

**Cetaflam**<sup>®</sup>  
flame retardants by**Avocet**Dye & Chemical Company Ltd  
PERFORMANCE DYES & CHEMICALS

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## Cellulase Finishing Range Minimises Shade Change

Genencor has launched a new cellulase biofinishing range, Primafast Luna. Products in the range are said to offer an advantage in terms of fabric surface-defibrillation efficacy, while minimising shade change during biofinishing and giving improved strength retention to the treated fabrics and garments.

Genencor says these benefits allow textile-chemical formulators to develop cellulase-based formulations that can be used for biofinishing after the dyeing process.

Primafast Luna products are very light in colour because they consist of a high-purity enzyme protein and do not contain any added artificial colorants. The high purity of the Luna products will ensure a consistently good product quality, ease of blending with other chemicals and excellent storage stability, says Genencor. In addition, the new products have been stabilised with 'state-of-the-art' formulation technology.

Primafast Luna products can be used in a variety of conditions giving flexibility to choose the parameters most suitable for fabric quality and optimal biofinishing.

"Many fabric and garment

processors have had the need to perform the biofinishing process after dyeing of their garments, yet this impaired the shade of the fabric," said John Gell, vice-president, Textiles and Industrial Specialties, at Genencor. "Today, we are delivering to the free market a product line that provides

flexibility to processors to carry out biofinishing after dyeing with minimal colour change, while retaining the strength properties of the treated fabric."

Biotechnology company Genencor offers solutions for a wide variety of textile-processing applications, such as biofinishing, denim

processing, desizing and peroxide elimination. In a recent announcement, the company said it is to raise the prices of its IndiAge cellulase product range by between 10 and 20%. The new prices take effect from January 31.

Genencor says the increase is a consequence of increasing raw material and energy costs, which have been impossible to recover in an already highly optimised manufacturing system.

## Insect-Resist 'Breakthrough' for Carpets

Catomance Technologies has introduced Mystox MP, a new insect-resist agent to protect carpets.

Developed in conjunction with Wools of New Zealand, Mystox MP is said to represent an environmental breakthrough in insect-resist treatment of wool and wool-blend floorcoverings. Catomance says that, with increasing environmental pressures and stringent legislation, there is increasing concern about the use of existing insecticides in the wool-carpet industry. Additionally, resistance to these insecticides has built up, resulting in the need for higher dosage rates to maintain effectiveness.

Mystox MP is a new generation of insecticide, described as highly effective against moths and beetles and with a low environmental impact on waterways. Environmental risk assessments based on toxicity to aquatic organisms show that Mystox MP is up to thirty times less toxic than currently used permethrin-based insect resist agents, says Catomance.

Mystox MP has a high affinity for wool, with excellent fastness properties. The product can be applied by all the commonly used methods, including dye bath, continuous and foam application.

In collaboration with Wools of New Zealand, Mystox MP was featured at the Domotex trade fair for carpets, in Hannover, in January, and is due to be shown at Surfaces 2007, in Las Vegas, in February.

## Silicone Emulsion Imparts Softness to Fibrefill

The Munich-based Wacker Group has developed a one-component silicone-based softener emulsion for finishing fibrefill. This product, which is marketed as Advalon FF 220, is said to achieve marked benefits in the automated finishing of fibrefill – for example, enabling polyester fibre to be treated at significantly lower temperatures than previously possible.

Moreover, says Wacker, the new softener permits shorter processing times and thus higher throughputs. In this way, fibre producers can achieve considerable cost-savings and productivity gains in their finishing processes.

Advalon FF 220 imparts softness, volume and a