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Press Release

CHT teams up with HeiQ in fight against COVID-19

The corona pandemic continues to put a strain on health systems around the globe. Many places lack effective textile protective kit among others for their medical personnel. HeiQ, a Swiss specialty chemicals company, has developed antiviral and antibacterial protective kit that is quickly effective against Coronaviruses (229E), as confirmed in wide-ranging studies. In cooperation with HeiQ, the CHT Group is now supplying this technology to the market to help decrease the global shortage in protective wear.

A wide number of studies have proven that viruses and bacteria can remain active on textile surfaces for a longer period. The SARS-COV-2 virus, which causes the COVID-19 disease, can stay active on a textile for up to two days and therefore be infectious. Shortages in textile protective kit create a high risk for medical personnel who are in contact with COVID-19 patients: often, doctors and nurses cannot change their protective masks and clothing as frequently as would be necessary in order to adhere to hygiene rules and to prevent the spreading of the virus.

The HeiQ Viroblock NPJ03 that has been developed by HeiQ is a new technology that is also effective against Coronaviruses (229E) thanks to its antibacterial and antiviral properties. Comprehensive studies have demonstrated the kit's effectiveness. A combination of silver salts with a vesicle technology deactivates bacteria and viruses on textile surfaces within a few minutes and renders the bacteria and viruses harmless. Textiles equipped in this way reduce the rate of infection by 99.99%, which stops the transmission and the spread of bacteria and viruses through textiles.

Viroblock can be used on all types of fibers – not only for protective kit and masks, but also for work clothing, bed linen, towels and home textiles. The kit

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is wash-resistant and still highly effective after 30 standard wash processes. Thanks to the cooperation of HeiQ with CHT Group, this essential technology can now reach the market quickly and in a high quality to help medical personnel in their fight against COVID-19.

Ralf Kattanek, Group Vice President Textiles of CHT Group, believes that CHT's international profile allows CHT to play a key role in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. "Due to our fast introduction of the HeiQ Viroblock NPJ03, we are making a significant contribution to lessening the impact of the Corona pandemic. We continue to expect an increase in demand for protective clothing and plan to work closely with textile companies, brands and retailers around the world to jointly overcome this crisis."

About CHT Group

The CHT Group is a medium-sized global player active in developing, producing and supplying specialty chemicals. CHT Germany GmbH in Tübingen, the headquarters of the group, focuses on sustainable chemical products and process solutions.

TEXTILE SOLUTIONS from CHT improve the quality, functionality and optical appearance and cleanliness of textiles, and optimize the production processes connected to them. In the field of silicones, construction materials, paint, lacquers, paper, and products for the agricultural, cleaning and care industries, INDUSTRY SOLUTIONS offer innovative products and process solutions. By combining the strengths of the entire group, additional innovation products, applications or processes are continuously developed by SCIENCE & SERVICE SOLUTIONS, and comprehensive technical advice can be offered to customers. CHT's highly qualified employees work in the most modern labs in the fields of development, analytics and application technology, working on new ideas and solutions that meet today's requirements.

The CHT Group has 2,200 employees and manufacturing and distribution sites across the globe (represented through 27 subsidiaries). In 2019, total revenues were around 535 million euros.

For more information, visit www.cht.com

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