

## Press Release

### **ALTANA Chemie AG**

Corporate Communications  
Sven Kremser  
Abelstr. 45  
46483 Wesel  
Germany  
T +49 (0) 281 670-746  
F +49 (0) 281 670 9746  
press@altanachemie.com  
www.altanachemie.com

## **La Artistica develops coating solutions for converting from solvent-based to water-based sealants**

**Wesel/ Porriño (Spain), August 12, 2004** – An increasing number of companies are taking the decision to use water-based sealing compounds – instead of solvent-containing products – as sealant for packaging materials. This trend has prompted the sealants manufacturer La Artistica to launch new production equipment on the market as a complement to its tried and tested water-based can sealants. La Artistica has thus repositioned itself as a supplier of innovative coating and sealing solutions. La Artistica is part of the ALTANA Chemie business unit Coatings & Sealants.

Among the equipment now available are stirrers and pumps, central feeding systems, injection guns, carbide nozzles and needles, and a newly developed infrared post-heater, which integrates perfectly with the converted production line. It can be easily adapted for stationary or rotary liners, handles up to 350 ends a minute and shortens the resetting time between different end diameters – technical properties which are, alongside the cost advantages, important conditions for the successful conversion to water-based sealants.

Beside the positive environmental aspects, there are also key commercial and technical benefits to conversion, the upshot being that a changeover to water-based sealants is in demand from can manufacturers outside of Europe. La Artistica supports customers in the decision-making process by providing careful analysis of all the conversion options available and detailed, tailored proposals specific to products and production equipment.

*ALTANA Chemie develops and produces high-quality, innovative products in the specialty chemicals business. The specialty chemicals activities of the ALTANA Group as a globally active group of companies are consolidated in ALTANA Chemie AG. ALTANA Chemie AG with its headquarters in Wesel, Germany, is the holding company for the three business units of Additives & Instruments, Coatings & Sealants and Electrical Insulation. ALTANA Chemie provides innovative and environmentally compatible solutions, along with the appropriate special products, for coatings manufacturers, paint and plastics processors, and the electronics industry. The range of products includes additives, special coatings, sealants, compounds, impregnating agents, and testing and measuring equipment. In its target markets the company occupies a leading position in terms of quality, product solutions, innovation and service. In 2003 ALTANA Chemie, with over 2,600 employees, achieved sales of €775m. Sectorally, therefore, ALTANA Chemie is among the most innovative, fast-developing and profitable chemical corporations in the world.*

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