

PRESS RELEASE

Number 4

EUROPEAN COATINGS SHOW 2025

WACKER unveils improved silicone resin hardener for weathering-resistant epoxy-polysiloxane topcoats

Munich, February 12, 2025 – Epoxy-polysiloxane topcoats produce glossy metal surfaces and provide lasting protection against weathering. However, it is essential that the formulations contain the right hardener. In SILRES® HP 2000 LV, WACKER will be unveiling an improved version of its successful hardener system for such coatings. The new product contains significantly less volatile compounds, as indicated by the suffix “LV” (for low volatiles). Consequently, it is now possible to formulate metal coatings that are safer to process and to apply. WACKER will be unveiling the product for the first time at this year’s European Coatings Show (ECS), which runs in Nuremberg, Germany, from March 25 to 27.

SILRES® HP 2000 LV possesses the same high-quality properties as its predecessor product and can therefore also be used in existing formulations. The silicone resin hardener enables the formulation of isocyanate-free metal coatings that retain their luster, even after years of exposure to sunlight and weathering. The coatings confer excellent corrosion protection, especially when combined with suitable primers, and are thus an ideal solution for protecting ships, bridges, and industrial plants. Topcoats containing SILRES®

HP 2000 LV also lend themselves to two-coat systems, resulting in cost savings over three-coat systems.

Aside from high efficiency, the new silicone resin hardener offers further advantages. Compared with its predecessor, it has a much lower content of volatile compounds. The content of cyclic methyl siloxanes and methoxymethyl silanes of less than 0.1 percent eliminates the labeling requirements which were effective for these hardeners up to now and restricted possible applications. The improved purity of the product also represents a gain for occupational health and safety, which in turn benefits paint producers and paint processors alike.

With this new hardener, WACKER is assisting customers in the coatings industry who are increasingly prioritizing sustainability. SILRES® HP 2000 LV can be used to formulate high-solids coatings, for example. Such polysiloxane coatings have a much lower solvent demand and need less-frequent renovation, due to their durability. Furthermore, the fact that SILRES® HP 2000 LV allows for the formulation of two-coat systems conserves resources and improves the sustainability of the coatings.

At the ECS, WACKER will be presenting several coating samples based on formulations containing SILRES® HP 2000 LV and cycloaliphatic epoxy resins as combined binders.

For more information and product samples, visit WACKER at ECS 2025 in Nuremberg from March 25 to 27 in Hall 1, Booth 1-206.



Metal sheets after a conical bending test. Thanks to the flexibility of SILRES® HP 2000 LV, the pigmented epoxy-polysiloxane topcoat remains crack-free. WACKER will be premiering the hardener at ECS 2025. (Photo: WACKER).






Testing the flexibility of an epoxy-polysiloxane topcoat in the mandrel bending test. The coating is based on the SILRES® HP 2000 LV hardener, which WACKER will present for the first time at ECS 2025. (Photo: WACKER).

Please note:

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

This press release is one of several press briefings that WACKER will be issuing with regard to ECS 2025. Further press releases on new products that WACKER will be presenting at ECS 2025 can be found at www.wacker.com/pressreleases.

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The Company in Brief:

WACKER is a global company with state-of-the-art specialty chemical products found in countless everyday items, ranging from tile adhesives to computer chips. The company has a global network of 27 production sites, 22 technical competence centers and 48 sales offices. With around 16,400 employees, WACKER generated annual sales of around €6.4 billion in fiscal 2023.

WACKER operates through four business divisions. The chemical divisions WACKER SILICONES and WACKER POLYMERS supply products (silicones, polymeric binders) for the automotive, construction, chemical, consumer goods and medical technology industries. WACKER BIOSOLUTIONS, the life sciences division, specializes in bioengineered products such as biopharmaceuticals and food additives. WACKER POLYSILICON produces hyperpure polysilicon for the semiconductor and photovoltaic industries.