NanoBioMatters Gains EPA Registration for Novel BactiBlock® Antimicrobial Additives

VALENCIA, Spain, July 26, 2011 – NanoBioMatters, Valencia, Spain, a leading supplier of engineered clay-based additives**,** has announced that its BactiBlock® antimicrobial polymer preservative has been registered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for use in the U.S. BactiBlock is a very durable and cost effective solution based on silver-functionalized clay and is designed to suppress the growth of algae, mold, mildew, fungi and bacteria, which cause deterioration, odors, corrosion, and stains in polymer-based products.

"The recent EPA registration opens the door for commercial entry of these unique antimicrobial preservatives into the U.S.," said Ole Faarbaek, Vice President of NanoBioMatters North America. BactiBlock antimicrobial preservatives are already produced at commercial scale, having been used in Europe since 2010. "Several major U.S. brand owners in key markets have finalized testing and commercial use in the U.S. is expected later this year" added Faarbaek.

The proprietary and patent-pending BactiBlock technology features purified and modified phyllosilicate clay which is used as a performance-enhancing carrier of the silver antimicrobial agent. During the production process, silver is linked to the clay surface and a uniform dispersion of the clay is achieved. In addition, the silver deposited on the clay prevents platelet agglomeration which, combined with unique surface modification, ensures uniform total additive dispersion.

The silver linked to the clay platelets is released to the surface of the protected material at a controlled rate. This ensures a more uniform and long-term antimicrobial

effect, compared to preservatives with the active agent readily available in the polymer. As a result, BactiBlock is engineered for long term applications and will provide superior anti-microbial performance for several years.

The BactiBlock range of products are compatible for use with a range of polymers and plastics including polyolefins, engineering resins, powder coatings, liquid coatings, and thermosets. The additive can be delivered as a micronized powder, gel concentrate or a masterbatch and specific levels of each component can be fine tuned to achieve the desired performance. Final concentration of the total additive package is highly dependent on product design and target properties with typical concentration ranging from 0.5 to 2 %.

The versatility of the BactiBlock range means that it can be used in a wide range of applications. Key end-use markets where surface protection, odor control, and stain resistance are important include construction (flooring, surfaces, countertops), furniture, apparel, footwear, appliances and sporting goods. A part from the silver/based antimicrobial preservative, NanoBioMatters is currently developing additional biocide solutions for polymers based on novel chemistries, which will further broaden the range of applications.

About NanoBioMatters

Founded in 2005, NanoBioMatters, based in Valencia, Spain, is a leading supplier of engineered clay-based additives which deliver improved performance and barrier protection for a range of polymers. The company's portfolio of additives, including antioxidants, antimicrobials, and oxygen scavengers, are designed to maximize the performance of plastics through unique, sustainable, and cost-effective clay dispersion and functionalization technology. NanoBioMatters' proprietary technology is based on naturally sourced clays, which are refined, purified, and surface modified to ensure uniform dispersion and compatibility with a variety of polymers. NanoBioMatters operates a 2500 metric ton/yr additive plant and a 4000 metric ton/yr masterbatch production facility in Spain. These facilities are supported by state-of-the-art R&D and

testing laboratories and commercial offices in Europe, Asia and North America. For more information, call (+34) 96131-8628 or visit www.nanobiomatters.com.

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