



PRESS INFORMATION

TER HELL takes over the distribution of AddiFlex®

Additives make standard plastics biodegradable / with the help of intelligent system solutions environmental specifications can be efficiently met

Hamburg / Västra Frölunda, 10. February 2010 – Since the beginning of the new year the distribution, production and trading corporation TER HELL & CO. GMBH is also distributing AddiFlex®. Manufacturer of this eco-intelligent additive system solution is the Swedish company Add-X Biotech AB. With the help of such innovative additives packaging materials such as standard plastics (e.g. PE, PP, and PVC) become oxo-biodegradable. During the composting process the long polymers disintegrate into water, carbon dioxide and biomass. This procedure allows packaging manufacturers around the world to actively support and conform to stringent environmental specifications. Furthermore the optimised application of AddiFlex® to products reduces the levels of raw materials and energy required during the production process.

According to the profile of requirements – depending on the material and intended use – the performance of AddiFlex® can be individually tailored by the Swedish manufacturer's scientists. For standard products such as plastic bags or containers TER HELL has a broad spectrum of products available. Generally, the particular additive system (AddiFlex® in combination with a high-percentage calcium carbonate master batch) is produced in such a way that use-oriented time for storage and production as well as usage and decomposition are pre-defined. For this reason the effectiveness and biological decomposition at the end of a product's life cycle can be systematically controlled.

The AddiFlex® additives which have been integrated into the thermoplastic structures divide the long-chain molecules of the polymers firstly oxidatively and make them accessible to micro-organisms. This weakens the coherence of the structure. The surface of the product becomes hydrophilic and the plastics can be degraded into water, carbon dioxide and biomass without leaving any toxic residue.

The additive systems of Add-X Biotech show their ecological and economical efficiency in many practical standard products such as carrier bags, food packaging films, technical packaging and agricultural foils. Additionally, numerous independent controlling bodies such as the Swiss EMPA and the Swedish National Testing and Research Institute have corroborated and scientifically proven these results. Processors of plastics and their contractors can therefore be certain that by using AddiFlex® they are considerably and actively contributing to the protection of the environment.

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Picture caption: Bread wrapping which can be disintegrated into water, carbon dioxide and biomass without leaving any residue thanks to AddiFlex®.

AddiFlex® is a registered trademark of Add-X Biotech AB

Further information

TER HELL & CO. GMBH

Founded in 1908 in Hamburg, TER HELL & CO. GMBH is a globally operating distributor, trader and producer of chemical raw and refined materials. Since 1938 the Westphal family has been the majority shareholder, and today many renowned manufacturers rely on the expertise of TER HELL. Additionally, the company acts as a trading house and has an extensive portfolio of its products for clients' use at hand. The broad spectrum of products on offer comprises assorted foodstuff additives, binding agents, latexes, plastics, resins, waxes, fillers and pigments. The majority of purchasers belong to the following industries: lacquer and paint, glue and adhesives, food production, metal, pharmaceutical, cosmetics, glass fibre reinforced plastics, rubber, natural rubber and plastics.

TER GROUP

The TER GROUP Hamburg consolidates the diverse global activities (e.g. production) as well as the involvement of the various companies. The group turnover for 2008 came to around 392 million euros, which was achieved by its 439 employees. For the coming years the TER GROUP is expecting to achieve an annual growth of between 5 and 10 percent.

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