Tinosorb® A2B receives EU approval

- First micronized UV filter approved for use in cosmetics under the new EU Cosmetics Regulation
- Highly efficient protection against UVAII and UVB radiation

Tinosorb® A2B* is the first UV filter to be included in the positive list (Annex VI) of the new EU Cosmetics Regulation. Therewith, BASF’s highly efficient broadband filter is also the first UV filter with particle sizes smaller than 100 nanometers approved for use in cosmetics in Europe. “Tinosorb A2B equally protects against UVB and UVAII radiation, thereby making an important contribution to preventing skin cancer and light-induced skin aging. After a long approval process we are delighted that we are now allowed to bring the UV filter to market and that our customers can use it in sunscreen products,” said Dirk Mampe, head of Business Management for Personal Care Specialties Europe.

A new generation of micronized UV filters

Tinosorb A2B protects the skin against UV wavelengths ranging from 290 to 340 nanometers, thereby being the first of a new generation of finely-ground (micronized) UV filters: It complements conventional oil-soluble UV filters by closing the current gap between UVA and UVB absorbers, thus enabling a balanced protection across the entire spectrum of solar UV radiation.

*INCI name: Tris-biphenyl triazine (nano), TBPT
The most efficient filter to protect from UV radiation

Thanks to Tinosorb A2B, the SPF performance of cosmetics such as sunscreens can be increased. As a result, a lower UV filter concentration is necessary than with conventional ingredients. “The absorption spectrum of a micronized UV filter depends on its particle size. With particle sizes of about 100 nanometers, optimum SPF performance can be achieved due to better skin coverage,” said Uli Osterwalder, Marketing Manager and Scientific Adviser for the Sun Care segment. “We took advantage of this principle in the development of Tinosorb A2B.”

Careful evaluation process for UV filters in the EU

All new UV filters intended for the use in cosmetics on the European market are subject to a thorough evaluation process. For that purpose, a comprehensive dossier with complex toxicity studies needs to be submitted to the EU Commission and has to be assessed by the Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS). The evaluation and approval process of the EU is completed as soon as the respective UV filter has been added to the so-called positive list – a term used for Annex VI of the Cosmetics Regulation.

Further UV filters by BASF currently in approval process

The new EU Cosmetics Regulation further stipulates that the EU Commission must be notified of all ingredients containing nanoscale material. This also applies to ingredients that have already been approved. BASF has submitted registration dossiers for all UV filters with nanoscale parts that are already available on the European market: The UV filters Z-Cote®, Z-Cote® HP1 and Tinosorb® M are in the approval process.

About BASF’s Care Chemicals division

The BASF division Care Chemicals offers a broad range of ingredients for hygiene, personal care, home care, industrial & institutional cleaning, and technical applications. We are the global leading supplier for the cosmetics industry as well
as the detergents and cleaners industry and support our customers with innovative and sustainable products, solutions and concepts. The division’s high-performance product portfolio includes surfactants, emulsifiers, polymers, emollients, chelating agents, cosmetic active ingredients, pigments and UV filters. Superabsorbent polymers developed for the full spectrum of hygiene applications complete the range. We have production and development sites in all regions and are expanding our presence in emerging markets. Further information is available on the Internet at www.care-chemicals.basf.com.

About BASF

BASF is the world’s leading chemical company: The Chemical Company. Its portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics, performance products and crop protection products to oil and gas. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. Through science and innovation, we enable our customers in nearly every industry to meet the current and future needs of society. Our products and solutions contribute to conserving resources, ensuring nutrition and improving quality of life. We have summed up this contribution in our corporate purpose: We create chemistry for a sustainable future. BASF had sales of about €74 billion in 2013 and over 112,000 employees as of the end of the year. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (AN). Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at www.basf.com.