



News Release

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For Immediate Release

ORION ENGINEERED CARBONS OFFERS NEW CARBON BLACKS TO IMPROVE FUEL EFFICIENCY OF TIRES

KINGWOOD, Texas, May 26, 2016 – Orion Engineered Carbons has three new Rubber Carbon Black products for creating more fuel efficient tires in response to consumer demand and federal standards for vehicle fuel economy. These grades offer reduction in rolling resistance via narrow particle size distributions and lower sidewall hysteresis; and lower air permeation through the inner liner for better tire inflation consistency. These were the key messages from Jose Briones, Orion Engineered Carbons Marketing Manager, Rubber, North America, who presented on May 25th at Carbon Black World in Fort Worth.

“Compared to standard ASTM grades, a Carbon Black with narrow aggregate size distribution (ASD) features better in-rubber properties,” said Briones. “Depending on the dispersive mixing technology, tread wear improves by up to 13% with narrow ASD Carbon Black technology as compared to the current state of the art.”

For sidewall applications, Briones said that blending Orion’s ECORAX[®] S 204 combined with N300 series grades can reduce sidewall hysteresis significantly – and thus lower



rolling resistance and improve fuel efficiency -- while maintaining other key tire properties. Each compound can be individually optimized to find the best compromise. "ECORAX[®] S 204 achieves the lowest hysteresis of any Furnace Carbon Black, something that cannot be achieved with silica, while providing good reinforcement for natural rubber based compounds," said Briones.

Briones said that Orion's ECORAX[®] S 206 reduces air permeation through the inner liner by up to 25%, maintaining tire air pressure critical to vehicle safety and tire life in addition to fuel efficiency.

He encouraged tire designers to recognize the value of these new Carbon Black grades in meeting current and even more stringent fuel economy standards. Looking ahead, Briones urged the industry to develop partnerships to incorporate narrow ASD Carbon Blacks in the latest tire design concepts, including reduced tread depths and multilayer tread designs. He also called for studies to determine the benefit of narrow ASD Carbon Blacks in treads containing silica to further reduce rolling resistance.

For more information, contact Jose Briones, Marketing Manager, Rubber (jose.briones@orioncarbons.com), or Lin Bradley, Technical Market Manager, Rubber, (lin.bradley@orioncarbons.com), or visit www.orioncarbons.com.



About Orion Engineered Carbons S.A.

Orion Engineered Carbons is a worldwide supplier of Carbon Black. The Company offers standard and high-performance products for Coatings, Printing Inks, Polymers, Rubber and other applications. Our high-quality Gas Blacks, Furnace Blacks and Specialty Carbon Blacks tint, colorize and enhance the performance of plastics, paints and coatings, inks and toners, adhesives and sealants, tires, and manufactured rubber goods such as automotive belts and hoses. With 1,530 employees worldwide, Orion Engineered Carbons runs 15 global production sites and four Applied Technology Centers. For more information visit our website www.orioncarbons.com.

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