

Press Release

New PVC-free compound for lug-type twist caps

TPE to replace PVC

Bremen/Düsseldorf, 2008-04-24 - Commission Directive 2007/19/EC, the fourth amendment to "Plastics Directive" 2002/72/EC comes into effect shortly and no longer allows the use of certain phthalates as plasticisers in PVC-based closure seals that come into contact with food. One reason for this is the widening of the scope of the Plastics Directive to cover metal twist-off caps. The retailers, fillers and manufacturers of metal twist-off caps are desperately looking for alternative sealants.

At this year's interpack (24-30 April 2008 in Düsseldorf) ACTEGA DS GmbH is presenting a sealing compound with a formulation free both of plasticisers and PVC. In anticipation of the need of food producers for reliable product-specific closures complying with the new legislation, the closure-sealant specialist has developed a solution based on thermoplastic elastomers.

With its new product, PROVALIN[®] 1241, ACTEGA DS is offering a sealing compound that can be used with a broad range of lug-type twist-off caps (from 23 to 82 mm diameter). The new product's key features are:

- constituents that conform to current legislation and that due to come into force shortly (Plastics Directive)
- the new material is aimed at ensuring that migration limits are also adhered to at the end of the shelf-life of oily foods
- pasteurisable
- optimised opening torques of the closures
- reliable vacuum
- good resealability.

The new development from ACTEGA DS is based on the desire of closure manufacturers, fillers and brand owners for compounds or sealants that are free of PVC. The aim was to develop an equivalent material with the necessary properties of good processability, pasteurisability and reliability with respect to highly demanding contents. PROVALIN[®] 1241 should also ensure compliance with valid migration limits for products with longer shelf-lives, for example oily foods (such as antipasti). The need for a reliable vacuum until the closure is first opened and user-friendly resealability were additional challenges faced during the development of the new material. In a series of specific tests PROVALIN[®] 1241 has proven that it is possible to achieve all of the required sealant properties by entirely using thermoplastic elastomers.

The introduction of the directive amending the Plastics Directive and the requirements relating to packaging and packaging materials in direct contact with food, with defined migration limits, is expected to lead to numerous changes in long-established types of packaging. ACTEGA DS has anticipated the future legislative framework with various developments and will be presenting a package of innovative solutions at interpack.

Date
2008-04-24

Page
1/2

Contact
Berni D. Rensink
Business Development Manager
Tel +49 421 39002-22
BerniDirk.Rensink@altana.com
www.actega.com

ACTEGA DS GmbH
Straubinger Strasse 12
28219 Bremen
Germany
Tel +49 421 39002-0
Fax +49 421 39002-79
info.ACTEGA.DS@altana.com
www.actega.com

Press Release

ACTEGA DS is taking the opportunity offered by its participation at interpack, to discuss with clients and prospective clients further developments relating to compounds and sealants, their processing and fields of application, as well as specific application details.

About ACTEGA

The Division ACTEGA Coatings & Sealants is a member of ALTANA group. ACTEGA develops and produces specialty coatings and sealants for the packaging and the graphic arts industry. These products not only give materials such as paper, paper board, plastic and metal an attractive appearance, but also give the material surface clearly defined chemical and physical properties.

The main customer for the products developed, manufactured and sold by ACTEGA is the packaging industry. ACTEGA is the market leader in overprint varnishes and sealing compounds for closures and glass containers, in the case of water-based sealants for cans and coatings for flexible packaging ACTEGA is the technological leader.

The coatings guarantee not only that the packaging will look appealing, but also that the contents remain fresh for longer; those products make sure that soft surfaces become scratch resistant, metal does not rust and paper becomes non-sensitive for water.

The sealing products create a seal between two contact surfaces, such as glass on metal (bottle closures) or metal on metal (can ends); they ensure that the filling good (e.g. beer) remains inside the packaging and any contaminants (e.g. Oxygen, which causes beer to go stale) remain outside.

www.actega.com

www.altana.com

Date
2008-04-24

Page
2/2