing and measuring instruments.

At present, the ALTANA Group has 35 production facilities and 47 service and research laboratories worldwide. Throughout the group 4,800 people work to ensure the success of ALTANA worldwide. In 2009 ALTANA achieved sales of about 1.2 billion euros. Its impressive earning power and high growth rate make ALTANA one of the most successful and innovative chemical groups worldwide.

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