

OPTIGEL-WA

Rheology additive based on an activated phyllosilicate for aqueous coating systems and dispersion-based construction applications to generate thixotropic flow behavior.

Product Data

Composition

Activated phyllosilicate

Typical Properties

The values indicated in this data sheet describe typical properties and do not constitute specification limits.

Specific density: 2.4 g/cm³
Bulk density: 400-600 kg/m³
Moisture content: 9 % ± 3 %
Supplied as: free-flowing, white powder
pH value (2 % in H₂O): 7-8

Food Contact Legal Status

For the current food contact legal status, please contact our product safety department or visit www.byk.com for further information.

Storage and Transportation

OPTIGEL-WA is hygroscopic and should be transported and stored dry in the unopened original container at temperatures between 0 °C (32°F) and 30 °C (86 °F).

Applications

Coatings Industry

Special Features and Benefits

OPTIGEL-WA generates thixotropic flow behavior. It improves processability and storage stability as it is highly effective at preventing solids settling. In addition, it reduces the sagging tendency after application which makes it possible to achieve greater layer thicknesses.

Recommended Use

OPTIGEL-WA is suitable for a variety of aqueous coating systems. It can be used in pH-neutral and alkaline systems.

Architectural coatings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wood and furniture coatings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

☒ especially recommended ☐ recommended

Recommended Levels

0.3-2.0 % additive (as supplied) based upon the total formulation, depending on the properties of the formulation to be achieved.

The above recommended levels can be used for orientation. Optimal levels are determined through a series of laboratory tests.

Incorporation and Processing Instructions

OPTIGEL-WA is hydrophilic and easy to incorporate in water. To ensure optimum distribution and the best possible effectiveness and reproducibility in applications, the additive must be added to water (20 °C ± 5 °C) (68 °F ± 41 °F) slowly whilst stirring, and pre-dispersed at high shear forces for at least 20 minutes. OPTIGEL-WA should be fully hydrated before the remaining formulation components can be added to the dispersion. No wetting or dispersing additives are required to produce this dispersion.

OPTIGEL-WA can also be added to the formulation directly, as a powder at the start of manufacture (post-added).


Construction industry



Special Features and Benefits

In free-flowing systems, OPTIGEL-WA prevents the aggregate settling and the tendency towards syneresis. In high-solid construction systems it achieves smooth processability and improved anti-sagging properties.

Recommended Use

OPTIGEL-WA is suitable for emulsion-based plaster or adhesive systems.

Paste-like tile adhesives	
Paste-like putty compounds	

 especially recommended  recommended

Recommended Levels

0.2-12 % additive (as supplied) based upon the total formulation, depending on the properties of the formulation to be achieved.

The above recommended levels can be used for orientation. Optimal levels are determined through a series of laboratory tests.

Incorporation and Processing Instructions

OPTIGEL-WA is hydrophilic, we therefore recommend pre-dispersing in water. The additive should be added to water slowly whilst stirring, and pre-dispersed at high shear forces for at least 20 minutes. All other system components can then be added to the dispersion.




Adhesives and sealants

Special Features and Benefits

OPTIGEL-WA generates thixotropic flow behavior in adhesives and sealants. It improves processability and storage stability as it is highly effective at preventing solids settling. It improves the slip behavior, anti-sagging properties and ridge formation. OPTIGEL-WA is inorganic and stable to diluted acids and bases.

Recommended Use

OPTIGEL-WA is suitable for a variety of aqueous systems. It is suitable for pH neutral, acidic and basic adhesives and sealants.

Floor adhesives	
Acrylate sealants	
Wood glues	
Dispersion adhesives	

 especially recommended  recommended

Recommended Levels

0.5-2.0 % additive (as supplied) based upon the total formulation, depending on the properties of the formulation to be achieved.

The above recommended levels can be used for orientation. Optimal levels are determined through a series of laboratory tests.

Incorporation and Processing Instructions

OPTIGEL-WA is hydrophilic and easy to incorporate in water. To ensure optimum distribution and the best possible effectiveness and reproducibility in applications, the additive must be added to water (20 °C ± 5 °C) (68 °F ± 41 °F) slowly whilst stirring, and pre-dispersed at high shear forces for at least 20 minutes. OPTIGEL-WA should be fully hydrated before the remaining formulation components can be added to the dispersion. No wetting or dispersing additives are required to produce this dispersion.

OPTIGEL-WA can also be added to the formulation directly, as a powder at the start of manufacture.

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Data Sheet
Issue 11/2016



Additive Guide



BYK USA Inc.
524 South Cherry Street
P.O. Box 5670
Wallingford, CT 06492
USA
Tel 203 265-2086
Fax 203 284-9158

cs.usa@byk.com
www.byk.com

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This issue replaces all previous versions – Printed in the USA