



News Release

September 21, 2020

Colors & Effects® announces new FDA compliance for recycling optimized Sicopal® Black K 0098 FK

- **Sicopal® Black K 0098 FK is an alternative to carbon black, replacing it for the NIR sorting of plastics waste**
- **Expanded FDA compliance is key milestone for Sicopal Black K 0098 FK in reaching global food contact compliance and expands further possibilities for recyclable black plastics materials**
- **At the CAD RETEC virtual conference, Colors & Effects® presents sustainable coloring solutions for the plastics industry, highlighting the broad food contact compliance of Sicopal Black K 0098 FK**

LUDWIGSHAFEN, GERMANY, September 21, 2020 – Colors & Effects® announces new FDA compliance for Sicopal® Black K 0098 FK following its launch earlier this year. In addition to its EU food contact approval (EU 10/2011) announced in April this year, Sicopal Black K 0098 FK's new FDA compliance makes it one of the first recyclable black pigments broadly recognized for use in food contact applications. The product thereby expands possibilities for recyclable black plastics materials such as food and cosmetic packaging, which up until now have gone to landfills or incineration.

Sustainability and the circular economy are increasingly paramount topics in the plastics industry, especially with respect to the recycling of plastics waste. Until recently, black plastic packaging was considered unrecyclable due to coloration with carbon black pigment. Even trace amounts of carbon black are undetectable by waste sorting machines and disrupt the scrap sorting process at materials recycling facilities. By replacing carbon black with near infrared (NIR) reflective Sicopal Black K 0098 FK, black plastic articles can be systematically and reliably detected and, therefore, recycled. From sushi trays to takeout food containers, the expanded FDA compliance means many of these food contact articles can now be designed and commercialized as recyclable black plastics.

“Just in time for the virtual CAD RETEC technical conference, we plan to highlight both the technical and styling benefits of using Sicopal Black K 0098 FK,” says Breeze Briggs, PhD, North America Technical Manager at Colors & Effects. “Either alone or in combination with other pigments, Sicopal Black K 0098 FK can achieve a jet black color, which is often sought after in packaging applications. As well, it can be used for shading in many different color stylings, thus avoiding the use of carbon black.” Her presentation, entitled “Coloring Plastics for a Sustainable World,” will take place at the outset of the CAD RETEC conference on Monday morning September 21, Eastern Daylight Time. It will highlight Sicopal Black K 0098 FK as well as focus on a variety of sustainable pigment technologies.

Colors & Effects supports the industry with safer and purer colorants that meet the plastics industry’s sustainability needs. To learn more about Colors & Effects’ sustainable pigment solutions, click [here](#).

About the Colors & Effects brand

The Colors & Effects brand encompasses BASF’s well-known expertise in colorants and effect pigments for the coatings, plastics, printing, cosmetics and agriculture markets. Fueled by entrepreneurial spirit, BASF’s experts enable innovation and growth. For our customers and our company: We live colors. We boost effects. For more information about the Colors & Effects brand, visit www.colors-effects.eu.

About BASF

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. More than 117,000 employees in the BASF Group work on contributing to the success of our customers in nearly all sectors and almost every country in the world. Our portfolio is organized into six segments: Chemicals, Materials, Industrial Solutions, Surface Technologies, Nutrition & Care and Agricultural Solutions. BASF generated sales of €59 billion in 2019. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchange in Frankfurt (BAS) and as American Depositary Receipts (BASFY) in the U.S. Further information at www.basf.com.