

Media Release

Clariant International Ltd

New Aqualen® topcoat system from Clariant combines the emotional and the physical in leather

Muttenz, Switzerland, March 15, 2010 – Clariant, a leader in supply of chemicals and services to the leather industry, has launched a new Aqualen® topcoat system that meets the demand of leather upholstery and shoe manufacturers for high aesthetic qualities and pleasant feel with durability.

Specially designed for soft and super soft upholstery leathers, the new aqueous system is based on the dull component Aqualen® Top DC-2050.B and its glossy counterpart Aqualen® Top GC-2051.A.

Both products can be mixed in any ratio for the desired level of gloss or dullness. No additives other than water and cross-linker are needed. This allows customers to limit the number of products in their formulations and guarantees reproducibility in production.

"End users seek leathers that look good and feel good, but do not want to compromise on durability. In meeting this need, our new Aqualen® topcoat system successfully combines the emotional with the physical," says Hartmut Huber, Technical Manager, Finishing, Clariant Leather Services.

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Clariant – Exactly your chemistry

Clariant is a global leader in the field of specialty chemicals. Strong business relationships, commitment to outstanding service and wide-ranging application know-how make Clariant a preferred partner for its customers.

Clariant is represented globally by more than 100 group companies and employs about 17,500 people. Headquartered in Muttenz near Basel, Switzerland, it generated sales of CHF 6.6 billion in 2009. Clariant is organized into ten Business Units: Additives; Detergents & Intermediates; Emulsions; Industrial & Consumer Specialties; Leather Services; Masterbatches; Oil & Mining Services; Paper Specialties; Pigments; and Textile Chemicals.

Clariant is committed to sustainable growth, which is derived from its own innovative strength. Clariant's world-class products and services play a key role in its customers' manufacturing processes and add value to their end products. The company's success is based on the know-how of its people and their ability to identify new customer needs at an early stage and develop innovative, efficient solutions.