













500 Mio. €

2022 turnover (consolidated)

7.000

Customers

6.500

Products

665

Experts

18

Subsidiaries in Europe, North America and China

4

Production sites worldwide in Hamburg, Solingen (Germany); Pawcatuck (USA); Shanghai, Kunshan (China)

5

Laboratories

in Hamburg, Solingen (Germany); Origgio (Italy); Pawcatuck (USA); Shanghai, Kunshan (China)

1

Technology center in Hamburg (Germany)







Plastics and Rubber

Special Chemicals and Industrial Minerals



High-performance compounds



Technical compounds



and additives





Composite

materials



Raw materials for rubber



Magnesium compounds



Nutrition

minerals

Rare earth / zirconium compounds



Raw materials for paints and coatings, inks, construction chemicals, adhesives and sealants



Additives for metal working fluids, lubricants and

Products for

filtration and separation

Life Sciences



Raw materials for personal care



Nutraceuticals



functional fluids



Products for filtration and separation









Organic rheology additives For solventborne and 100-% systems

- Various chemistries
- May be natural or synthetic
- Require shear and temperature for activation
- Best for low-shear viscosity control
 - Castor oil derivatives •
 - Natural waxes •
 - Polyamides
 - Hybrids
 - Synthetic waxes (polyolefins)





Organic rheology additives For solventborne and 100-% systems

- Castor oil derivatives •
- Natural waxes •
- Polyamides •
- Hybrids •
- Synthetic waxes (polyolefins) •







Next generation organic rheology modifiers Objectives of this work

Focus on organic rheology additives for solventborne and 100-% systems

What did we set out to address?

- Easier activation •
- Improved HS&E profile •





Activation of organic rheological additives

The activation process depends on

- Physicochemical nature of the additive
- Polarity of the binders and solvents
- Particle size distribution of the powder
- Dispersion time and temperature
- Dispersion equipment
- Shear forces







Activation of organic rheological additives How did we go about it?

The activation process depends on

- Physicochemical nature of the additive •
- Polarity of the binders and solvents •
- Particle size distribution of the powder •
- Dispersion time and temperature •
- **Dispersion equipment** •
- Shear forces .







Next generation organic rheology modifiers





Classic technologies

- e.g., hydrogenated castor oil wax derivatives, polyamides or blends
- strong shear forces AND temperature control required for activation



Next generation

- rheology modifier is dissolved in a wax matrix
- shear is required for activation, but no temperature





Next generation organic rheology modifiers What's different in an additive?

A.	Material	Characteristics
A CONTRACT	AB Polyamide	Chemical structureCrystallization processMicronization
	VP Hybrid chemistry	 Chemical structure > 80 % biosourced Crystallization process Micronization CFR 175.300-compliant grade available (FDA)
1		

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Next generation organic rheology modifiers Scope of the work

Type of formulation

- High-gloss 2K polyester topcoat
- 2K epoxy primer, solventborne
- 2K epoxy primer, 100-% solids

Rheology additives

- Commercial polyamide (reference)
- Alternative polyamide, coded AB
- Hybrid chemistry, coded Hybrid VP

Evaluation

- Rheological profile
- Sag resistance
- Gloss
- Pendulum hardness





Notes on rheological measurements Evaluation of viscoelastic materials

Viscosity alone does not tell the whole story... structural strength of a

viscoelastic material is related to G'





Formulations 1 and 2 have the same complex modulus (G*) and complex viscosity (η^*) ...BUT...

Formulation 1 has higher structure strength (G')

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Notes on rheological measurements Evaluation of viscoelastic materials

Measurements are performed via amplitude sweep

Preset:

Measurement: Result: variable deformation amplitude at constant frequency shear stress amplitude storage modulus Gʻ and loss modulus Gʻʻ

as a function of deformation $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$









2K high-gloss polyester-PU topcoat Dispersion at 55 °C

Base	Material	Parts	
	OH-functional polyes	31.0	
	Rheology additive	1.0	
	TiO ₂	25.8	
	Methoxypropyl acetate		
Processing pearl mill, 15 min @ 55 °C			
	OH-functional polyes	18.6	
	Surface-active ingred	3.1	
	Methoxypropyl acetate		7.0
	Butyl acetate		6.3
		TOTAL PART A	100.0
Hardener	Isocyanate	TOTAL PART B	39.2



