

## **TopChim starts new business development for NanoTope**

**ANTWERP, Belgium, 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2009:** After several successful commercial introductions of its nanotechnology in the paper and cardboard industry, TopChim starts new development initiatives to initiate product innovation with organic nano-materials for other industrial applications.

Since its discovery on how to make water-dispersed organic nano-particles, Topchim has made several successful commercial introductions of this innovative material in paper and cardboard applications. NanoTope nano-particles are quite unique due to their organic nature. They can easily be fine-tuned to customer requirements. They also have good interactions with other materials such as binders and substrates, demonstrating excellent compatibility, cohesion and adhesion properties.

Topchim also succeeded in encapsulating non-water soluble materials such as dyes, UV-absorbers, perfumes and biocides. These active ingredients can be applied in better environmental and industrial conditions. Whereas vegetable oils are encapsulated, the bio-renewability content of the nano-materials can reach up to 75%. Topchim is able to modify the nano-particles in such a way that they are able to enhance properties such as printability, gloss and water repellency.

Topchim has created a New Business Development department to commercialize the nano-particle dispersions outside the paper and cardboard industry. This group will be headed by Dirk Stanssens, who has previously led several new business development projects and internal start-ups at DSM. Dirk Stanssens: "It is quite exciting to bring a new material to the market that is so unique. It combines strong performances of nano-materials with a tremendous flexibility to adapt their properties". Eric Jönsson, CEO: "We are absolutely convinced that our nano-materials will be a success in other application fields, as they are today in the paper and cardboard industry".

Topchim has already started building partnerships to co-develop innovative products based on the NanoTope water-based dispersion. In the first instance the focus will be on applications where high water repellency is desired or where encapsulation technology at the nano-level will bring added value. To learn more about the technical capabilities of NanoTope and its potential applicability in several markets, take a look at the presentation given by Dirk Stanssens at the Nanomaterials 2009 conference in Bonn, 16-18 June 2009.

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