

## **FUNCTIONAL COATINGS INNOVATION FROM DSM MAKES ITS DEBUT**

Stamicarbon BV (DSM Licensing Center), The Netherlands, has launched Symphase<sup>®</sup> Technology, an innovative and patented process for the creation of transparent oxygen barrier layers based on the vapour deposition of melamine. This technology is viewed as having applications in key markets such as electronics, medical devices and disposables. Branded as Freshure<sup>®</sup> Coatings, it is now being offered for licensing in flexible packaging - particularly foods.

The presence of gases such as oxygen in food packaging can be detrimental to product freshness. To protect packaged foods and liquids from oxygen ingress, plastic films for food packaging are today usually provided with barrier coatings -- some of which have limitations in terms of clarity, cost-effectiveness, or environmental issues. Melamine is completely environmentally benign. DSM's new Symphase<sup>®</sup> technology offers a genuine alternative pathway for the creation of such barriers with its Freshure<sup>®</sup> Coatings, available either as a stand-alone high gas barrier coating, Freshure<sup>®</sup>-Single Coat, or as a top coat for oxide coated or metallized films, Freshure<sup>®</sup>-Top Coat.

### **Real commercial openings**

Says Dr. Shahab Jahromi, Business Manager for DSM Symphase<sup>®</sup> technology: 'As the world's largest producer of melamine, we are extremely familiar with the properties and handling characteristics of this material. We have partnered its obvious benefits -- its sustainability, the transparency of the coatings, the high barrier values and its cost effectiveness -- with the markets where we see real openings. Already, a major film producer in America has taken up a licence, and has invested heavily in dedicated equipment which will be commercially operational by the year end.'

DSM is active worldwide in developing innovative products and services for many key markets today -- particularly nutritional and pharmaceutical ingredients and performance materials -- and is a global sustainability leader. Further information on Symphase<sup>®</sup> technology is available via the website, [www.symphase.com](http://www.symphase.com), and for information on licensing possibilities contact Dr. Shahab Jahromi at the DSM Licensing Center.

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