

Press Release

BYK®-3550 awarded the BYK Advance Innovation Prize 2009

Wesel – June 10, 2010: The innovative approach to a solution, the high market relevance and the exceptional teamwork exhibited during the development of BYK®-3550, convinced the panel of judges when it was time to award this year's innovation prize.

The surface-active additive is based on BYK-developed and patented macromer technology. By combining so-called silicone macromers and polyacrylates, the BYK®-3550 development team was able to create a product that combines acrylate and silicone properties. BYK®-3550 exhibits different properties depending on the polarity of the system.

In coatings with high polarity, the silicone provides good anti-crater properties without increasing the surface slip. The acrylate chain generates an excellent flow. In non-polar systems, conventional silicone additives often have a negative impact on recoatability. The long acrylate chain of BYK®-3550 enables it to provide outstanding recoatability in such systems as well as an excellent flow in connection with distinctive anti-blocking properties.

Because success is always the result of multiple factors, the chemical engineering involved in product development is not our only focus. The teamwork that led to the development of an innovative solution is a particularly essential component of the project assessment, and thus for the awarding of the prize.

The BYK Advance Innovation Prize has been awarded for three years.

The Innovation Prize 2007 went to the developers of the coupling agent BYK®-C 8000, and the development team of BYK®-SILCLEAN 3720 was awarded the prize the following year.

About BYK Additives & Instruments:

BYK Additives & Instruments is one of the world's leading suppliers in the additives and instruments sector.

Approximately 87% of our sales are generated by foreign countries. Our major export markets are Europe, the United States, and the Far East.

Additives are chemical substances that are used in small quantities to improve product properties such as scratch resistance or surface gloss. Manufacturing processes are also optimized through the use of additives.

The coatings, printing inks, and plastics industries are some of the main areas of application of BYK additives. Yet in paper surface finishing, or the production of adhesives and sealants as well as construction chemistry, BYK additives are also improving the product properties and production processes. In 2009 BYK extended its portfolio with raw materials for the production of mold release agents for aluminum die casting.

BYK Instruments can quantify the quality of color and gloss and the physical properties of paint, plastic and paper products.

Instruments from BYK are predominantly used for quality control.

BYK Additives & Instruments is a member of ALTANA, Wesel. ALTANA develops and produces high-quality, innovative products in the sector of specialty chemicals.

BYK Additives & Instruments employs around 1,200 people worldwide, 25% of whom work in research and development departments or technical laboratories.

This press release is also available on the internet at: www.byk.com/press_releases.

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