

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



MERQUINSA Innovation Award finalist at Polyurethanes 2008 Technical Conference

Barcelona, Spain – September 16, 2008.

Merquinsa will participate in the Polyurethanes 2008 Technical Conference in San Antonio, Texas, from September 29th to October 1st with the paper “New TPU from Renewable sources”. The Center for the Polyurethanes Industry of the American Chemistry Council has organized an event where new technologies, recent research, and technical developments affecting the global polyurethanes industry, will be the main focus.

Merquinsa has been chosen as a finalist for the 2008 Polyurethane Innovation Award Program to be granted during the above-mentioned conference.

As a commitment to the environment and innovation, Merquinsa, a leading Specialty TPU player, will present the World-First Biobased TPU (Thermoplastic Polyurethane) - Pearlthane[®] ECO: a breakthrough in Polyurethane Green Chemistry offering Performance and Green Design based on Merquinsa’s proprietary ECO technology*.

Pearlthane[®] ECO TPU provides a sustainable alternative to TPU based exclusively on fossil fuels, with even better performance. The newly developed **Pearlthane[®] ECO** TPU grades have been especially designed for molding and extrusion where environmentally-friendly materials can bring value to automotive, consumer electronics, and sport and leisure applications.

- ✓ **Pearlthane[®] ECO D12T90**: High Performance 91 Shore A TPU with **43% of renewable material**, as certified according to ASTM-D6866.
- ✓ **Pearlthane[®] ECO D12T95**: High Performance 95 Shore A TPU with **38% of renewable material** according to ASTM-D6866.

Both materials have excellent mechanical properties and abrasion resistance, and in some cases even better features than that of standard TPU of the same hardness.

These new **Pearlthane[®] ECO** grades complement the recently launched **Pearlbond[®] ECO** TPU adhesive grades for High Performance Reactive Hot Melts (RHM), and eco-friendly shoe stiffeners or thermobonding textile tapes and films.

Merquinsa has made Sustainability a keystone of its Environment, Health and Safety policies, and will continue to invest in innovative technologies & processes for a better world.

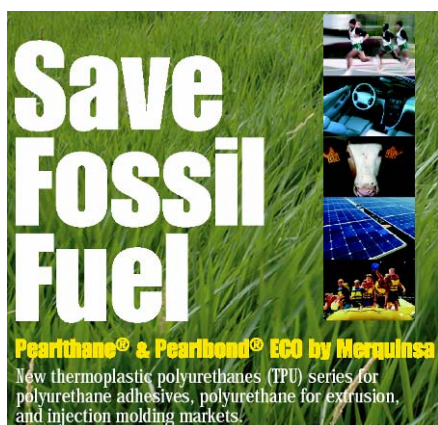
**patent pending*

About Merquinsa:

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

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

For more information about Merquinsa, **PEARLTHANE®**, **PEARLCOAT®**, **PEARLBOND®**, and **PEARLSTICK®**, Specialty TPU resins, please visit our Web site at www.merquinsa.com or call at + 34 93 572 1100.



Merquinsa's new Renewable Pearlthane® ECO for TPE applications

For Editorial Information:

Mrs. Lidia Valcarcel

Merquinsa

lvalcarcel@merquinsa.com

Tel: + 34 93 5721100 - 252