Marcus Wax Applications In Candles

Marcus wax to enhance appearance and burning of candles

**Opacity** - Paraffin wax is naturally translucent. It is often desirable to enhance the uniformity and reduce motling appearance of candles by making them opaque. This can be accomplished with the addition of only a few percent by weight of Marcus wax.

**Drip** - Typical paraffin's used in candles have melt points of 130-145° depending on the type candle being produced. Direct addition of a few percent Marcus wax to the paraffin will help reduce dripping. Another technique is to add a slightly higher level (up to 4%) of Marcus wax into paraffin that will be used as a veneer on the outer coating of the candle.

**Color** - As molten paraffin cools it forms crystals. Smaller crystals formation has the benefit of increasing oil and dye holding capacity of the paraffin. Dyes are often added to paraffin. Small quantities of Marcus wax, well dispersed in paraffin, will aid in nucleation of paraffin and formation of smaller crystals with enhanced color fixing capacity.

**Scent** - Scents that are added to candles are usually in the form of oils. Like colorants, the use of Marcus wax can help encapsulate scent oils and allow for more uniform release.

**Mold release** - polyethylene has good mold release properties due to its low surface energy property.

**Gloss** - Marcus Polyethylene waxes have good gloss and can impart a durable and attractive outer surface to candles. This can reduce surface blemishes due to handling and packaging.

**Burning time** - Burning rates depend on many factors including type of paraffin, design of candle and wick characteristics. Addition of Marcus Polyethylene wax to paraffin can extend candle life by reducing dripping and less puffing of the wax during burning.

**Strength** - Marcus Polyethylene waxes impart strength and durability to paraffin. This can be accomplished through use of an outer dip or dispersing.

**Most Marcus Polyethylene waxes (M200, M300, & M600) have melting points well above that of traditional paraffins used in candle wax. To completely melt these grades of Marcus wax requires melting to temperatures in excess of 125°. Proper dispersion of the Marcus wax in paraffin requires melt temperatures be maintained during mixing and dilution.**

**Safety** - should always be the number one consideration in making candle. This applies to both safe manufacturing and safe burning of candles. The information contained herein is intended as a guideline and not a substitute for safety training, education and well designed, manufactured and tested candles.

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