

Ashland launches new Derakane[™] resin for the premium infrastructure market

DUBLIN, Ohio – Ashland's <u>Derakane</u>[™] epoxy vinyl ester resins have a history of delivering outstanding mechanical properties in industrial applications. Building upon that history, Ashland Performance Materials, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), has introduced new Derakane 610C-200 epoxy vinyl ester resin that provides an added degree of fire resistance to its superior structural performance for infrastructure applications.

"Derakane 610C-200 resin is getting a lot of attention from architects and engineers in the premium infrastructure market," said Thom Johnson, industry manager for Ashland Performance Materials. "It delivers good fire-resistant properties with superior mechanical performance. Best of all, civil engineers and fabricators can access these features without having to absorb the typical costs associated with premium corrosion-resistant vinyl ester resins."

Derakane 610C-200 is specifically designed for infrastructure applications that benefit from the superior mechanical properties afforded by composites made from epoxy vinyl ester resins yet also require a level of fire resistance. It is especially useful in structural fiberglass reinforced polymer (FRP) applications such as bridges, columns and beams, but not premium corrosion applications.

This resin is part of a new generation of epoxy vinyl ester products that Ashland is designing to meet the needs of emerging infrastructure markets within the FRP industry. Infused parts made with Derakane 610C-200 resin have achieved Class II flame spread results as measured by ASTM E-84 testing protocols.

Ashland Performance Materials is the number one global leader in unsaturated polyester resins and vinyl ester resins. In addition, it provides customers with leading technologies in gelcoats, pressure-sensitive and structural adhesives, and metal casting consumables and design services.

In more than 100 countries, the people of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH) provide the specialty chemicals, technologies and insights to help customers create new and improved products for today and sustainable solutions for tomorrow. Our chemistry is used every day in applications from automotive, food and beverages, personal care products, pharmaceuticals, and paper and tissue to durable goods and infrastructure, including building and construction, energy and water treatment. Visit www.ashland.com to see the innovations we offer through our five commercial units – Ashland Aqualon Functional Ingredients, Ashland Hercules Water Technologies, Ashland Performance Materials, Ashland Consumer Markets (Valvoline) and Ashland Distribution.

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