

## Clariant launches new pharmaceutical brand Mevopur

After Clariant received ISO 13485 accreditation in April, the Swiss-based company launches a new brand of masterbatches named Mevopur specially for medical and pharmaceutical applications this October.

Clariant's Singapore plant was the first to receive the certification (see APN June 2010), followed by Sweden and the US.

The new pharmaceutical brand of masterbatches is part of the company's active commitment to help its customers in this industry minimise the risks and costs of non-compliance in a product's development and life cycle, in light of tightening regulatory requirements.

"The new brand is our recognition that the medical and pharma industry requires something different to our customers in lower risk segments," said Steve Duckworth, head of global market segment consumer goods

and medical at Clariant.

"It is not just about clearly identifying the products that meet the latest trends for functionality and aesthetics in this industry but encapsulates the whole package of dedicated service and expertise, reliability and innovative material performance that gives the industry the confidence it needs to address risk potential."

"We have a global quality management system based on the GMP standard," said Duckworth during a press meeting in June.

"We ensure fully traceable production and documentation support in line with FDA guidelines," Duckworth added.

Colours are becoming increasingly important for medical devices, partly because more equipment is being used by the patients besides medical practitioners. Duckworth said as much as 95% of insulin pens used in Europe are for personal use.

Colours assist safe and easy identification and are added to improve visual appeal, which in turn, are part of the changes in medical packaging trends. Even when more colours are being used, safety remains a top priority since FDA views colours as contaminants in medical devices.

Clariant's new offerings include a range of newly introduced globally harmonised standard colours for PP and PE as well as PEBA, where ingredients have been biologically evaluated according to ISO10993 and USP parts 87 and 88 (Class VI). Surface engineering such as laser marking and friction reduction are emerging trends in medical packaging.

Clariant's product solutions cover a wide range of polymers and thermoplastic elastomers including PE, PP, ABS, SAN, PC/ABS, PC, PA6, 66 and 12, high performance polymers, and elastomers.

## PolyOne provides Complete eco-friendly Colour Solutions

Liquid colourants are usually more concentrated than masterbatches, thus less needs to be added to reach similar levels of colouration. However, delivery, management and dosage of liquids can be more troublesome.

At the K show, PolyOne will introduce the OnColor Complete Liquid Colour Solutions, a closed-loop refillable liquid colour package. The metering system comprises of hardware and software components to safely and accurately introduce colourants to the

moulding process. With this Solution, PolyOne also provides a service to include delivery, consumption and replenishment of colourants, and empty drums can be returned to PolyOne for refilling and re-use. For converters, such a service cuts down on costs related to disposal of unused products and clean-up of equipment as well as reduce the overall impact to the environment.

Products from the OnColor Complete Liquid Colour Solutions can be used for injection moulding, blow moulding and extrusion.



## Milliken brings clarity to packaging

When used together with its Millad NX8000 clarifying agent, Milliken's ClearTint polymeric colourants enhance the colour of the end-products while maintaining the transparency of polyolefins.

ClearTint is already widely used for PP and is increasingly being used in PE for packaging applications like container lids. The colourants show low migration and is ideal for food contact applications. As well, Milliken has a ClearTint US Pharmacopoeia formulation that limits the amount of UV radiation absorption, which is suitable for pill vials. This product protects the contents of the vial while keeping the clarity of the container over its lifetime.

ClearTint colourants are often used to complement Millad NX8000 clarifying agent,



a popular additive used to bring clarity to PP, which also helps to reduce cycle times. Millad NX8000 allows converters to reduce processing temperatures from 240°C to 260°C down to around 200°C, further improv-

ing savings.

At the K show, Milliken will introduce a new version Millad NX8500E for extrusion blow moulding, which is said to optimise surface properties and bulk haze.