



Your contact

Judith Rahner
Tel. +49 (0)6151 72-7694

News release

April 30, 2014

Insect repellent active substance IR3535[®] from Merck given the go-ahead at EU level

- **As of November 2015, IR3535[®] will be included on the positive list of the EU Biocidal Products Regulation**
- **Tolerable and effective – even for small children**

Darmstadt, April 30, 2014 – The insect repellent active substance IR3535[®] will be included on a list of approved substances of the EU Biocidal Products Regulation as of November 1, 2015. The decision regarding the Union List (Biocidal Products Regulation (EU) No. 528/2012) was made by the EU Commission in March 2014. It applies to all customers who use the active substance from Merck in their products. The listing serves as verification for these customers that the substance they are using is approved over the long term. In order to further market their products, manufacturers of insect repellents must submit an application for approval to a member state of their choice by November 2015. For end customers, the positive list provides additional security and will lead to a market shakeout in the medium term.

“Our path to getting our substance included on the positive list was long and sometimes rocky. We submitted the dossier to the EU committee in 2006, and followed with comprehensive and thorough studies,” said Michael Weiden, Head of Functional Materials within Pigments & Cosmetics. “Today we’re all the prouder that IR3535 is one of the two insect repellent active substances, which out of the top three most effective substances have made it to the positive list. In the next step, we will support our customers to the best of our ability during their registrations,” Weiden added.

Merck KGaA

Group Communications Performance Materials
Frankfurter Strasse 250
64293 Darmstadt, Germany
www.merckgroup.com

Tel.: +49 (0)6151 72-7694
Fax: +49 (0)6151 72-917694
E-mail: pm_communications@merckgroup.com
www.merck-pm.com



Press release

Excellent tolerability for people and the environment highly valued

IR3535[®] has been used worldwide in insect repellents for over 30 years. Scientists developed the insect repellent active substance inspired by nature based on the amino acid beta-alanine. IR3535[®] does not harm insects, but merely repels them. Its efficacy against insects has been confirmed many times over the years – with excellent safety for people and the environment at the same time. To date, no serious side effects have become known.

EU and U.S. regulations in accord

The most recent decision by the European Commission is in accord with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) classification: IR3535[®] has been classified as a “biopesticide” in the United States since 1999; this category is considered to be of low concern. In the EU, the substance from Merck is now the only effective synthetic insect repellent to be included in the positive list and for which no age restrictions apply, meaning that it can also be used in good conscience for very small children.

Cosmetic active ingredients from Merck: Merck is a leader manufacturer of ingredients for the cosmetic industry. Apart from decorative effect pigments, the company offers customers functional skin care and protection solutions. In particular, effect pigments and functional products are used in many cosmetic products and packaging in order to lend color, luster, gloss and other effects and to strengthen brand identity. Merck offers a wide range of active ingredients used in skin care cosmetics to protect the skin against UV radiation and premature aging. More information about the range of products offered by Merck can be found at www.merck4cosmetics.com.

All Merck Press Releases are distributed by e-mail at the same time they become available on the Merck Website www.merckgroup.com/media. Please go to <http://www.merckgroup.com/subscribe> to register online, change your selection or discontinue this service.

Merck is a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in the pharmaceutical and chemical sectors. With its four divisions Merck Serono, Consumer Health, Performance Materials and Merck Millipore, Merck generated total revenues of € 11.1 billion in 2013. Around 38,000 Merck employees work in 66 countries to improve the quality of life for patients, to further the success of customers and to help meet global challenges. Merck is the world’s oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company – since 1668, the company has stood for innovation, business success and responsible entrepreneurship. Holding an approximately 70 percent interest, the founding family remains the majority owner of the company to this day. Merck, Darmstadt, Germany is holding the global rights to the Merck name and brand. The only exceptions are Canada and the United States, where the company is known as EMD.