

New “next generation” softener launched for demanding textile finishing market

Dow Corning® *OP-8800 Premium Hydrophilic Softener offers great versatility to formulators and market opportunities to textile value chain players*

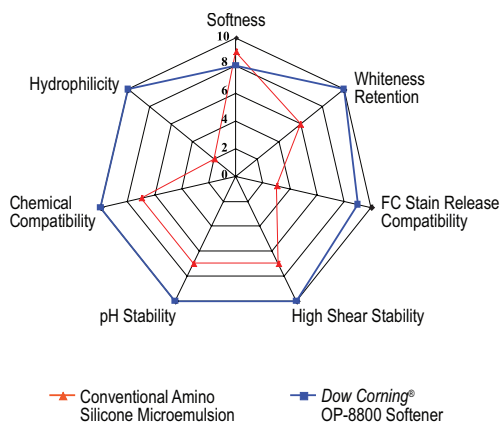
Market trends along the entire textile industry value chain, especially in the home textiles and apparel markets, have placed increased demands on formulators for multifunctional finishes that provide, among others:

- **A more environmentally sustainable and safer solution**
- **Improved comfort through excellent softness, wickability, and water absorbency**
- **Virtually no impact on whiteness and stain-release properties**
- **Outstanding process stability**

In response, Dow Corning introduces **OP-8800 Premium Hydrophilic Softener**, a very well-balanced product that meets market needs from the manufacturer to the consumer. Unlike many competitive products, it does not contain harmful volatile organic compounds (VOCs) or solvents.

Excellent performance

A premium, next-generation finishing product, OP-8800 Softener is an ideal textile finish that offers excellent softness, water absorbency, whiteness, and hydrophilicity, with minimum to no impact on original substrate whiteness. In addition, OP-8800 Softener can be used as a softener for stain-release textiles treated with most fluorocarbons. OP-8800 Softener outperforms conventional aminosilicones and other hydrophilic softeners on several key features.

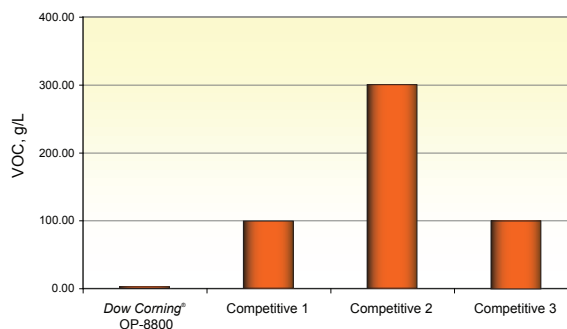


The environmental advantage

The major cause of air pollution in the textile industry occurs when heat-curing or drying of coatings and finishes causes the vaporization of organic compounds. Because VOCs can harm the environment and human health, governmental agencies around the world are enacting more stringent air quality regulations to limit VOC emissions.

OP-8800 Softener helps mitigate these problems because it is nearly 100% composed of a novel silicone copolymer, virtually eliminating VOCs from its composition¹, whereas some competitive hydrophilic silicone products contain up to 300g/L of VOCs.

Volatile Organic Compounds Content of Hydrophilic Silicones²



Formulation, processing, and application ease

OP-8800 Softener also provides maximum formulation flexibility, processability, stability, and ease of application. Microemulsions made with OP-8800 Softener have shown to provide the following benefits:

- High shear-stable
- High pH-stable
- Electrolyte stable
- Compatible with anionic chemicals
- Readily exhaustible

OP-8800 Premium Hydrophilic Softener & Dow Corning: The right solution for a demanding market

OP-8800 Softener is an environmentally sound, safer, multifunctional finish that delivers a unique combination of benefits over a wide range of conditions.

Dow Corning is a solution provider and innovative partner that delivers value through superior technology, application expertise, and market experience. For more information about OP-8800 Premium Hydrophilic Softener and all our textile solutions, visit our website: www.dowcorning.com/textiles.

¹Contains only traces of isopropyl alcohol.

²As defined by EPA - 40 CFR 51.100(s). Value estimated based on information in competitors' MSDS and technical data sheets.