



Media release

DKSH revolutionizes sunscreen manufacturing in Europe with Applechem's COSMOS approved G-Block™ dispersion

DKSH, the leading Market Expansion Services provider with a focus on Asia and partner of Applechem, a USA-based functional cosmetic ingredient supplier, has become the first exclusive distributor for Applechem's recently COSMOS approved G-Block™ dispersion, a formulation created in answer to the demand for a natural source of UV filters in cosmetics products.

Lyon, France, August 24, 2016 – DKSH Business Unit Performance Materials, a leading Market Expansion Services provider and distributor of personal care and cosmetics ingredients, is the first exclusive distributor in Europe for Applechem's COSMOS (COSMetic Organic Standard) approved G-Block™ dispersion. With exclusive distribution rights in Europe, DKSH can now provide first time access to the natural, safe, broad spectrum dispersion, to its extensive customer base.

G-Block™ dispersion was created by Applechem in answer to the demand for a natural alternative source to TiO₂ (titanium dioxide) and ZnO (Zinc Oxide), formerly in widespread use throughout Europe as UV filters in cosmetics products. Both TiO₂ and ZnO were, themselves, seen as effective alternatives to other UV filters of petrochemical origin. However, owing to their potential content of nanomaterials, both materials were banned in Europe under the precautionary principle of the COSMOS, a Europe-wide private standard for organic agricultural products. Recently, the ban was revised to allow the use of the materials under certain conditions, but remains enforceable for use in end applications including sprays and aerosols.

Approved by ECOCERT (the inspection and certification body for sustainable development in Europe) with a COSMOS certification, G-Block™ dispersion boasts high efficacy, outstanding texture and SPF, with a delicate balance between skin transparency and broad spectrum protection. Super-loaded with high active solid content to provide manufacturers with more flexibility in their formulations, G-Block™ retains good skin feel and viscosity to provide the best sensory and transparency available in sunscreens today. Its high stability not only speeds up the transition from laboratory batch to large-scale production, but also helps ensure that the SPF and critical wavelength levels remain consistent from one batch to another. It is available in three grades: G-Block™ DT 200, G-Block™ DZ 370 CCT and G-Block™ DZ 480 CCT and is exclusively distributed by DKSH in Europe. Learn more at <http://info.dksh.com/G-Block>

"DKSH has a long, successful history with Applechem and we are hugely excited by the recent COSMOS approval of G-Block™. This unique dispersion is completely natural and is therefore an essential new solution for UV filters in cosmetics. Our large customer base in Europe, primarily comprised of manufacturers and formulation laboratories, are thrilled to be able to gain access to this fantastic product," commented Olivier Patricola, Director, Personal Care Industry Europe, Performance Materials, DKSH France S.A.

Exclusively distributing the product will further strengthen DKSH's market position in Europe and contribute to the Group's overall earnings and profitability over time.

About DKSH

DKSH is the leading Market Expansion Services provider with a focus on Asia. As the term "Market Expansion Services" suggests, DKSH helps other companies and brands to grow their business in new or existing markets. Publicly listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange since 2012, DKSH is a global company headquartered in Zurich. With 770 business locations in 36 countries – 740 of them in Asia – and 28,300 specialized staff, DKSH generated net sales of CHF 10.1 billion in 2015. DKSH was founded in 1865.

Think Asia. Think DKSH.

With strong Swiss heritage, the company has a long tradition of doing business in and with Asia and is deeply rooted in communities and businesses across Asia Pacific.

DKSH Business Unit Performance Materials is a leading specialty chemicals distributor and provider of Market Expansion Services for performance materials, covering Europe, North America and the whole of Asia. The Business Unit sources, develops, markets and distributes a wide range of specialty chemicals and ingredients for pharmaceutical, personal care, food & beverage as well as various industrial applications. In addition, it creates innovative and cutting-edge concepts and applications in 26 innovation centers located worldwide. With 100 business locations in 30 countries and around 970 specialized staff, Business Unit Performance Materials generated net sales of CHF 782.5 million in 2015.

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