

Vegan LANXESS processing promoter ensures CO₂ savings in tire production

- **Vegetable raw material basis instead of animal fats and oils**
- **Reduced CO₂ footprint**

Cologne – Specialty chemicals company LANXESS has added a plant-based raw material variant to its Aktiplast PP product range. These processing promoters for polymer blends are used in the production of tires and all kinds of technical rubber articles. Aktiplast PP-veg, which is based on renewable raw materials, was developed specifically in response to a customer requirement from Asia. In this way, the LANXESS Rhein Chemie business unit aims to enable rubber processors to reduce their CO₂ footprint. An international tire manufacturer from Europe has already expressed great interest.

Unlike the conventional product, Aktiplast PP-veg is manufactured only from vegetable oils. The proportion of renewable raw materials in Aktiplast PP-veg is around 90 percent, so that its CO₂ footprint is significantly reduced. The starting point are raw materials made from the fruits of oil palms. They are ecologically more sustainable than coconut palms, rapeseed or sunflowers, as they provide by far the highest oil yield per hectare of farmland area.

Easier processing due to reduced viscosity

The processing promoter is particularly suitable for polymer blends based on natural rubber. It reduces the viscosity of rubber compounds and significantly improves injection and extrusion behavior, also in combination with functionalized polymers. Depending on the compound composition, the product improves scorch behavior, promotes vulcanization and ensures easy demolding without contamination of the mold.

LANXESS is a leading specialty chemicals company with sales of EUR 7.2 billion in 2018. The company currently has about 15,500 employees in 33 countries and is

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News Release

represented at 58 production sites worldwide. The core business of LANXESS is the development, manufacturing and marketing of chemical intermediates, additives, specialty chemicals and plastics. LANXESS is listed in the leading sustainability indices Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI World and Europe) and FTSE4Good.

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Information for editors:

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Aktioplast PP-veg, a processing promoter for polymer blends offered as a granulate, can be used for the manufacture of tires and all kinds of technical rubber articles. The new product, which is mainly based on renewable raw materials, significantly reduces the CO₂ footprint.
Photo: LANXESS AG