

Product News

Lonza Applauds U.S. Joining International Treaty to Control Harmful Anti-fouling Coatings Systems on Ships

Atlanta, Georgia (USA), September 17, 2012 -- Lonza Microbial Control, which has long been an active supporter of an international treaty to assure the use of environmentally sound marine coatings products, applauds the United States' formal approval of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships. With the treaty having secured Congressional and White House approval, the U.S. will officially become a party to the treaty in November 2012.

The treaty is designed to eliminate harmful antifouling systems which pose a substantial risk of toxicity to ecologically and economically important marine organisms and specifically bans all use of organotin compounds which act as biocides in antifouling systems. Lonza Microbial Control's Marine Paint business is one of the leading providers of environmentally- preferred marine coatings solutions that help control algae and other soft-fouling organisms.

"We thank everyone who helped move the treaty and its enabling legislation forward through the Congress to its final acceptance," said Robert J. Martin, Global Marketing Manager for the Marine Paint business of Lonza Microbial Control.

Mr. Martin explains that, "By becoming a party to the treaty, the U.S. has a strengthened ability to prevent ships with Tributyltin (TBT) hull paints from docking or entering U.S. waters. This applies to all boats, including cargo ships, super yachts and recreational vehicles. The U.S. also will be able to participate in any future additions or modifications to the treaty, giving the nation a voice in discussions on the banning or control of other antifouling systems."

"Proper anti-fouling systems are the very soul of sustainability," Mr. Martin added. "By keeping ships' hulls clear of foulants, the paints reduce friction and increase the ships' speed through water, lessening the use of diesel fuel and related greenhouse gas emissions. The protective paints also lengthen the time between costly dry-dock maintenance. We're always working to improve our antifouling compounds, recently introducing a new product where our copper Omadine[®] biocide is combined with a self-polishing polymer that exposes a new layer of antifouling actives as the outer layer of paint wears off, further extending the useful life of the paint."

About Lonza Microbial Control's Materials Protection Business

Lonza's Materials Protection business supplies antimicrobial actives and additives for paints, coatings, building materials, plastics, marine antifouling paints, emulsions, textiles and metalworking. This business offers unmatched regulatory and toxicology expertise, and its extensive global infrastructure enables it to ensure continuity of supply, technical support and expert service to customers wherever they do business around the world.

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About Lonza Microbial Control

Lonza Microbial Control is a business sector of Lonza Group Ltd. The sector is the global leader in microbial control with the broadest portfolio of active ingredients and registered formulated products. With more than 30 production and R&D facilities and 3,000 employees worldwide, it has market-leadership positions in water treatment, materials protection, hygiene, personal care and wood treatment. The sector's Materials Protection business is an innovative leader in antimicrobial control technologies for use in paints, coatings and other building products, adhesives and sealants, marine antifouling paints, polymer emulsions, metalworking fluids, textiles and plastics. The sector offers unmatched expertise in navigating the complex global regulatory environments.

About Lonza

Lonza is one of the world's leading suppliers to the pharmaceutical, healthcare and life science industries. Products and services span its customers' needs from research to final product manufacture. It is the global leader in the production and support of chemical and biological active pharmaceutical ingredients. Biopharmaceuticals are one of the key growth drivers of the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. Lonza has strong capabilities in large and small molecules, peptides, amino acids and niche bioproducts which play an important role in the development of novel medicines and healthcare products. Lonza is also the world leader in microbial control providing innovative, chemistry-based and related solutions to destroy or to selectively inhibit the growth of harmful microorganisms. Its activities encompass the areas of water treatment, personal care, health and hygiene, industrial preservation, materials protection, and wood treatment. In addition, Lonza is a leader in cell-based research, endotoxin detection and cell therapy manufacturing. Furthermore, the company is a leading provider of value chemical and biotech ingredients to the nutrition and agro markets.

Lonza is headquartered in Basel, Switzerland and is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange and secondary listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited ("SGX-ST"). Lonza is not subject to the SGX-ST's continuing listing requirements. Lonza is subject to the listing rules of the SIX Swiss Exchange, which do not have specific requirements equivalent to the listing rules of the SGX-ST in respect of interested person transactions, acquisition and realizations, and delisting. In 2011, the company had sales of CHF 2.69 billion. Further information can be found at www.lonza.com.

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