

ELEMENTIS

Application Leaflet

THIXATROL® Max

Rheology modifier for MS
polymer based adhesives
and sealants



Unique chemistry, sustainable solutions

Key Benefits

- Provides superior thixotropic shear thinning rheology for easy extruding
- Outstanding performance even when activated at lower temperature
- Excellent sag resistance and optimum storage stability

THIXATROL® Max

Composition	Organic thixotrope based on special diamide wax
Appearance	Off white fine powder
Active substance [%]	100
Density [g/ml]	0.25
Recommended range of activation temperature [°C]	60 - 90

Introduction

MS Polymers are based on silane-terminated polyether combining the performance of silicones and polyurethanes. Those systems are typically free of solvents and isocyanates and therefore exceptionally environmental friendly. MS Polymers are one component, moisture curing materials providing, due to their unique properties, ideal solutions for the formulation of adhesives and sealants.

- Outstanding mechanical properties
- Excellent durability due to high flexibility and weather resistance
- Excellent aging performance
- Can be applied at almost all weather conditions
- Non staining, therefore no discoloration of the substrate
- Good overpaintability
- Adhesion to many different substrates
- Outstanding flexibility of the cured material

THIXATROL® Max is an organic thixotrope agent based on a special diamide wax providing outstanding key benefits for MS Polymer based systems:

- Efficient cost effective rheology control
- Excellent thixotropic shear thinning rheology for ease of application by gun and tool
- Exceptional slump and sag control
- Outstanding long-term package stability; no gellation in the cartridge observed
- Excellent performance even at lower temperature activation

FIGURE 1: Diamide colloidal network

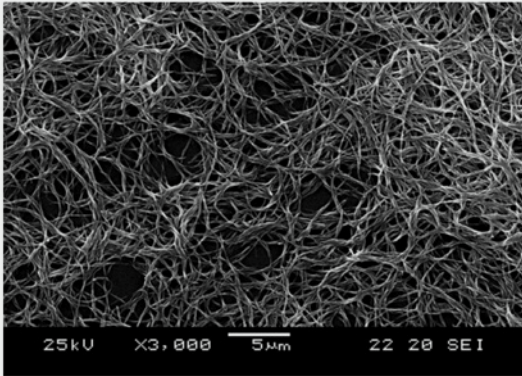
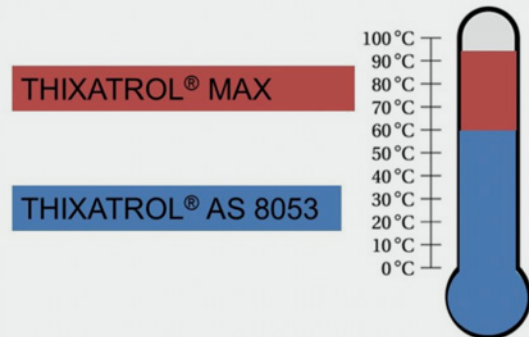


FIGURE 2: Activation temperature range



Levels of use

Typical use levels of THIXATROL® Max in MS Polymer systems are in a range of 0.5% to 5.0% by weight on total formulation. The exact use levels usually vary depending on the region. In European formulations normally approximately 3.0% are formulated. In US systems typically 0.5 to 1.0% are used. Asian formulation, especially Japanese systems, usually contain up to 5.0%.

Mechanism & Incorporation

To exhibit optimum performance, THIXATROL® Max needs to develop a colloidal dispersion structure (**FIGURE 1**).

To reach this network stage THIXATROL® Max requires certain activation conditions, such as dwell time, high shear and elevated temperature. To identify the ideal activation temperature an individual ladder study is recommended.

