

LANXESS receives important approval for wood protection active ingredient

Dichlofluanid included in Annex I of the European Biocidal Products Directive

Leverkusen – Leverkusen-based chemicals group LANXESS has had its first biocidal active ingredient included in Annex I of the Biocidal Products Directive following a decision of the European Union's Biocides Standing Committee. This announcement is due to be published in the EU Official Journal in the first quarter of 2007. Dichlofluanid is used in wood preservatives and is only the second active ingredient to be included by the EU in Annex I. This is an important step for the future marketing of biocidal products – in this case wood preservatives – which according to the requirements of the European Directive are only authorized for use if the active ingredient contained therein is included in Annex I.

LANXESS's Material Protection Products business unit (MPP) is one of the leading manufacturers and suppliers of biocidal active ingredients and formulations for use in wood preservatives, disinfectants and industrial preservation. Worldwide, these products are subject to strict registration and approval requirements. This is particularly the case in Europe, where the Biocidal Products Directive subjects biocidal products to similar requirements to those governing the approval of crop protection agents.

Says Volker Bauhaus, head of MPP's Wood Protection/Antifouling business line: "The approval of the active ingredient dichlofluanid, which we market under the trade name Preventol® A 4, is an important stepping stone for us in our efforts to gain a secure foothold in the European market for our entire range of wood protection active ingredients. Our customers thereby obtain the assurance they need to successfully develop further and market their products."

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Other active ingredients from the MPP business unit are currently being assessed – both those used in wood protection and those found in other applications that are subject to the Biocidal Products Directive, such as antifouling, disinfection and industrial preservation. For these active ingredients too, LANXESS has submitted or will submit detailed dossiers to the European authorities to obtain the appropriate approvals. “I am delighted for the sake of our business unit and our customers that dichlofluanid has been successfully approved,” says Peter Weinmar, head of the MPP business unit. “This has enabled us to demonstrate our expertise in the area of active ingredient approval, an aspect that is important for the market and for business development. We are highly confident that approvals will follow for the other active ingredients in our Preventol® range.”

The Material Protection Products business unit belongs to the Performance Chemicals segment, which achieved total sales in 2005 of EUR 1,977 million.

Information for editors:

All our news releases can be found on the LANXESS homepage at www.lanxess.com under the “Press” button. Any available visual material can also be downloaded from there.

Leverkusen, January 26, 2007
bol (2007-0009e)

Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains 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.

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