# OPTIGEL-LX

Rheology additive based on an activated phyllosilicate for aqueous coating systems 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.

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|---|---|
| Specific density: | 2.2 g/cm³ |
| Bulk density: | 580-730 kg/m³ |
| Moisture content: | 6-12 % |
| Supplied as: | free-flowing, yellowish powder |
| pH value (2 % in $H_2O$): | 10.5 ± 1 |

**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-LX 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-LX 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. OPTIGEL-LX is a mineral with a protective colloid and is stable to diluted acids and bases.

**Recommended Use**
OPTIGEL-LX is suitable for a variety of aqueous coating systems and particularly suitable for use in architectural coatings.

| | |
|---|---|
| Architectural coatings | ■ |

■ especially recommended □ recommended

## Recommended Levels

0.5-1.2 % 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-LX 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-LX 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-LX can be also be added to the formulation directly, as a powder at the start of manufacture.

## Special Note

OPTIGEL-LX reacts sensitively to ions. If the mains water being used has a high total hardness, use deionized water for processing.



**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**