

PRESS RELEASE

Number 15

CITE Japan 2021

WACKER Presents Water-Compatible Silicone Resin Elastomer Gel for Cosmetics and Skin Care Products

Munich, May 18, 2021 – WACKER will be unveiling its BELSIL® REG 1103 B and BELSIL® eco REG 1102 silicone resin elastomer gels at the tenth Cosmetic Ingredients & Technology Exhibition CITE in Japan. Both gels were developed for skin care and color cosmetic products. Unlike a classic elastomer gel, BELSIL® REG 1103 B can absorb water, opening up entirely new formulation options for cosmetics manufacturers. The second product, BELSIL® eco REG 1102, is an eco version of BELSIL® REG 1102, a silicone resin elastomer gel already established on the market. WACKER's BELSIL® eco products are based on methanol derived from biomass. CITE Japan will be held in Yokohama, May 19 to 21.

BELSIL® REG 1103 B is a colorless, clear to slightly translucent gel consisting of three silicone components: a silicone resin, a non-volatile, unmodified silicone fluid and a silicone polymer modified with sugar units. The sugar-modified silicone acts as an emulsifier and makes the gel compatible with water. Mixing BELSIL® REG 1103 B with water produces a stiff cream characterized by a full-bodied, homogeneous texture in which pigments do not settle.

BELSIL® REG 1103 B does more than just improve the shelf life of sensitive, poorly stabilized emulsions – it also opens up the possibility of simply structured formulations. Another product characteristic is the water-break effect: water absorbed during the formulation process is released upon application in the form of tiny droplets, leaving the skin feeling fresh and light.

As a typical silicone resin elastomer gel, BELSIL® REG 1103 B combines the skin-sensory properties of non-crosslinked silicone polymers with the film-forming effects of silicone resins. This combination of properties makes the product a multifunctional ingredient for skin care and color cosmetic products. The gel lends formulations a texture that leaves the skin feeling extraordinarily soft and silky. The flexible, translucent, film-forming silicone resin adheres well to the skin. BELSIL® REG 1103 B is also capable of scattering light, an effect similar to that produced by a soft-focus lens. In this way it does a good job of visibly concealing contours and wrinkles.

BELSIL® REG 1103 B improves the water and transfer resistance of cosmetic formulations, making their effects last longer: lipsticks stay kissproof for a long time, other types of makeup retain their color, and sunscreens continue to provide reliable protection even after swimming.

BELSIL® eco REG 1102

WACKER will also be unveiling a new BELSIL® eco product at CITE Japan: the silicone resin elastomer BELSIL® eco REG 1102.

As with all BELSIL® eco products, the manufacture of BELSIL® eco REG 1102 is based on plant-based instead of fossil methanol. During production, the company uses a certified mass balance method which allocates all of the methanol derived from biomass unambiguously to the appropriate commercial products. This ensures that one hundred percent of the methanol used for BELSIL® eco products is derived from renewable raw materials such as cut grass or straw. Each year, the mathematical process involved and the process for obtaining biomethanol are both recertified by an external institute.

The company has expanded its BELSIL® eco product portfolio in response to growing demand for such products – a trend that is emerging in many industrial sectors. In terms of its composition and properties, BELSIL® eco REG 1102 is identical to BELSIL® REG 1102, which is known for its wide range of effects. Both products consist of a crosslinked silicone elastomer and a non-volatile silicone fluid, which together form a water-repellent film on the skin. Both BELSIL® REG 1102 and BELSIL® eco REG 1102 feel pleasant and help cosmetic formulations remain effective for an exceptionally long time.

To visit WACKER at CITE Japan, stop by booth N1-15, which is hosted by our subsidiary Wacker Asahikasei Silicones.



Silicone resin elastomer gels do not typically mix with water, but BELSIL® REG 1103 B does. The product is translucent and colorless (left picture). Mixing it with water produces a stiff cream characterized by a full-bodied, homogeneous texture (right). (Photos: Wacker Chemie AG)

Please note:

These photos are available for download at:
<http://www.wacker.com/pressreleases>

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The company in brief:

WACKER is a globally active chemical company with some 14,300 employees and annual sales of around €4.69 billion (2020). WACKER has a global network of 26 production sites, 23 technical competence centers and 52 sales offices.

WACKER SILICONES

Silicone fluids, emulsions, rubber grades and resins; silanes; pyrogenic silicas; thermoplastic silicone elastomers

WACKER POLYMERS

Polyvinyl acetates and vinyl acetate copolymers and terpolymers in the form of dispersible polymer powders, dispersions, solid resins and solutions

WACKER BIOSOLUTIONS

Biotech products such as cyclodextrins, cysteine and biologics, as well as fine chemicals and PVAc solid resins

WACKER POLYSILICON

Polysilicon for the semiconductor and photovoltaic industries