

# Press Release



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Covestro AG  
Communications  
51365 Leverkusen  
Germany

Contact  
Dr. Frank Rothbarth  
Telephone  
+49 214 6009-2536  
Email  
frank.rothbarth  
@covestro.com

Right balance between speed and quality

## Covestro boosts furniture coating efficiency

### Multi-curing solution for robust and efficient UV curable waterborne coatings

The furniture market is growing worldwide. In light of the intense competition, manufacturers are facing increasing pressure to react more flexibly and shorten lead times. This is also true for industrial furniture coating, where there is a constant need to balance speed and quality. Beyond efficiency, the furniture market follows the global trends and puts increasing emphasis on sustainability.

At the [European Coatings Show 2019](#) from March 19-21 in Nuremberg, [Covestro](#) has presented Bayhydrol<sup>®</sup> eco UV 2877, a fast-drying dispersion offering great application flexibility when used in UV-curing, one- and two-component coating systems. It can be used in both pigmented and clearcoat formulations, and is equally suitable for topcoats and primers. Moreover, around 35 percent of the product is based on biomass.

Coating formulations based on Bayhydrol<sup>®</sup> eco UV 2877 show a multi-curing mechanism: the coatings achieve tack-free films with good mechanical properties and stain resistance even before UV curing or at low UV energy dosage. Curing with UV radiation gives final coatings with even higher chemical resistance and hardness.

### Significantly higher productivity

“Drying is up to 50 percent faster than with a high-performance standard product,” says Dr. Berta Vega Sánchez, marketing manager for furniture coatings and adhesives at Covestro. “The coating achieves good properties even in shaded areas without the need to add an additional hardener, which is equally beneficial to coating formulators and parts manufacturers.”



Furniture manufacturers gain design freedom, since three-dimensional parts with shaded areas can be coated to a high level of quality. One-component UV coatings are easy to handle, there is no pot life to consider and there is less waste than with standard systems.

### **Ecological advantages**

The waterborne coatings require no reactive thinner and emit lower amounts of volatile organic compounds (VOC) than standard systems, allowing for more favorable labeling. The lower dependence on UV quality means that either processors can reduce the UV dosage or coatings formulators can reduce the amount of photoinitiator, which is a real cost advantage.

Bayhydrol® eco UV 2877 is partially based on renewable resources, contributing to circular economy by helping to close the carbon loop. Additionally, a Life Cycle Assessment has shown a significant improvement in the carbon footprint compared to standard waterborne UV curable dispersions. The other environmental impact categories under investigation show the expected trends when comparing bio-based to fossil-based materials.

For all these reasons Bayhydrol® eco UV 2877 is a perfect example for achieving more with less: a reduced consumption of energy and fossil resources leads to better surface properties.

### **About Covestro:**

With 2018 sales of EUR 14.6 billion, Covestro is among the world's largest polymer companies. Business activities are focused on the manufacture of high-tech polymer materials and the development of innovative solutions for products used in many areas of daily life. The main segments served are the automotive, construction, wood processing and furniture, and electrical and electronics industries. Other sectors include sports and leisure, cosmetics, health and the chemical industry itself. Covestro has 30 production sites worldwide and employs approximately 16,800 people (calculated as full-time equivalents) at the end of 2018.

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