

ASK Chemicals' VOC-Reduction Solutions

Lowering organic material input for less emissions

Hilden, March 8, 2023: ASK Chemicals, a leading global producer of high-performance chemicals and materials, offers customized solutions to help foundries comply with strict emission limits, particularly with respect to volatile organic compounds (VOCs). VOCs are highly volatile organic substances produced during core production and storage.

As global concern for environmental protection and sustainable practices grows, more stringent VOC limits are being enforced worldwide. For instance, Germany's current VOC limit is 150 mg C/m³, with the target value expected to drop to 50 mg C/m³ in eight years. Similarly, China's current national limitation for non-methane hydrocarbons (NMHCs*), a type of VOC, is 120 mg/m³, with some provinces imposing even stricter thresholds.

To comply with these emissions limits and maintain production permits, foundries must find effective ways to reduce VOC emissions. One strategy is to use highly efficient binder technology that reduces the quantity of organic material. Foundries adopting this approach successfully reduce emissions in the core shop and – additionally - lower gas pressure during pouring. Ultimately, using a high-efficiency binder helps to even minimize amine gassing, resulting in reduced core shop odors and VOCs. Another approach is to use binders with high-boiling solvents, which also results in less odor and fewer VOCs in the core shop. Alternatively, optimizing process parameters, such as adjusting drying oven temperatures to a minimum, can reduce VOC emissions and save energy costs.

"At ASK Chemicals, we firmly believe that 'less is more.' Using less, but more efficient binders, helps to reduce emissions and optimizes the total costs of ownership," says Thomas Glattes, Executive Vice President Europe. "We always take into account the specific foundry emission footprint and the task of our customers to reduce emissions. Our solutions are tailored and optimized to the unique requirements of our customers."

ASK Chemicals' experts consider the entire process and its costs before recommending a suitable approach to the problem. Their cold box binder portfolio includes a range of solutions to help meet each customer's specific needs, such as ECOCURE™ SILVER, ECOCURE™ SILVER T, and the ECOCURE™ BLUE family. These systems can be combined with water-based coating technology, VOC-free release agents, and inorganic mini-riser technology to provide further leverage for meeting emission limits accurately without investing in expensive plant technology.

ASK Chemicals will showcase its latest solutions for VOC emission reduction at GIFA in Düsseldorf, Germany, from June 12 to 16, 2023, in Hall 12, Booth A22.

**Non-methane hydrocarbons are VOCs but with methane excluded. China monitors NMHCs to track pollution.*

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Contact:
Global Communications

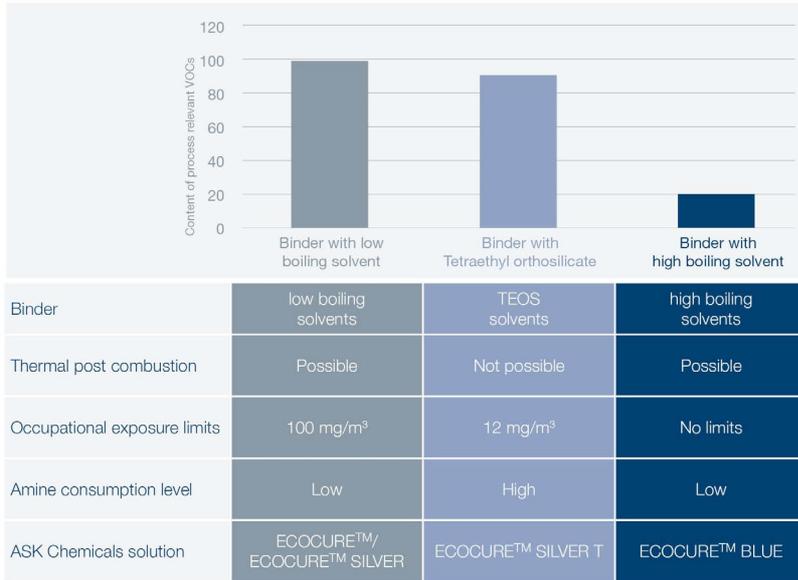
Verena Sander
Head of Global Communications
+49 211 71103-948
Verena.Sander@ask-chemicals.com

Beate Kempa
Assistant Global Communications
+49 211 71103-63
Beate.Kempa@ask-chemicals.com

Isabel Dickmann
Communications Specialist
+49 211 71103-740
Isabel.Dickmann@ask-chemicals.com

ASK Chemicals GmbH
Reisholzstr. 16 – 18
40721 Hilden
Telefon: +49 211 71 103-0
info.germany@ask-chemicals.com
www.ask-chemicals.com

Picture material to the press release



Pic 1: Depending on the requirement profile, ASK Chemicals offers different solutions that help to reduce process-relevant VOCs. (*Occupational Exposure Limit: High value means low risk to employees from emissions, low values mean high risk; "No limits" means harmless to employees).



Pic 2: ASK Chemicals' cold box binder portfolio includes a range of solutions to meet each customer's specific emission reduction needs, such as ECOCURE™ SILVER, ECOCURE™ SILVER T, and the ECOCURE™ BLUE family.

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Head of Global Communications
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Assistant Global Communications
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ASK Chemicals GmbH
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www.ask-chemicals.com

ABOUT ASK CHEMICALS:

ASK Chemicals Group, headquartered in Hilden near Düsseldorf (Germany), is a global supplier of high-performance industrial resins and materials. The company's products are mainly used in foundries and in the production of friction, abrasives, refractories, impregnation, coatings, insulation and composite materials.

The Foundry division offers an exceptionally wide and innovative range of foundry consumables including binders, coatings, risers, filters, release agents as well as metallurgical products such as inoculants, inoculation wires and master alloys for iron casting.

The Industrial Resins division is a leader in the field of specialty phenolic resins. Our phenolic resins are the preferred choice when it comes to meeting the highest requirements in the areas of fire protection, energy consumption, service lifetime, health and safety at work.

The company has a production and sales network in 22 countries and employs approximately 2000 people worldwide. ASK Chemicals Group sees itself as a driving force of industry-specific innovations with research centers and laboratories in Europe, Asia, Americas and Africa.

Contact:
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Verena Sander
Head of Global Communications
+49 211 71103-948
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Assistant Global Communications
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