

Rhenogran fiber masterbatches: versatile reinforcement options for technical rubber parts and tires

- **Uniform nomenclature for masterbatches of aramid and cellulose fiber pulp**
- **Increased supply reliability for customers**
- **Very good dispersion properties for optimal reinforcement effect**

Cologne – LANXESS's Rhein Chemie Additives (ADD) business unit is to rename its predispersed cellulose fiber masterbatches, previously known as Santoweb. The new name for this product group will be Rhenogran WP (wood pulp) as of July 1, 2016. "As a result, our predispersed reinforcement additives based on pulp now follow a uniform nomenclature, thus giving our customers a better overview," says Philipp Junge, head of the Rubber Additives business line in LANXESS's ADD business unit. LANXESS markets its extensive range of predispersed polymer-bound additives for the rubber industry under the brand name Rhenogran. "At the same time, we are introducing a new cellulose fiber grade with which we want to increase supply reliability for our customers," adds Junge.

With rising requirements on the technical performance and quality of rubber components, particularly in the automotive sector, the demand for reinforcement additives is also growing. With its predispersed cellulose fiber and aramid short-fiber masterbatches, LANXESS offers rubber processors a wide variety of reinforcement options for different requirements and applications ranging from hoses, conveyor belts and timing belts to ultra-high-performance and special-purpose tires.

The fiber masterbatch product group is characterized by the predispersion of various fiber pulps in special polymer matrices. This enables good miscibility and homogeneous dispersion of the fiber

LANXESS AG

Corporate Communications
50569 Köln
Germany

Martina Bitterlich

Phone: +49 621 8907-455
martina.bitterlich@lanxess.com

Michael Fahrig

Phone: +49 221 8885-5041
michael.fahrig@lanxess.com

Page 1 of 3

pulp in the rubber compound. Only by being fully dispersed can the fiber pulp have its complete impact and achieve an optimal reinforcement effect in the end product.

In Rhenogran WP, cellulose fiber pulp enables the reinforcement of end products made of polymers such as EPDM, SBR, NR and PVC. This is an economical solution for increasing the quality and service life of end products that are exposed to high temperatures, media and pressures.

Under extreme mechanical, dynamic and thermal stresses, an excellent reinforcement performance can be achieved in the end product with Rhenogran P91-40, which incorporates the highly resilient and very lightweight Twaron aramid short-fiber pulp evenly in the rubber compound. Rhenogran P91-40 is suitable for many rubber grades including NR, IR, BR, SBR, EPDM, CR, NBR and HNBR.

The LANXESS ADD business unit supplies the rubber industry with a broad range of predispersed polymer-bound additives, processing promoters, vulcanization and filler activators, anti-sun check waxes, release agents, tire marking inks and high-performance curing bladders.

LANXESS is a leading specialty chemicals company with sales of EUR 7.9 billion in 2015 and about 16,600 employees in 29 countries. The company is currently represented at 52 production sites worldwide. The core business of LANXESS is the development, manufacturing and marketing of chemical intermediates, specialty chemicals and plastics. Through ARLANXEO, the joint venture with Saudi Aramco, LANXESS is also a leading supplier of synthetic rubber. LANXESS is listed in the leading sustainability indices Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI World) and FTSE4Good.

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This news release may contain forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by LANXESS AG management. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors could lead to material differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development or performance of the company

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50569 Köln
Germany

Martina Bitterlich
Phone: +49 621 8907-455
martina.bitterlich@lanxess.com

Michael Fahrig
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michael.fahrig@lanxess.com

Page 2 of 3

News Release



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Page 3 of 3