

PRESS RELEASE

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K 2010

WACKER Showcases UV-Activated Curing of Silicone Rubber for High-Voltage Applications

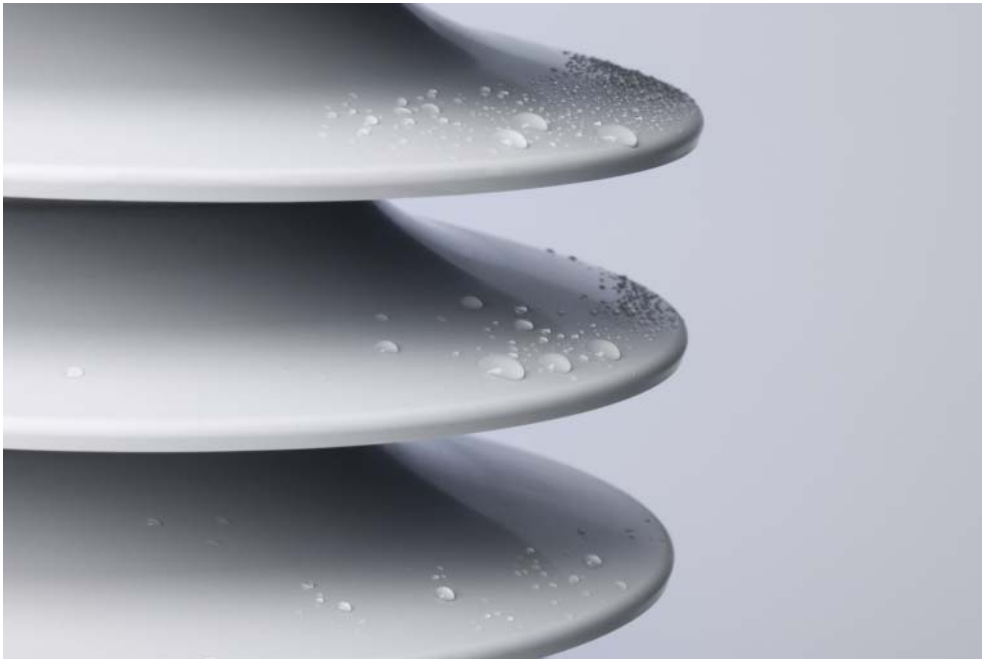
Munich, June 14, 2010 – POWERSIL® UV is a new silicone curing technology for applications in the transmission and distribution industry which WACKER, the Munich-based chemical group, will be introducing at the 18th International Trade Fair for Plastics and Rubber (K 2010). Curing of POWERSIL® UV silicone elastomers is initiated by irradiation with ultraviolet light and proceeds at room temperature. The new technology allows for flexible and cost-efficient silicone processing. K 2010 will take place from October 27 to November 3 in Düsseldorf, Germany.

A technology with a proven track record in the electronics industry has good prospects of repeating the success in high-voltage engineering: WACKER's new UV-activating curing technology. In contrast to conventional silicone elastomers, which cure at elevated temperatures, curing of the novel silicones is activated by irradiation with UV light, whereupon the crosslinking reaction starts. The technology has numerous advantages: UV-silicones cure rapidly and their process parameters can be adjusted to the users' requirements. Also, no byproducts are released. WACKER now incorporated this innovative technology into its POWERSIL® UV series making these advantages available to the transmission and distribution industry.

Silicone elastomers are ideal insulating materials for high-voltage applications and are used, e.g. in combinations with glass-fiber-reinforced epoxy resin, to manufacture long-rod and hollow insulators. Other important applications include cable accessories, surge arresters and bushings. They take advantage of the material's excellent electrical and hydrophobic properties as well as its weathering stability.

With UV-active silicone elastomers for the T&D industry, developers can not only achieve high production speeds. As UV-activated silicones cure rapidly at room temperature, POWERSIL® UV also allows for energy- and cost-efficient processing.

Visit WACKER at K 2010 in Düsseldorf. You'll find us in Hall 06, Booth A10.



At K 2010, WACKER will be showcasing POWERSIL® UV, a silicone elastomer for the transportation and distribution industry. Curing is initiated by irradiation with ultraviolet light and proceeds at room temperature. The curing rate can be adjusted by simply changing the process parameters. (Photo: Wacker Chemie AG)

Note:

This photo is available for download at:

<http://www.wacker.com/pressreleases>

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The company in brief:

WACKER is a globally-active chemical company with some 15,600 employees and annual sales of around €3.78 billion (2009). WACKER has 26 production sites and over 100 sales offices worldwide.

WACKER SILICONES

Silicone fluids, emulsions, rubber and resins; silanes; pyrogenic silicas; thermoplastic silicone elastomers

WACKER POLYMERS

Polyvinyl acetate and vinyl acetate copolymers in the form of dispersible polymer powders, dispersions and solid resins used as binders for construction chemicals, coatings, adhesives, paints, plasters and nonwovens

WACKER BIOSOLUTIONS

Biotech products such as cyclodextrins, cysteine and biologics, as well as fine chemicals and PVAc solid resins

WACKER POLYSILICON

Polysilicon for the semiconductor and photovoltaics industries

Siltronic

Hyperpure silicon wafers and monocrystals for semiconductor devices