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Keeping things cool in Brazil

## Greetings from the NOCOLOK<sup>®</sup> Brazilian team

Solvay Química Ltda is based in São Paulo and is responsible for trading most Solvay chemicals in Brazil, including some locally produced products.

Solvay Química Ltda is the SFD representative for the whole spectrum of fluorides, and has a transfilling station and a warehouse for refrigerants.

Thanks to its proactive approach and very close contacts with its customers, Solvay Química Ltda has established an excellent reputation and gained a significant presence in the Brazilian market.



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Stimulating environmental awareness

## Water soluble packaging

In May 2004, Solvay Fluor presented a concept for the water soluble packaging of NOCOLOK<sup>®</sup> Flux at the 3rd International Congress on Aluminum Brazing in Düsseldorf, Germany. Following an overwhelming positive response, it was apparent that Health, Safety and Environmental flux handling aspects are of prime importance in the aluminum brazing industry.

The concept behind water soluble packaging involves pre-weighed, pre-packaged pouches of NOCOLOK<sup>®</sup> flux in water soluble packaging. The polyvinyl alcohol or PVA packaging film dissolves in the flux slurry. This means that no prior opening of the packaging is necessary and therefore completely avoids contact with the flux dust during flux slurry preparation or concentration adjustment. The concentration of PVA dissolved in the flux slurry does not affect brazing. What is more, it effectively acts as a surfactant to enhance wettability.

To demonstrate the benefits of this packaging method, a heat exchanger produc-

tion trial was conducted in the USA with water soluble packaging. The results will be presented at AFC Holcroft 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Aluminum Brazing Conference in Novi in



October 2005. Please contact your Solvay Fluor representative for the latest on this innovative packaging system for NOCOLOK<sup>®</sup> Flux.



# Pro-environment packaging of NOCOLOK® Flux in Japan

In the light of increasing awareness for more environmental protection, NOCOLOK® customers in Japan began to object to the traditional NOCOLOK® flux packaging in "fiber drums" because they cannot be recycled or reclaimed. Customers therefore demanded a change in packaging which would produce little or no industrial waste.

Several new packaging methods were analysed to assess the environmental and cost benefits.

Nippon Solvay concluded that the best packaging method was recyclable drums. Polyethylene drums were available directly from a catalogue, and a total of 1,500 drums were specially ordered and customised with heat-printed "NOCOLOK®" brand marks. The 100 litre drums are 72 cm high x 46 cm diameter, with a 40 cm opening. The empty drums weigh 6.2 kg.

Another technical aspect to be solved was filling 50 kg of flux into the PE drum. A hopper was specially designed for this purpose, however, because the flux has a high angle of repose, it was not easy to fill the flux into

the PE drums from the hopper. In addition, discharging 1,000 kg of flux from BigBags into the hopper proved difficult because the discharge spout of BigBags is not big enough.

Nevertheless, with the cooperation of a contractor, Nippon Solvay launched the new PE drum packaging with 50 kg net flux. The whole repackaging system was then moved to a logistics company which handles all NOCOLOK® operations from import to delivery and recovery of the empty drums. The operation proved successful and now all Solvay Fluor flux customers with one exception use recyclable PE drums.

Although not optimally efficient at present, the new system is now becoming the standard in Japan. Of considerable benefit would be a redesign of the BigBag to give the discharge spout a much bigger opening. This would make the operation much easier, faster and less expensive.



## Brazing events 2005/2006

- Industry Fair "Schweißen und Schneiden" (Cutting and Welding), Essen, Germany  
September 12 – 17, 2005
- AFC Holcroft 10th Annual Aluminum Brazing Conference, Novi, MI, USA  
October 25 – 27, 2005
- International Air-Conditioning Heating Refrigeration Exposition (AHR EXPO), Chicago, USA  
January 23 – 25, 2006
- 4th International Congress Aluminum Brazing, Düsseldorf, Germany  
May 16 – 18, 2006

## New Information

# NOCOLOK® Packaging brochure

The new brochure provides information on the different packaging available for the NOCOLOK® product range. The brochure details the precise dimensions and weights alongside technical drawings of the containers. Another section shows how pallets can be loaded with different drums and tubs.

The brochure can be ordered as a printout or a PDF file from [thomas.henkel@solvay.com](mailto:thomas.henkel@solvay.com).



## NOCOLOK® NEWS

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