Owens-Illinois' New Surbond™ Barrier Material

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A First For Multi-Layer Pet Market

TOLEDO, Ohio – April 4, 2003 – Multi-layer PET containers will never be the same again. Owens-Illinois (O-I) has made sure of that.

Materials engineers at O-I have developed a new technology in the use of SurBond™ barrier material that greatly reduces delamination in a multi-layer structure.

“This material will provide enhanced protection against delamination,” said Philip Bourgeois, Ph.D., O-I manager of materials technology and inventor of this technology. “Delamination under some conditions of handling and use is not aesthetically pleasing, particularly in highly embossed and decorated containers. The use of SurBond barrier material goes a long way toward solving this problem.”

The good news for consumers is that products featuring this new O-I technology are expected to hit store shelves later this year.

SurBond barrier material will be used in O-I’s patented SurShotSM multi-layer injection technology process. Packages that use the new technology can be filled on the current lines – so no adjustments by the filler are needed.

“For years, companies have been trying to develop delamination resistant passive barrier technology for small and large size containers – and we’ve done it,” said Dr. Bourgeois.

Owens-Illinois is one of the world’s leading manufacturers of plastic containers, glass containers and closure systems. O-I Plastics Group, Food & Beverage Products offers food and beverage companies an unparalleled selection of materials, processes and technologies for both containers and closures. From research, to design, to testing and manufacturing, O-I Plastics Group, Food & Beverage Products is a single source for the widest range of food and beverage packaging solutions. Owens-Illinois is an industry leader in using post-consumer recycled plastic.

More information about Owens-Illinois’ Plastics Group, Food & Beverage Products is available by calling (800) 537-0178 or your local O-I representative, or by visiting www.o-i.com. Media inquiries please call (419) 241-2221.