



January 2007

Statement on Biocides, Formaldehyde and Formaldehyde Release Agents

Dear Customer,

This letter serves to update our customers on Gemini Dispersions' position with respect to recent changes in legislation in some parts of Europe concerning biocide content in certain products, and more specifically the imminent total banning of formaldehyde in the workplace.

For many years Gemini Dispersions have used a combination of active biocide ingredients to preserve our water based products. Though formaldehyde itself has never been used, a formaldehyde release agent has been included in the biocide selection. This combination has been very successful in ensuring that our aqueous products are free of bacteriological contamination.

To meet pending legislation and current legislation particularly for our customers in France, Gemini have removed the formaldehyde release agent from all aqueous products, and have selected a new combination of active biocide ingredients which does not contain formaldehyde or formaldehyde release agents. This change in formulation will occur in two stages:

- as of 02-01-07 for aqueous products produced for the French market
- as of 16-01-07 for all remaining aqueous products for all markets

This removal relates to all new manufacture and does not apply to products produced prior to 2007. For ease of identification purposes, all product labels for these new formaldehyde free formulations will show the marking **(FF)** after the batch number. All products manufactured prior to this changeover will not bear the (FF) suffix. Customers should be aware that no other aspect of the product names or formulations will change.

We would hope our customers in France will be understanding and still accept products containing the formaldehyde release agent until stocks are depleted. The maximum amount of free formaldehyde in those products will not exceed 100ppm.

We wish to reassure all of our customers that, in order to avoid bacteriological contamination without the presence of formaldehyde, Gemini have implemented very stringent plant hygiene procedures. These involve thorough disinfection of all equipment, qualified by regular audits carried out by our biocide supplier.

We trust the above meets with your full approval. If you do have any concerns or queries please contact a member of our Technical Department for more information.

Yours faithfully,
Gemini Dispersions Ltd