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AMERICHEM INTRODUCES ANTIMICROBIAL PRODUCTS FOR SANITARY WARE AND OTHER APPLICATIONS

SUZHOU, CHINA (April 22, 2014) – Americhem Inc., a global provider of custom color and additive solutions for polymeric products, has recently developed a line of antimicrobial masterbatches that inhibit the growth of bacteria, fungi and other microorganisms in plastics and synthetic fibers. These antimicrobials are developed in partnership with LIFE Material Technologies and are sold under the nShield™ brand name. They are well-suited for use in sanitary applications for the kitchen and bathroom, and other functionalities.

The product line complies with statutes from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the European Union's Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR), and are thus suitable for use in these regions. The products' active ingredient suppresses the growth of bacteria, algae, fungus, mold and mildew which cause unpleasant odors, discoloration, staining, deterioration and corrosion. The products do not protect users from foodborne or disease causing bacteria, viruses, germs or other disease causing organisms. "Our goal is to offer a wide range of antimicrobial additives in masterbatch form, so that we can customize products for every customer's end product application," remarked Stanley Teoh, Americhem's general manager for the Asia Pacific region. "This broad nShield product range also ensures that Americhem typically offers the lowest cost additive masterbatches in the marketplace for certain purposes."

Americhem's masterbatch technology, combined with LIFE's range of antimicrobial additives, is also applicable for sanitary uses in the kitchen and bathroom. Possible applications include tubs and showers; countertops and other surfaces; refrigerators, dishwashers and other appliances; faucets and sinks and any other locations that are continually subjected to moisture. Customers can choose between products, allowing for the right mix of desired cost and functionality. "Americhem's nShield range of antimicrobial masterbatches possess excellent compatibility with transparent polymers like polycarbonate, acrylic, GPPS, SAN and ABS," stated Tom Ellefsen, chief executive of LIFE. "In addition to sanitary ware, our antimicrobial additive technologies are appropriate as antifungal agents in high-temperature and transparent polymers, as well as plastics used outdoors. Products are also available for nylon and polyester fibers as well as products that allow for an ultra-low letdown rate."

Americhem will showcase its nShield products at its booth at the Chinaplas 2014 trade show, being held April 23-26 at the Shanghai New International Expo Center in Shanghai, China. Americhem and LIFE product experts will be on hand at booth N4L61 to answer questions and to consult on product usage.

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.

About LIFE MATERIAL TECHNOLOGIES

LIFE is a materials technology company that has developed a portfolio of smart materials with applications in numerous industries. The company's core activity is the incorporation of antimicrobial additives into solid materials such as plastics, coatings, textiles, ceramics and paper. The ingredients include actives that kill microbes and absorb odors for the useful life of the treated materials. Foremost of these technologies is



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LIFE's ability to build into solid materials ingredients that kill bacteria, fungi, algae and other microorganisms that come in contact with products incorporating such materials. For more information, visit www.life-materials.com.

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