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European adhesive and sealant manufacturers launch quality assurance initiative

Premiere: Unified Testing Methods for Polyurethane Foam in pressurized cans (OCF).

For the first time, the Association of European Adhesives and Sealants Manufacturers (FEICA) has developed general testing and quality standards for polyurethane (PU) foams. This initiative will make it easier for the construction industry to select the most suitable product available on the market for every specific application.

Companies such as Dow Chemical, Henkel, Polypag, Selena, Soudal, Tkk, Tremco-illbruck and more recently Den Braven, Hanno and Krimelte have been supporting these efforts. "The objective is to develop unified testing methods for specific applications of PU foams. The aim is to give customers the certainty and confidence they require with regard to the respective performance claims", says Luc Thys, chairman of the One Component Foams (OCF) technical working group within FEICA. PU foams have long been the global standard for the installation of windows and doors, for instance. Nevertheless, transparent evaluation criteria have not been developed for most products. FEICA strives to remedy this shortcoming and will openly publish quality standards and testing methods on its Website www.feica.eu.

The European Adhesives and Sealant Industry consists of more than 650 manufacturers of which a majority are SME's. It generates a total turnover in excess of 13 billion€ and employs 50.000 people. More than 200 million PU foam cans are been used in Europe for a large number of construction and building applications.

Because of its high insulation performance, PU foam is an energy saver and consequently contributes to environmental protection.

Background

FEICA is the European Voice of the European Adhesive & Sealant Manufacturers. The association, founded in 1972, has a dual membership composed of 14 National Associations and over 20 direct companies.

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