

11 December 2009

New Borpact BC918CF polypropylene brings higher level of toughness to transparent packaging film and sheet – now also with US food compliance

A new polypropylene heterophasic copolymer for packaging film and sheet offers outstanding deep temperature resistance / toughness together with excellent transparency. Borpact™ BC918CF from Borealis, a leading provider of chemical and innovative plastics solutions, has unrivalled stiffness, heat- and impact resistance, combined with high gloss and low haze. It provides the high clarity typical of PP homopolymers together with the tough, non-brittle performance of heterophasic copolymers. And thanks to a new additive package, the material complies with all European and U.S. regulations relating to food contact applications.

Borpact BC918CF will create even greater opportunities for converters and end-product manufacturers of thermoforming sheets, cast and blown film. Main application areas are modified atmosphere packaging (MAP) trays for food packaging as well as film for stand up pouches (SUP) and labels. The performance benefits of Borpact BC918CF translate into processing benefits for packaging processors. It allows significant downgauging compared to alternative material solutions, resulting in material and cost savings of up to 20%. High toughness converts into minimal low-temperature brittleness in finished products.

The combined mechanical and aesthetic advantages ensure attractive packaging with reduced potential for handling or storage-related damage. This is particularly important for items stored at low temperatures such as MAP trays for various chilled foods, including fruits and meats. An optimal balance of easy tear, stiffness and good aesthetics make the new grade ideal for retortable stand-up pouches, label films and carrier layers for peelable lidding films.

1 (3)

“Borealis’ advanced Borpact innovation enables production of film and sheet with unique combinations of high quality aesthetics and mechanical properties that will provide new solutions to the challenges facing the packaging industry,” says Albin Mariacher, Product Manager Film and Fibre. “We are sure Borpact BC918CF complying to European- and now also US food regulations will take polypropylene into new application areas.”

Borpact BC918CF is based on Borealis’ proprietary Borstar® technology, a multi-modal process that enables the molecular tailoring of polyethylene and polypropylene to provide solutions that meet the exact needs of the customer.

Borealis has more than 50 years experience in providing advanced polyolefin solutions for industries using film, coating and thermoforming products. With foresight throughout the value chain and a focus on customer needs, Borealis continues to provide innovative, value creating PP and PE solutions for the film industry.

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2 (3)

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Borealis is a leading provider of chemical and innovative plastics solutions that create value for society. With sales of EUR 6.6 billion in 2008, customers in over 120 countries, and 5,400 employees worldwide, Borealis is owned 64% by the International Petroleum Investment Company (IPIC) of Abu Dhabi and 36% by OMV, the leading energy group in the European growth belt. Borealis is headquartered in Vienna, Austria, and has production locations, innovation centers and customer service centers across Europe and the Americas. Through Borouge, a joint venture between Borealis and the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), one of the world's major oil companies, the company's footprint reaches out to the Middle East, Asia Pacific, the Indian sub-continent and Africa. Established in 1998, Borouge employs approximately 1,400 people, has customers in more than 50 countries and its headquarters are in Abu Dhabi in the UAE and Singapore.

Building on the unique Borstar® technology and their experience in polyolefins for almost 50 years, Borealis and Borouge provide innovative, value creating plastics solutions for the infrastructure (pipe systems and power and communication cables), automotive and advanced packaging markets. In addition, Borealis offers a wide range of base chemicals from melamine and plant nutrients to phenol and acetone.

Today Borealis and Borouge manufacture 4.4 million tonnes of polyolefins (polyethylene and polypropylene) per year. Borouge is currently tripling its polyolefins manufacturing capacity to 2 million tonnes per year (t/y) by mid-2010 and an additional 2.5 million t/y is scheduled for 2013. The companies continue to invest to ensure that their customers throughout the value chain, across the globe, can always rely on product quality, consistency and security of supply.

Borouge and Borealis are committed to the principles of Responsible Care® and proactively contribute to addressing the world's water and sanitation challenges through their Water for the World™ initiative.

For more information visit:

Borealis: www.borealisgroup.com
Borouge: www.borouge.com
Water for the World: www.waterfortheworld.net