2K high-gloss polyester-PU topcoat Modulus (dispersion at 55 °C)



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2K high-gloss polyester-PU topcoat Performance (dispersion at 55 °C)

Additive		Reference polyamide	AB	Hybrid VP
Sag resistance (µm)		225	300	625
Sag resistance (mils)		9	12	25
Gloss, 100 mm film	60	93	31	87
	85	98	32	81
Pendulum hardness (König) after 7 days		141	82	134



2K high-gloss polyester-PU topcoat Conclusions

- The stronger the network structure in the formulation, the higher its sag resistance
 - Considerably stronger rheological structures were obtained when using Hybrid VP and AB in comparison to the reference polyamide wax
- With Hybrid VP, gloss and pendulum hardness are slightly lower compared to the reference
- With AB, gloss and pendulum hardness are significantly reduced, thus, in this formulation, additive AB was less suitable





2K epoxy primer Solventborne (dispersion at 45 °C)

Base	Material		Parts
	Bisphenol A/f epoxy	resin	40.0
	Rheology additive		0.9
	TiO ₂		6.6
	Butanol / xylene (1:3	3)	6.6
	Zinc phosphate		19.7
	Talc		13.1
	Barium sulphate		13.1
	Processing pearl mill, 1	5 min @ 45 °C*	
		TOTAL PART A	100.0
Hardener	Polyamidoamine	TOTAL PART B	23.7

 * Hybrid VP can be activated starting at 35 $^{\circ}\text{C}$

2K epoxy primer, solventborne Viscosity (dispersion at 45 °C)





2K epoxy primer, solventborne Modulus (dispersion at 45 °C)





2K epoxy primer Solventborne – sag resistance

Additive	Reference polyamide	AB	Hybrid VP
Sag resistance (µm)	375	625	1500
Sag resistance (mils)	15	25	59







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2K epoxy primer Solventborne – Conclusions

- Both Hybrid VP and AB were fully activated at 45°C
 - The reference polyamide did not fully activate under the same conditions
- The viscosity curves of Hybrid VP and AB are very similar
 - Differences are more noticeable in the amplitude sweep
- Hybrid VP develops the strongest viscoelastic network structure in this formulation





2K epoxy coating 100-% solids (dispersion at 45 °C)

Function	Material		Parts
	Bisphenol A/f epoxy	resin	42.2
	Benzyl alcohol		8.0
	Rheology additive		
	TiO ₂		4.5
	Polyolefin solution		0.8
	Talc		20.0
	Modified mica		22.5
	Processing pearl mill, 15 min @ 45 °C*		
		TOTAL PART A	100.0
Hardener	Polyamidoamine	TOTAL PART B	25.0

 * Hybrid VP can be activated starting at 35 $^{\circ}\text{C}$



2K epoxy coating, 100-% solids Viscosity (dispersion at 45 °C)





2K epoxy coating, 100-% solids Modulus (dispersion at 45 °C)



2K epoxy coating 100-% solids – evaluation

Additive		Reference polyamide	AB	Hybrid VP
Sag resistance (µm)		< 350	500	1500
Sag resistance (mils)		14	25	59
Gloss, 100 mm film	60	34	39	36
	85	60	60	53
Pendulum hardness (König) after 7 days		66	65	63



2K epoxy coating 100-% solids – Conclusions

- In this formulation, the new rheology additives developed stronger structures and higher viscosities and outperformed the reference polyamide
- The new rheology additives present no significant influence on the pendulum hardness
- The gloss reduction observed with Hybrid VP is negligible
 - It may be caused by the higher formulation viscosity (potential for optimization)





Next generation organic rheology modifiers Objectives of this work

Focus on organic rheology additives for solventborne and 100-% systems

What did we set out to address?

- Easier activation ACHIEVED!
- Improved HS&E profile ACHIEVED!





Next generation organic rheology modifiers Conclusions



- Both AB and Hybrid VP rheology additives are easier to activate at lower temperatures (35 – 45 °C) and outperform reference amide waxes (55 °C)
- Performance is formulation-dependent and must be optimized for every case
- Hybrid VP additive is FDA compliant, is non-hazardous, and is > 80 % biobased
- In addition to the formulations in this work, Hybrid VP has been successfully tested in silane-terminated, energy-curable, and polyaspartic systems, as well as pigment dispersions





