

IQChem Newsletter

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IQChem Inc.
Benkenstrasse 254
CH-4108 Witterswil

Telephone +41 (0)61 721 95 40
www.iqchem.com
info@iqchem.com



Dr. Alfred Betschart, Chairman

Editorial:

The Alantana group, to which IQChem AG belongs, has acquired one more member since the beginning of this year. The company **Otto Brandes GmbH** in Hamburg joined us. What has a company like Otto Brandes, whose focus is on active pharmaceutical ingredients (API), got in common with IQChem, a specialist in colorants for coatings, plastics and inks? At first glance seemingly little, but with further analysis of the strategies of the Alantana group the similarities are obvious.

The core of the business of the Alantana group is the distribution of specialty chemicals. Obviously what constitutes classification as a specialty chemical must be defined. The main features of specialty chemicals are: high value with low to moderate volumes, high and sustainable quality in terms of supply, need for a technical expertise in the application, and legal compliance with strict regulations.

IQChem AG and Otto Brandes GmbH are active in different markets, but when it comes to quality and legal compliance they agree: only the best is good enough for us.

IQChem AG and Otto Brandes GmbH not only share a joint philosophy, they also share offices. IQChem Germany GmbH has moved its offices from Germany's Southwest to the port city of Hamburg, not only the home of Otto Brandes GmbH but also a city which can be called the world capital of chemical distribution. IQChem Germany GmbH will focus on sourcing activities for the whole group and will particularly assure legal compliance with the law of the European Union.

CLP and REACH will be the two major challenges for the chemical industries in the years to come. From the 1st of June 2015 all chemicals have to be labelled in accordance with the CLP regulation. The most challenging for us all will definitely be REACH, before the 31st of May 2018 all chemical substances have to be registered with ECHA (unless exempted). It seems 2018 is still far off in the future but it is not recommended to wait until the middle of 2017 before one starts one's registration activities. The number of registrations in 2018 will most probably be higher than originally planned and the capacities of the testing laboratories as well as the time of the consortia leaders will be limited. According to IQChem's plans, we have already started the discussions with the producers and partners to define a schedule to assure the registration of our pigments before the 31st May 2018. If everything goes well, I expect the first registrations in 2016.

IQChem and the whole Alantana group are dedicated distributors of specialty chemicals. And a part of this dedication is the assurance of full compliance with the law of the European Union, whether this means CLP or – the slightly more costly – REACH regulation.

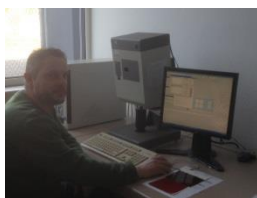


Dr. Bruno Piastra, Managing Director

Quality Control at IQChem:

At IQChem, we control the pigments we sell to our customers.

We have a laboratory in Witterswil where we perform quality control of all pigments we purchase from our suppliers. This means we run standard testing methods for paints and plastics against internal standards. This allows us to supply pigments with a constant quality to our customers.



Our technician, Ulysse Brigenti, has worked for many years in the QC & development laboratory for preparations at Clariant Huningue. He has extensive experience in the testing of organic pigments and color matching.

For pigments which are used in coatings, we run tests in alkyl or acrylic paints according to a standardized method. We qualify and approve each lot we import by testing Pre Shipment Samples.

Our laboratory is equipped with a Minolta® spectrophotometer and we work with the Colobri® software. We issue a testing report with $L^*a^*b^*C^*h^*$ values and comparisons versus the standard sample. Opacity and transparency in masstone are also controlled. Color strength in white reduction is measured as it is also part of our standard specifications.

We also carry out testing for our customers. For specific quality agreements, we will run the tests against a standard sample provided by our customer. This would strengthen the reliability of our results versus the own customer's QC.

We also assist our customers in sourcing a particular color index or a particular quality, like a high opacity or high color strength version of a pigment. Benefiting from our know-how and experience of pigments producers in the Far East, we help our customers to source the product they need.

For testing in plastics, we run standardized tests in soft PVC film. We are equipped with a Dr. Collin roll-mill, W110 AP.



