



Innovative New Uses for Soy

Green Furniture Getting More Renewable Content, Thanks to New Surfactant



Foam manufacturers have new options when it comes to manufacturing biobased, flexible foam. Offered by Momentive Performance Materials, a surfactant called Niax* silicone L-670 helps allow for an increased loading of natural-oil-based polyols into flexible foam.

According to the results of collaboration between Momentive and Cargill, the new surfactant

can help foam manufacturers incorporate a greater amount of Cargill's soy-based BiOH® polyols into their foam, while maintaining the high level of quality customers have come to expect. The Momentive surfactant is an excellent candidate to consider for increasing the compatibility of natural-oil-based and petroleum-based polyols, resulting in reduced indentation force deflection (IFD) gradients and improved compression sets, as well as greater elongation, tensile and tear strength, which indicate the foam is more durable.

"Momentive Performance Materials' Niax L-670 silicone works well when incorporated with BiOH® polyols, providing the potential for previously unattainable levels of renewable content," says Tony Lanchak, global business director, Urethane Additives for Momentive. "Lowering the percentage of petroleum components can be positive for the environment by reducing the potential for petroleum hydrocarbons and reducing dependence on crude oil."

The United Soybean Board and the soybean checkoff provided funding to Pittsburg State University in Kansas who later worked with Cargill in the development of BiOH® technology. Changing the way manufacturers produce foam can positively impact the environment. For every 1 million pounds of Cargill BiOH® polyols used in furniture and mattresses, more than 85,000 gallons of petroleum can be saved.

"Cargill prides itself as the market leader in natural oil polyols," adds Yusuf Wazarzada, business unit leader for Cargill BiOH® polyols. "We continuously work on new solutions to bring to our customers."

To learn more about Cargill's soy-based BiOH® polyols, please visit: www.bioh.com. To learn more about Momentive's products, visit: www.momentive.com. To learn more about soy-based foams and other products, visit www.soynewuses.org. *Niax is a trademark of Momentive Performance Materials Inc.

USB is made up of 68 farmer-directors who oversee the investments of the soybean checkoff on behalf of all U.S. soybean farmers. Checkoff funds are invested in the areas of animal utilization, human utilization, industrial utilization, industry relations, market access and supply. As stipulated in the Soybean Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service has oversight responsibilities for USB and the soybean checkoff.