

New application: Use of tertiary butanol in cosmetic alcohols

- Tertiary butanol can be used as denaturant in cosmetic alcohols
- Possible substitute for isopropanol in the production of disinfectants

Up to now, tertiary butanol (TBA)* has been used mainly as a precursor in organic peroxides and antioxidants. Together with customers, it has now been proven that TBA can also be used as a denaturant in cosmetic alcohols. In particular, it may be useful in the manufacture of cosmetic products or odor enhancers.

The discovery was a result of the search for alternative raw materials for the production of disinfectants in response to rising demand.

"We are pleased that with TBA we can provide our customers with a quality product - and in combination with individual logistics options," explains Sarah Kranz, Marketing Manager at Performance Intermediates and Product Manager for TBA. And so, the product TBA can be delivered in tank containers, tank trucks and drums.

"We can supply our customers with two different TBA grades, produced simultaneously and fully continuously, according to their needs: anhydrous and azeotropic," adds Dr. Hinnerk Becker, Head of Market Segment Specialties at Performance Intermediates.

Evonik Performance Intermediates is a producer of C4-based materials for the rubber, plastics and specialty chemicals markets. The tertiary alcohol TBA has been part of the portfolio of the Marl site for more than 50 years, producing several thousand metric tons per year.

* Also known as methyl propan-2-ol, CAS no. 75-65-0.

Company information

Evonik is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. The company is active in more than 100 countries around the world and generated sales of €13.1 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of €2.15 billion in 2019. Evonik goes far beyond chemistry to create innovative, profitable and sustainable

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About Performance Materials

The Performance Materials Segment is managed by Evonik Performance Materials GmbH. The segment focuses its global activities on developing and manufacturing intermediates, solutions and additives, especially for use in agriculture and in the rubber and plastics industry. In 2019, the segment's roughly 1,600 employees generated sales about €2.04 billion from continuing operations.

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