

Press Release

A Pliolite based intumescent paint selected to fire-protect the roof of Wimbledon Centre Court

Paris/Villejust, October 1st, 2009 – **Leighs Paints, specialists in producing fire protection coatings for steel structures, have supplied around 20,000litres of FIRETEX, a Pliolite based intumescent paint manufactured by Eliokem, to cover the iconic structure of Wimbledon Centre Court.**

Leighs Paints FIRETEX coatings, based on Pliolite resins, are specifically designed to chemically react in the event of a fire to protect the steel and lengthen the time taken for it to reach its critical failure temperature, enhancing the safety of the rescue services.

FIRETEX coatings provide fire protection for steelwork, bulkheads and decks against pool fire and jet fire for up to 3 hours at low film thickness. The blast is resistant to pressures in excess of 4 bars.

As part of the improvement works initiated by the Lawn Tennis Association, Leighs Paints FIRETEX coatings have also been applied to the new stands at Centre Court, which have been expanded to seat 15,000 spectators, as well as coating the new retractable roof.

Pliolite® resins for solvent based paints have become an institution. Their success stems from an unequalled level of performance and safety.

Pliolite® technology is compliant with the 2010 European legislation on VOC reduction.

About Eliokem

Eliokem, a Leading Specialty Chemical Company

Eliokem is a specialty chemical group with headquarters in Villejust (near Paris) France. The group employs more than 680 people around the world and owns 4 production facilities located at Le Havre (France), Akron (Ohio, USA), Ningbo (China) and Valia (Gujarat, India) as well as 6 representative offices in Europe, Asia and the Americas, and a network of 75 distributors and agents strategically located around the world. The company has leading positions in a broad range of niche applications with the following trademarks and associated product lines:

Pliolite®, Plioway®, Pliotec® and Hydro Pliolite®: resins used in decorative paints.

Pliotone®: Electrographic toners.

Pliocord® and Chemigum®: latex used in the treatment of reinforcing fabrics, joints and gloves.

Chemigum® and Sunigum®: elastomeric modifiers for plastics.

Wingstay® : **Wingstay®:** non-staining antioxidants used in natural latex articles, carpet backing and for the protection of ABS and elastomers.

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About Leighs Paints

Leighs Paints is the UK's leading independent manufacturer of high performance coatings employing over 250 people world wide. Established in 1860, Leighs Paints operates on a global basis, serving a variety of demanding markets. With on-site Research, Development and Engineering teams; Leighs Paints offers excellent technical advice, support and training to ensure technical understanding within the industry is of the highest standard.

Visit www.leighspaints.com

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