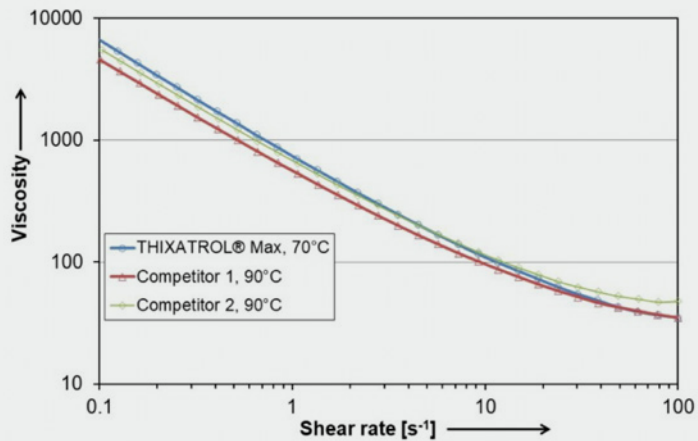
In MS Polymer formulations, THIXATROL® Max is typically added from the begin of processing along with the binders, plasticizers, fillers/extenders and pigments. After activation at the respective conditions further ingredient, such as water absorbent, adhesion promoters and catalyst are added and incorporated individually.

The recommended range of activation temperature for THIXATROL® Max in the present system acts in a range in between 60°C and 90°C. For the lower activation temperature range, THIXATROL® AS 8053 has to be preferred (**FIGURE 2**).

TABLE 1: Application results overview

Grade	Activation temperature [°C]	Viscosity [Pas] at		Sagging (profile)	Application properties
		0.1 s ⁻¹	100 s ⁻¹		
THIXATROL® Max	90	8160	41.6	stable	easy to apply
	70	6740	35.0	stable	very easy to apply
Competitor 1	90	4590	34.8	stable	easy to apply
Competitor 2	90	5540	47.6	stable	easy to apply

FIGURE 3: Rheological properties



Practical examples

In this leaflet the applicability of THIXATROL® Max in a MS Polymer based sealant system is illustrated in comparison to a leading Market reference rheological additive as well as a further competitive product. Both competitive products are based on diamide/polyamide technology.

The additives were incorporated and activated at different temperatures to compare performance differences (**TABLE 1**).

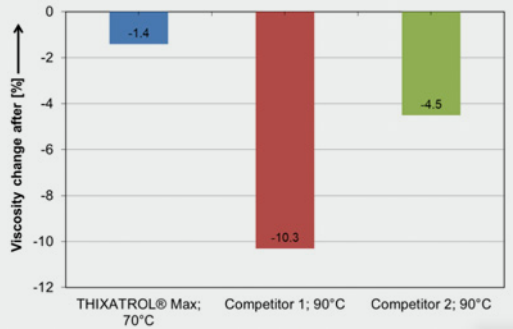
In all cases the concentration of the individual rheological additive was 3.5% related to the total formulation.

THIXATROL® Max provided strong viscosity build from activation temperatures of 70°C. Samples with the market benchmark and the competitive product remained on a significantly lower viscosity level even when activated at markedly higher temperature of 90°C. THIXATROL® Max generated, when activated at 90°C, a further viscosity increase.

All samples demonstrated sag and slump stability when applied in a wider joint. However, the material with THIXATROL® Max gave markedly better application properties, especially when activated at 70°C. In this case the tackiness on the tool and the ease of application was noticeably improved.

These findings were also underline by the rheological data as shown in **FIGURE 3**.

FIGURE 5: Viscosity stability on storage

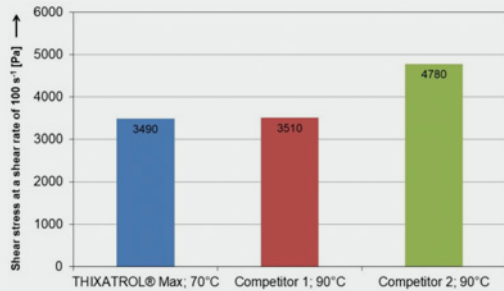


THIXATROL® Max showed equal viscosity build at mid shear rate range compared to the market benchmark even at markedly lower activation temperature of 70°C. The further tested competitive product achieved significantly lower viscosity even when activated at higher temperature (FIGURE 4).

THIXATROL® Max provided by far the highest viscosity at low shear rates and the strongest shear thinning flow character. These properties indicate excellent sag and slump stability as well as superior extruding properties.

THIXATROL® Max provided almost stable viscosity over two weeks storage time. Both other tested grades, especially the competitor, gave a noticeable viscosity loss.

