BIOBASED SOLUTIONS
Our soybean checkoff. Effective. Efficient. Farmer-Driven.
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Innovative New Uses for Soy

Soy Provides Award-Winning Component for Sherwin-Williams Paints

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently awarded Sherwin-Williams its 2011 Presidential Green Chemistry Award. The award recognizes the design of safer and more sustainable chemicals, processes and products that protect Americans, particularly children, from exposure to harmful chemicals.

A four-year partnership between Sherwin-Williams and the United Soybean Board (USB) and the soybean checkoff led to the development of the award-winning, water-based acrylic alkyd paints made from soybean oil and recycled plastic bottles (PET) that reduce volatile organic compounds (VOCs) by 60 percent.

"Sherwin-Williams soy-based formulated paints dry fast with less yellowing and improved shelf life with water clean up," said Duke Rao, Sherwin-Williams director of polymers and materials technology group.

Soybean oil promotes film formation, gloss, flexibility and cure. In addition to being water-based and user friendly, extensive performance and application testing proved that soy-based paint performs as well as or better than current petrochemical-based paints.

"We know as farmers that we're using environmentally safe, green and sustainable production practices," said Bob Haselwood, USB New Uses chair and Kansas soybean farmer. "By using soybeans in products like those developed by Sherwin-Williams, more people will realize the soybean industry offers solutions for the green revolution."

By using 320,000 pounds of soybean oil in conjunction with 250,000 pounds of PET to produce their 2010 water-based acrylic paints, Sherwin-Williams helped eliminate more than 800,000 pounds of VOCs, solvents and other petroloeum-based feed stock.

To learn more about Sherwin-Williams and its products, visit www.sherwin-williams.com; to learn more about new industrial uses for soy, visit www.soynewuses.org.