
Meetings

Jungermann describes bar soap technology



Eric Jungermann, long-time AOCS member and president of Jungermann Associates Inc., a Phoenix, Arizona, consulting firm, spoke on "New Trends in Bar Soap Technology and the Impact of Liquid Soaps" before the Southwest Section at its November meeting in Downey, California.

Dr. Jungermann described new processes and formulations and unique product forms that bar soap technology has wrought in recent years.

Additives that improve the emolliency and flash lather and reduce cracking of soap bars have been developed. Ethoxylated and propoxylated derivatives of methyl glucoside, either alone or in combination with ethoxylated or acetylated lanoline derivatives, have proven to be effective for these purposes, he said. Polymeric additives are finding increasing applications in bar soaps. One U.S. patent describes an anionic polymer, vinyl pyrrolidone-maleic anhydride, that promotes lubricity, anti-irritancy, and improvement in lathering; another details the use of a combination of nonionic polymers to refresh and to reduce moisture loss from the skin.

Superfating systems which improve lathering properties continue to expand. A new superfating agent attracting attention in bar soap applications is wheatgerm fatty acid, Jungermann said.

In the processing area, the use of finishing equipment—particularly the Mazzoni type plodders—has been extended to the manufacture of marbelized, translucent, and floating soaps and Combars (soap and synthetic detergent combination bars). There is continuing interest in high caustic-high solids saponification technology, which promises to eliminate or at least greatly reduce the need for the costly and energy-inefficient drying step, he said.

Sodium borohydride has emerged as a viable and cost-effective alternative to traditional bleaching and refining procedures, providing improved color and odor stability over other antioxidants.

Deodorant/antimicrobial soaps still claim 50% of the soap market. A new development in this area is the use of citronellyl senecioate as a non-germicidal deodorant in soap.

The hard water soap (Combar) market has remained relatively stable. The availability of high active (alpha olefin sulfonate, a mild surfactant with good lime soap dispersing properties, offers new formulation potential. In this segment of the soap market, a new method has been devised for manufacturing mild, transparent soap based on Quadrol, a tetrapropylated ethylene diamine derivative.

Pioneered by Minnetonka Corp. and pursued by other major soap producers, the new "liquid soaps" have captured almost 10% of the bar soap market. Fat-based products are expected to remain important, though, because prices of fats and oils have remained much more stable in the last ten years than have those of petrochemicals, the prime base for the synthetic detergents that constitute "liquid soaps." Procter and Gamble's announcement of plans to double its fatty alcohol and glycerine facilities supports this trend. □

Calendar

AOCS NATIONAL MEETINGS

Annual Meeting, 1982: May 2-6, Sheraton Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Annual Meeting, 1983: May 8-12, Chicago Marriott, Chicago, IL.

1982

May

Annual General Meeting of the Society of Cosmetic Scientists, May 27, 1982, Trafalgar Suite, Charing Cross Hotel, Strand, London. Contact: SCS, 56 Kingsway, London WC2B 6DX, England.

September

12th International Congress of the International Federation

of Societies of Cosmetic Chemists, Sept. 13-17, 1982, Palais des Congres, Porte Maillot, Paris. Contact: Congress Secretary, Cie des Wagons-Lits Cook, 14 Blvd. des Capucines, 75440 Paris Cedex 09, France.

Society of Cosmetic Scientists' "Cosmetic Science 1983," Nov. 17, 1982, London Press Centre, 76 Shoe Lane, London. Contact: SCS, 56 Kingsway, London WC2B 6DX, England.

December

Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists, Dec. 2-3, 1982, Sheraton Center, New York, NY. Contact: SCC, Suite 1701, 1995 Broadway, New York, NY 10023. □