

Oxiten invests in a new plant in the United States and promotes its products at the American Coatings Show

Oxiten, leader in the manufacture of surfactants and specialty chemicals in Latin America, is expanding its activities in the United States by investing in the construction of a new alkoxylation unit in Texas (USA). The plant will have an installed capacity of 170 thousand tons/year and will begin operating next year.

In addition to the new plant, the Company also announced its participation in the American Coatings Show. Oxiten is consolidating its position as supplier of choice for the paint segment by offering a vast portfolio of products. These include surfactants for emulsion polymerization (OXIMULSION®), coalescents (ULTRAFILM®), building blocks (ULTRATINT®) and oxygenated solvents.

In addition, Oxiten will give two presentations during The American Coatings Show. The first will take place on Tuesday (12th) at 11:00am and is entitled 'Evaluation of the Effect of Low-VOC Coalescents on Latex Films Using Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)', which will be presented by Juliane Santos, Senior Researcher.

The presentation will evaluate effects on the microscopic characteristics of latex films of low-VOC (volatile organic compounds) coalescents for waterborne architectural paints, developed to comply with environmental regulations. The study involved investigation of the films of pure acrylic and vinyl-acrylic latexes containing low-VOC coalescents (considering Method 313 of the South Coast Air Quality Management District) using AFM (atomic force microscopy). Comparison of latex films containing low-VOC coalescents versus standard high-VOC coalescents demonstrated significant differences in morphologies and phase distribution, which can affect performance of the final paints.

The second presentation will take place on Wednesday (13th) at 10:00am and is entitled 'Life-Cycle Assessment Comparison of Waterborne and Solvent-borne Alkyd Enamels, which will be presented by Silmar Barrios, R&D Coordinator for Paints and Coatings. The objective of this presentation is to show a comparison of the environmental impacts of waterborne and solvent-borne alkyd high gloss enamel technologies, based on use of a life cycle assessment (LCA) methodology.

In traditional high gloss solvent-borne enamels, the alkyd resins are solubilized in an organic solvent. Due to health concerns and VOC regulations, there has been increasing interest in waterborne alternatives. As a result, oil-in-water emulsions of alkyd resins have emerged as an attractive alternative.

Oxiten has developed suitable emulsifying agents that allows the emulsification of alkyd resins without the need of special high-energy mixing equipment. The LCA methodology has demonstrated that the overall environmental impact of the waterborne technology is favorable when compared to the solvent-borne formulation.

Hugo Gardelli
Business Head for Paints & Coatings

Paints & Coatings

Because of its belief that color promotes a more efficient, safer and healthier world, Oxiten develops sustainable, innovative and high-performance solutions for the Paints & Coatings market. The Company invests in a model of co-creation with its clients and the diversification of its portfolio through its technological platforms. This model allows the Company to identify the needs of the market and to anticipate trends. Oxiten develops solutions for use in a wide array of formulations, offering characteristics such as Voc-free, HAP-free and Aromatic-free, while derived from renewable sources.

About Oxiten

Oxiten is leader in the manufacture of surfactants and specialty chemicals and develops innovative and sustainable solutions for the Personal Care, Home Care and I&I, Paints & Coatings and Agribusiness markets, among others. The Company is present in nine countries throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia and has 12 industrial units in Brazil, the United States, Mexico, Uruguay and Venezuela, in addition to commercial offices in Argentina, Belgium, China and Colombia.

Information for the press

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