

### **Silicone based leather chemicals from LANXESS are harmless**

- **Cyclosiloxane impurities well below SVHC limit**
- **LANXESS products for leather manufacture are economical, sustainable and safe**

**Cologne** – Specialty chemicals company LANXESS supports the leather industry in reconciling economic interests, ecological compatibility and consumer benefits. This is why the company has been consistently focusing its leather production portfolio on sustainability for years. Products from the LANXESS Leather (LEA) business unit also ensure concentrations well below the specified limit with regard to the latest restriction by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) on cyclic siloxane compounds.

Some of silicone based products marketed by LANXESS for the manufacture of leather contain trace amounts of cyclosiloxanes as unavoidable raw material residue in the manufacture of leather chemicals. Dr. Martin Kleban, HSEQ representative at LEA, explains: “Given the maximum concentration in the chemical formulation and the amount of product applied in leather manufacture, it is highly unlikely that the reporting threshold of 0,1 percent (w/w) of cyclosiloxane in leather will be exceeded if the chemical formulation is used according to our recommendation.”

In June 2018, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) included the chemicals D4 (octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane), D5 (decamethylcyclopentasiloxane) and D6 (dodecamethylcyclohexasiloxane) to the EU REACH Candidate List for Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC). The notification requirement for substances, mixtures or articles containing D4, D5 or D6 has been set at a concentration of 0.1 percent (w/w).

**LANXESS AG**

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“In many cases, silicone based products contain unavoidable amounts of D4, D5 and D6, and these substances are not intended components of the product,” Kleban continues. “In our opinion, polymer silicones can be used safely, if they are used as intended. Furthermore, in our experience, they represent an economical, sustainable and safe chemical product class. After all, we want to offer our customers safe, high-quality products.”

Detailed information on LANXESS products, technologies and services for the leather industry along the entire value chain can be found at [www.leather.lanxess.com](http://www.leather.lanxess.com).

LANXESS is a leading specialty chemicals company with sales of EUR 9.7 billion in 2017 and about 19,200 employees in 25 countries. The company is currently represented at 73 production sites worldwide. The core business of LANXESS is the development, manufacturing and marketing of chemical intermediates, additives, specialty chemicals and plastics. LANXESS is listed in the leading sustainability indices Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI World and Europe) and FTSE4Good.

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### Forward-Looking Statements

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### Information for editors:

All LANXESS news releases and their accompanying photos can be found at <http://press.lanxess.com>. Recent photos of the Board of Management and other LANXESS image material are available at <http://photos.lanxess.com>. TV footage can be found at <http://globe360.net/broadcast.lanxess/>.

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You can find further information concerning LANXESS chemistry in our WebMagazine at <http://webmagazine.lanxess.com>.

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## Image



With regard to the latest restriction of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) for cyclic siloxane compounds, the products of the LANXESS Leather business unit keep impurities in leather well below the specified limit. Photo: LANXESS AG