

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



PLAST 2009

Merquinsa SIRT: Hall 20P/1 Stand E24

**Merquinsa Announces at PLAST 2009:
PEARLTHANE® ECO is Now Available across Italy**

Barcelona, Spain – March 24, 2009

Merquinsa announced that its Frost & Sullivan 2008 award-winning PEARLTHANE® ECO, a range of Bio TPU grades made from Renewable Sources is now available across Italy.

“PEARLTHANE® ECO with a renewable content up to 60% according to ASTM D6866 is a unique, game changing bio TPU product for customers who want to balance performance and cost and the demand for more sustainable “green” TPE applications”, according to a company spokesman.

A recent preliminary life cycle analysis (LCA), indicates that manufacturing Pearlthane® ECO range results in 40% less global warming emissions.

Merquinsa will display its innovative TPU portfolio for a wide range of sport & leisure, consumer goods and footwear applications, among others, at its Italian elastomers distributor's (SIRT) stand: Hall 20P/1 Stand E24.

About Merquinsa:

Merquinsa is a leading thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU) specialty producer, providing innovative products for injection moulding, extrusion, calendaring, melt coating, compounding and adhesive applications.

Merquinsa has been one of the earliest adopters of sustainability initiatives in the chemical industry, having been granted its 14001 ISO certification as early as in 1999 and put together its Responsible Care program in 2001.

Merquinsa was recently granted the Frost & Sullivan 2008 Global Thermoplastic Urethane (TPU) Product Innovation Green Excellence of the Year Award. This award recognizes Merquinsa's innovation in biopolymers, with its groundbreaking Bio TPU made from renewable carbon resources and successfully marketed globally under Pearlthane® and Pearlbond® ECO brands.


Merquinsa's headquarters are in Barcelona, Spain with regional centres in Asia and North America.

For more information about Merquinsa, and **PEARLTHANE®**, **PEARLCOAT®**, **PEARLBOND®**, **PEARLSTICK®** and **DISPERBOND®** specialty TPU resins, please visit our Web site at www.merquinsa.com or contact:

Save Fossil Fuel

Pearlthane® & Pearlbond® ECO by Merquinsa

New thermoplastic polyurethanes (TPU) series for polyurethane adhesives, polyurethane for extrusion, and injection molding markets.

 A full range of plant-based sources derived from bifunctional polyols has been developed. The reaction of these polyols in the TPU formulation allows new TPU with a renewable content ranging from 30% to 90% by weight, according to ASTM-D6866. Compared to the standard petrochemical-based grades, the new 'green TPU' shows better hydrolytic resistance, and maintains equivalent mechanical properties like first-class thermoplastic polyurethanes. It opens new opportunities for "green design" in a wide range of applications, such as, footwear, automotive, and consumer goods. For more information, please visit: www.merquinsa.com

Pearlthane® ECO now available across Italy

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