Here again, in close collaboration with our customers, we are keen to perform experiments with their PVC compounds and their parameters (temperature, rotation speed, gap between the rolls) in order to cross check testing results for some particular applications.

For some demanding applications, like PP fibers for example, our suppliers are able to run filter value tests (FV) or Heat stability tests in various polymers.

High Performance Pigments for high end applications:

High performance pigments (HPP) are of particular interest for high demanding applications where classical pigments cannot be used because of insufficient properties.

HPP have superior features like:

- Heat stability
- Migration
- Overspray resistance
- Light and weatherfastness
- Resistance to chemicals, acidic or alkali media

In close collaboration with our suppliers, we have been able to select some of the most interesting items for our customers.

We present below a short list of HPP we have in our portfolio:

Color Index	Chemical Class	Main applications
P.Y. 110	isoindolinone	Industrial paints, inks
P.O. 43	perinone	Paints, powder coating, inks
P.R. 122	quinacridone	Industrial paints
P.R. 168	anthanthrone	Architectural paints for out-door
P.R. 177	anthraquinone	Industrial paints
P.R. 185	benzimidazolone	Packaging inks, PVC
P.V. 19	quinacridone	Industrial paints, inks

You can find more on our website: www.iqchem.com

Don't hesitate to contact us or our local partner for any specific demand.

IQChem looks for new products:

In close collaboration with our partners in China, we continuously bring new products to our customers.

We recently have added **PY 194** in our portfolio. This is a benzimidazolone pigment which offers a greenish yellow shade with a good light and weatherfastness.

It can be used in industrial paints, powder coating and high quality offset inks and packaging inks.

In combination with inorganic or other organic pigments, its opacity is of interest for replacement of chrome yellow pigments.

Our testing results versus the benchmark Novoperm Yellow F2G are listed below:

Masstone 5% in Acrylic paint	• L*	• C*	• h*	• E	
IQC Coat Yellow 194	-0.07	-0.08	-0.49	0.5	
White reduction 1:19 pig:TiO ₂	• L*	• C*	• h*	• E	Color Strength
	0.09	0.26	0.1	0.29	101 %

IQChem strengthens its marketing presence:

IQChem has a global marketing presence. Our commercial network is based on local agents and distributors, with vast experience in the coating and plastic industries.

In Germany/Austria & Switzerland, **Polygon** is promoting our products in the coatings sector. With its four sales managers, Polygon is our key partner in the largest market in Europe. The pigment pallet is an add-on in its portfolio of numerous products, including additives for the paint industry.

In France and Benelux, as well as in the German plastics sector, **Eukem** is representing us on the market. Bruno Salle de Chou has worked many years in the additive business for Ciba, and has been collaborating with IQChem since 2011, enlarging his domain of competence with organic pigments.

In UK, **Devine Chemicals** is promoting our pigments in the coatings and plastics sectors.

In Italy, we collaborate with **Came** in Origgio (MI) in the coating business.

In Spain and Portugal, we are represented by **GLC Quimica Lda**.

In Turkey, we are represented by **NAG** in Istanbul. Having made his carrier in the pigment business, Nuvit Gurbuz, along with his son Ali, is our cornerstone for the Turkish market, where we are present with the main paint producers.

In Indonesia, we concluded a distribution agreement with **Incoplas**, expanding our presence in a very dynamic and growing market.

In Iran, for many years we have been collaborating with **Arat Chem. Arya Ltd.** located in Tehran.

To find contact details of our partners, please consult our website www.iqchem.com

Where you can meet us at forthcoming events:



- **ECS 2015:** 21-23 April 2015 in Nürnberg.

As in 2013, IQChem will exhibit with the companies of the group, Polygon and Surchem, Hall 7, Booth 7-202.

The European Coating Show is of high importance for us and our customers.

<http://www.european-coatings-show.com/en/>

- **Fakuma 2015 :** 13-17 October 2015 in Friedrichshafen

We will exhibit with our partner Eukem 24th Fakuma – International trade fair for plastics processing.



<http://www.fakuma-messe.de/en/fakuma/>