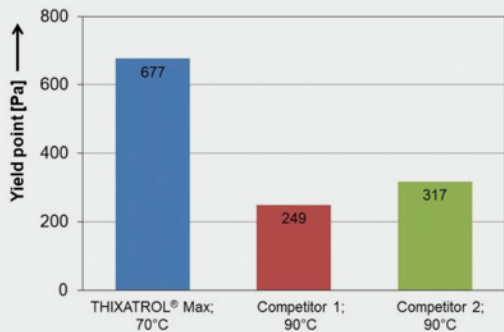
FIGURE 5: Shear stress at high shear rates



Shear stress at higher shear rates can be seen as an indicator for the properties in the cartridge during the extrusion. The lower the shear stress during the application, the more material can be extruded within a time frame. Consequently, the extrusion becomes easier (FIGURE 5).

The sealant with THIXATROL® Max required markedly lower forces to induce flow than the sample with the market benchmark. The competitive product resulted in equally low forces compared to THIXATROL® Max. However, in this case the viscosity at other shear rates were markedly lower (FIGURE 6).

FIGURE 6: Yield point



THIXATROL® Max provided noticeably higher yield point compared to the market benchmark and the competitive product.



Conclusion

THIXATROL® Max clearly outperformed the marked benchmark and the competitive product.

THIXATROL® Max provided the strongest shear thinning flow and the highest viscosities at low shear rates. Also markedly improved stability and application properties were noticed. All these findings were underlined by rheological data such as increase yield values and lower forces to induce flow.

THIXATROL® Max showed its benefits already when activated at significantly lower temperature of 70°C compared to 90°C in case of the market benchmark and competitive product. The lower activation temperature allows higher throughput and cost effective production.

Kaneka, a main producer of MS Polymer binder systems, approved and recommended THIXATROL® Max in an earlier study. The respective report is available on demand.

In case a system requires lower activation temperature than 60°C, the application of THIXATROL® AS 8053 is recommended.

Formulation

Ingredients	Concentration [%]	Function	Supplier
MS Polymer S 203 H	15.0	Binder	Kaneka
Carbital 110 S	50.5	Extender	Imerys
Kronos 2190	3.0	Pigment	Kronos Int
Rheology modifier	3.5	Rheology modifier	various
MS Polymer S 303 H	10.0	Binder	Kaneka
Jayfex DIUP	16.5	Plasticizer	Exxon Mobile
Adding after cooling down, temperature depending on activation temperature			
Dynasilan VTMO	0.7	Water scavenger	Evonik
Adding after cooling down, temperature depending on activation temperature			
Dynasilan DAMO-T	0.5	Adhesion promoter	Evonik
Catalyst	0.3	Catalyst	various

APPENDIX

Test methods

All displayed rheological data were generated with the Anton Paar MCR 300 rheometer, using the measuring geometry PP 25 (plate/plate; 25 mm diameter, profiled spindle) at a temperature of 23°C and a gap width of 0.5 mm.

- The shear stress at higher shear rates demonstrated the force necessary to induce flow. The lower the plotted value the lower is these force. This data are also an indication for the viscosity at higher shear.
- Viscosity before and after storage was compared at a shear rate of 10 s⁻¹.
- Determination of the yield point was performed increasing the shear stress constantly. The yield value was recorded as the respective force when the deformation curve pattern was disrupted.

Sag/Slump stability and workability were measured applying the sealant into a metal channel of a width of 2 cm. The application properties like stickiness on the tool, surface quality and force required were compared. The sag resistance was evaluated after drying for 24 h in a vertical position.

NOTE:

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For more details
please contact:

North America

Elementis
469 Old Trenton Road
East Windsor,
NJ 08512, USA
Tel: +1 609 443 2500

Europe

Elementis UK Ltd c/o
Porto Business Plaza
Santos Pousada Street, 290
4300-189, Porto, Portugal

Asia

Deuchem (Shanghai) Chemical
Co., Ltd.
99, Lianyang Road
Songjiang Industrial Zone
Shanghai, China 201613
Tel: +86 21 577 40348

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