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CONTACTS

Scott Blanchard
Senior Marketing Specialist
Americhem
Phone: 330.929.4213 x1363
sblanchard@americhem.com

Kelly McGrath
Account Director
AKHIA
Phone: 330.463.5650
kelly.mcgrath@akhia.com

AMERICHEM COMPILES RESULTS OF OUTDOOR WEATHERING STUDIES ON NEW eCAP™ HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPOUNDS

CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO (Oct. 14, 2014) – Americhem Inc., a global leader in the production of color and additive solutions for polymeric building products, has recently compiled the results of some long-term outdoor weathering studies on its new eCap™ high-performance compounds for building products. These products represent the next evolution of enhanced precolor capstock compounds for decking, fencing and other building product profiles.

“The two- and three-year outdoor weathering data is back from our eCap PVC, enhanced PVC, PVC blends, and ASA products,” said Wendy Shuttleworth, Ph.D., director of research for Americhem. “A range of browns and grays in medium colors with L* values between 50 and 60 have been tested, and the results are superior to that of accelerated weathering testing in terms of reduced color fade and durability.” The weathering studies include two years of real-world outdoor weathering data from Americhem’s accredited weathering sites in Florida and Arizona and three years of data from the accredited site in Ohio.

In addition, results are beginning to come in from these long-range weathering studies as they apply to other eCap material blends. Americhem’s polyethylene precolor compounds and capstocks are completing their two-year outdoor cycles at the Arizona and Florida sites. They are also showing superior weathering resistance when compared to traditional materials, with the added benefit of additional scratch and mar resistance due to the product’s unique formulation.

“We are looking at the effects of various chemistries on the cost and performance of these materials,” said Shuttleworth. “That’s why we commissioned these studies—to show the long-term benefits that can only be attained through real-world weathering results. Without the long-term weathering data, predictive weathering via accelerated techniques has shown a poor correlation.”

Outdoor weathering data continues to be collected for other eCap material blends including PVC-ASA blends and PMMA-ASA blends in precolor compounds and capstocks, as well as studies including improved formulations incorporated as a dry blend. Darker color spaces below 50 L* are being evaluated and showing

good progress, and the potential for applications beyond decking, fencing, and siding is showing promise. The company will provide additional details as long-term weathering studies continue.

For more information about Americhem and the eCap product line, visit www.americhem.com/brands/eCap or contact Scott Blanchard at sblanchard@americhem.com.

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About Americhem

Americhem is a global organization that delivers custom color and additive solutions for customers seeking superior performance and batch-to-batch consistency for their polymer products. The company specializes in color and additive masterbatches, and single pigment dispersions, all backed by complete technical support that ensures quality, reliability and value. Americhem operates eight manufacturing plants and also maintains a representative sales office in Luxembourg and Monterrey, Mexico. Central Research & Development facilities and headquarters are located in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. For more information visit Americhem.com or call 800.228.3476.

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