



CIS ACRYLATES

Participants of specialised conference CIS Acrylates discuss the latest industry trends

In the run-up to this year's International Exhibition for Paints and Coatings (Interlakokraska), information agency Chem-Courier organised the first-ever specialised conference CIS Acrylates.

ACCORDING TO SMART CONSULT, THE GLOBAL MARKET OF ACRYLIC ACID GREW BY 5% TO 6.3 MILLION TONNES IN 2019.

The professional community was keen not only to discuss the latest trends in the paints and coatings industry, but also to shed light on all modern applications of acrylates.

Acrylates are compound esters of acrylic acid or its derivatives. They include a whole range of products widely used as feedstock for polymers, glues, and paints and coatings. The latter account for just 50% of the acrylates market, that is why the conference attracted producers, consumers, experts and potential partners from many other segments of the petrochemical industry. Participants discussed the most important industry trends in Russia and CIS.



Conference participants discussing the latest industry trends.

THE MAIN CONSUMERS OF THE PRODUCT INCLUDE THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION, NORTH AMERICA, AND WESTERN EUROPE.

According to Smart Consult, the global market of acrylic acid grew by 5% to 6.3 million tonnes in 2019. The main consumers of the product include the Asia-Pacific region, North America, and Western Europe. Until recently, the greatest demand for acrylates came from China accounting for ca. 40% of total global consumption. In Russia, since 2017, demand for acrylic acid and its derivatives has been completely satisfied by domestic producers. Our companies focus on the local market, while also developing exports, driven by the production of polymer dispersions and adhesives.

SIBUR is one of the largest suppliers of acrylates in Russia maintaining a stable production of acrylic acid-based products at SIBUR-Neftekhim in Dzerzhinsk, the Nizhny Novgorod Region. SIBUR's representatives – Margarita Sekunova, manager of the plastics, organic synthesis and fuel components segment, and Alyona Pukhova, chief expert for propylene derivatives and MAN, took part in the business programme of CIS Acrylates.

The Company's main presentation focused on the development of Russia's market for 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, a new offering in the acrylates segment developed internally by SIBUR. 2-ethylhexyl acrylate boasts a low glass transition temperature, elasticity and excellent hydrophobic properties. The new material is widely used in producing adhesives, decorative and industrial paints and coatings. In Europe, 2-ethylhexyl acrylate finds a much wider application than in Russia.



CIS Acrylates conference speakers.

UNTIL RECENTLY, THE GREATEST DEMAND FOR ACRYLATES CAME FROM CHINA ACCOUNTING FOR CA. 40% OF TOTAL GLOBAL CONSUMPTION.

Adhesive tape, impregnation of non-woven material, textile, ingredients for flexography present potential niches for acrylate application. Recycling companies have been requiring recently that labels should be removed from packaging, which gives a new impetus to acrylic adhesive production spurring new demand for acrylates. Localising label production in Russia will significantly expand the market. Water-based finishers are another popular niche for acrylates – their share reaches 70% of the EU and US markets. SIBUR supplies acrylates not only domestically, but also exports them, monitoring closely global trends in paints and coatings. Our experience shows that over time the key foreign trends end up in the Russian market.

By taking part in CIS Acrylates, SIBUR takes an opportunity to discuss specialty chemicals, which are not yet produced in Russia despite a strong demand from processors. SIBUR, as a leader of the Russian petrochemical and acrylic market, is happy to use any venue for liaising with potential partners, particularly a professional platform such as a specialised industry conference.