

SABIC Innovative Plastics' Valox iQ* Resin Tapped for Eco Performance, Permanent Stain Resistance and Top Color Pop for New PCR Carpet Line

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Bergen Op Zoom – June 22, 2009 – At SABIC Innovative Plastics, customer focus, collaboration and application co-development are an integral part of the company's business strategy. So when Interface Americas, Inc., the world's largest manufacturer of modular carpet and a leader in the sustainability movement, created its new Convert™ carpet line to leverage the use of post-consumer recycled (PCR) nylon fiber, SABIC Innovative Plastics provided total customer support. Working closely with Interface and its converter, Universal Fibers, Inc., a leading supplier of high-end solution-dyed (melt pigmented) fibers, SABIC Innovative Plastics developed Valox iQ* 2205HV resin for the new application. The environmentally progressive, high-performance resin is used as a critical additive to provide permanent stain resistance and strong, consistent color, and to maximize PCR content. The new carpet line – sporting unique modular designs – is on display here at NPE 2009 in SABIC booth W123011.

New Valox iQ 2205HV is highly effective in dispersing pigment throughout the polymer melt to produce consistent, vivid colors – what the flooring and carpet industries call “color pop” – with lower loadings of expensive colorants. Compared to fiber that is dyed after being produced, solution-dyed fiber using Valox iQ resin maintains excellent color and provides permanent stain resistance to prolong carpet life, maintains an attractive appearance, and makes cleaning much easier.

“This is an exciting program,” said Richard Crosby, global product marketing and technology leader, SABIC Innovative Plastics. “Valox iQ resin was developed as an environmentally responsible solution by incorporating upcycled PET bottle content. Now, it's being used as an important additive that, combined with other environmental technologies, is helping to take sustainability to a whole new level. The versatile Valox iQ resin technology is helping our customers in totally new market sectors to support their most important environmental initiatives, like Universal Fibers' ReFresh® yarns and Interface's new Convert carpet.”

Modular carpet is the leading trend in commercial and institutional carpeting because it is easy to replace or repair and enables special aesthetic effects and designs. The Convert product, available in 64 shades and many different styles, is the result of collaboration between Interface, Universal Fibers and SABIC Innovative Plastics. Interface and Universal Fibers, as part of the Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE), are installing infrastructure to recover spent carpet, and recycle the fiber and backing to produce PCR carpet. The SABIC Innovative Plastics technology helps ensure performance and color equal to

that of virgin carpet.

As an additive to the melt-pigmented PCR ReFresh yarns, Valox iQ 2205HV resin provides permanent resistance to staining from acidic substances such as coffee, fruit juice and red wine. Its ionic polarity provides optimized dispersion of pigments in the polymer melt to produce uniform, eye-catching colors. Valox iQ resin is comprised of up to 65 percent discarded polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles upcycled to produce polybutylene terephthalate (PBT), resulting in a reduction of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions up to 55 to 75 percent lower than that of regular PBT resin.

Valox iQ 2205HV resin is a significant addition to SABIC Innovative Plastics' expanding iQ resin platform. "This is a major development in the evolution of this game-changing technology," Crosby added. "And helping to create the new Convert carpet line was a huge win for SABIC Innovative Plastics. Based on this success, aggressively translating Valox iQ 2205HV resin into new market sectors is a top priority for us. The automotive, outdoor vehicle and medical enclosure markets are just a few of these, but almost any market where compounded materials need superior pigment dispersion, exceptional molded-in color, and excellent overall aesthetics, is a target. Valox iQ 2205HV resin is extremely versatile and a very high-value product for our customers."

For additional information on SABIC Innovative Plastics' Valox iQ resin, please go to www.sabic-ip.com.

About SABIC Innovative Plastics

SABIC Innovative Plastics is a leading, global supplier of engineering thermoplastics with a 75-year history of breakthrough solutions that solve its customers' most pressing challenges. Today, SABIC Innovative Plastics is a multi-billion-dollar company with operations in more than 25 countries and over 9,500 employees worldwide. The company continues to lead the plastics industry with customer collaboration and continued investments in new polymer technologies, global application development, process technologies, and environmentally responsible solutions that serve diverse markets such as automotive, electronics, building & construction, transportation, and healthcare. The company's extensive product portfolio includes thermoplastic resins, coatings, specialty compounds, film, and sheet. SABIC Innovative Plastics (www.sabic-ip.com) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC), one of the world's top five petrochemicals manufacturers.

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