

Press Release

In April, 2005

MCA Technologies and First Color announce joint venture for the production of DPP (Diketo-pyrrolo-pyrrole) pigments in Korea



MCA Technologies GmbH (Switzerland), a Swiss technology management company with its own intellectual property (<http://www.mcatechnologies.com/>), and the Korean based pigment producer First Color Co. Ltd. (booth 3-327 at the European Coatings show 2005, Nuremberg, Germany) have entered into an agreement to establish a joint venture company in Korea for the production and global marketing of DPP (Diketo-pyrrolo-pyrrole) pigments. The collaboration might also be extended to other high-performance (HP) pigments at a later point.

“Our joint venture company will be exploiting novel Red (economical)/Green (ecological) technologies developed and patented world-wide (including China and India) by MCA Technologies. The basic technology has initially been developed in co-operation with the well renowned German engineering company Loedige GmbH/Drais Division, and will be jointly executed on turn-key basis”, says Dr. B. L. Kaul, Managing Director of MCA Technologies. “The joint venture company will establish global co-marketing and distribution collaborations to enable world-wide access to our DPP and other HPP pigments.”

Mr. Young Sun Yang, President, First Color adds: “This technology, being cost effective, environmentally friendly, less labour intensive and also requiring “nominal” capital investment, will allow us to produce and market DPP pigments at a very reasonable cost, facilitating their introduction and penetration into new application areas. For instance, we have already planned to create new DPP grades & chemistries based on the patents of MCA Technologies in order also to meet the ever increasing demand of the Korean as well as global automotive and transportation industry. ”

One of the most important class of high-performance pigments, DPP pigments are characterised by very versatile properties. They are used for numerous end uses, including sophisticated electronic applications such as colour filters for liquid crystal displays (LCDs), automotive and industrial coatings, plastics, inks and toners. The new technology provides very transparent “nano-particle” pigments, with high colour strength and narrow size distribution, particularly suited for LCDs, to provide bright and high-definition (HD) pictures with less pixel defects of the Panel. At present, the rate of defective panels, in a global market of 7.5 million units in 2004, is estimated to be approx. 20%. Korea’s share is approx. 45% of the world production of large LCDs with Japan and Taiwan producing most of the remaining units. In addition these particular pigment grades will also be of

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