

Butvar® Polyvinyl Butyral Resin Dispersion BR Technical Bulletin

Introduction

Butvar Dispersion BR is a stable aqueous emulsion of plasticized polyvinyl butyral in water. The plasticizer level is at 40 parts per 100 parts of resin. Films cast from Butvar Dispersion BR are tough and light transparent. They develop full strength properties when cast and dried at room temperature.

These films adhere well to many surfaces. Resistance to water, heat and sunlight is excellent. These properties make them the choice for such applications as textile finishing; greaseproof and washable wallpaper coatings; and decorative, protective or temporary coatings for metal, wood, glass and other materials.

Butvar Dispersion BR Characteristics

Form:	An aqueous emulsion of plasticized polyvinyl butyral, milk-white in color
Total Solids:	50.0% to 52.0%
Viscosity:	500 - 1,500 cps (Brookfield, LVF No. 3 Spindle, 30 R.P.M., 25oC)
pH:	8.0 - 10.5
Particle Size:	Most particles between 0.25 microns and 1.5 microns
Particle Charge:	Anionic (potassium oleate)
Plasticizer Content:	40 parts butyl ricinoleate per 100 parts of Butvar B-72 resin (13.9% if solids)
Pounds per Gallon:	8.4 at 25oC

Handling and Methods of Application

Butvar Dispersion BR may be handled in most of the processing systems common to latex work. It can be applied by roller coating, knife coating or air knife coating; it can be sprayed in solids concentrations ranging from 30% - 40%; it can be dipped with or without a coagulant.

Whatever method is employed, care should be taken to prevent skinning of the dispersion during exposure to air. Closed containers should be used whenever possible. Spray nozzles should be kept moist.

Butvar Dispersion BR is stable when maintained at an alkaline pH. Therefore, in formulating the product, caution should be taken when adding materials that would lower the pH below 8. Butvar Dispersion BR is water based and should not be allowed to freeze. Generally, storage at room temperature results in a shelf life of up to one year.

Compounding Pigments and Colors

Pigments with a positive charge, such as natural iron oxide, should be avoided. Most others, however, are satisfactory. Pigments such as whiting, have been used with success; but it is advisable to avoid impurities, such as lime, which might form soaps and cause inversion. Colors used are the usual rubber pigments with the above limitations. For example, add 1/2 - 1 cup of India ink per drum. For good results, add pigments slowly to water containing a dispersing agent. Then, run the solution through a colloid or ball mill for at least 24 hours.

Plasticization

If additional plasticizer is necessary for a particular formulation, it is suggested to use butyl ricinoleate, castor oil, or Solusolv[™] 2075. Plasticizers should be dispersed in water before being added to the Butvar Dispersion BR. The following procedure is recommended:

Plasticizer	Parts by Weight
Butyl Ricinoleate:	50.0
Oleic Acid:	2.8

Mix ingredients thoroughly - disperse in 48 parts of water containing 0.4 parts of sodium hydroxide. Good agitation is required. The finished plasticized dispersion should be an oil-in-water type and should be homogenized before being added to the Butvar Dispersion BR. The plasticized dispersion then should be allowed to stand overnight before use to ensure uniform penetration of the plasticizer into the polyvinyl butyral particles.

Alternatively, if less plasticizer is desired, blend Butvar Dispersion BR with Butvar Dispersion FP to achieve a lower level of plasticization.

Protective Colloids

Protective Colloids for increasing viscosity or decreasing pressure sensitivity are frequently added in the coating operation. Suggested thickening agents are casein, methyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellu-

lose, carboxymethyl cellulose and gum karaya.

Dispersing Agents

Suitable dispersing agents include those standard in the trade: Darvan[®] or Tamol[®].

Coagulation

The best method for coagulating the dispersion is the addition of acids to bring the pH below 8.

Extendability

Butvar Dispersion BR may be extended with Vinac[®] XX210 or XX230, providing the polyvinyl acetate emulsion is first adjusted to a pH of 9 by adding ammonia or dilute NaOH or KOH.

Defoamers

Defoaming agents seldom are required for BR dispersion as produced. Foamaster[®] VF has been identified to control surface foam in polyvinyl butyral-based formulations. The final defoamer choice, however, will depend ultimately on the actual application or reformulation of the BR dispersion.

Applications

Textiles

Butvar Dispersion BR is used widely in the textile industry to impart increased abrasion resistance, durability, strength, slippage control and reduced color crocking. Some of the successful applications have been in finishing nylon webbing for parachute harnesses and seat belts to improve abrasion resistance.

Butvar Dispersion BR has been applied to textiles from a dilute bath by impregnation on a padder, from a thickened dispersion by coating on regular spreading equipment, or by spraying. When properly processed and applied, plasticized polyvinyl butyral dispersed in water has been used to give a soft, full-bodied finish to rayon, cotton or nylon; for a durable, anti-raveling finish for filament yarns; and for finishing curtain and drapery fabrics, glass fabrics, upholstery goods, webbing and canvas or duck awnings. Formulations using polyvinyl butyral have been used as a transparent rug backing and as a laminating and combining agent for joining fabric to fabric or to other materials.

Paper

Butvar Dispersion BR has been used in applicators to produce greaseproof, washable coatings for wallpaper, window shades and packaging materials. It has been applied to twisted paper yarns used for rugs and seat covers. The dispersion increases the abrasion resistance and durability of the finished product.

Removable Coatings

Butvar Dispersion BR can be used in strippable or washable coating systems. A temporary coating is formed from the dispersion as produced. Removable coatings, however, often are formulated from the Butvar dispersion base. The functional protective film can be used on metal, plastic or other substrates. A clean surface is retained upon removal of the coating.

Material Sources

Product Designation	Owner and/or Supplier
Solusolv [™] 2075	Solutia Incorporated
Butyl Ricinoleate	CasChem Incorporated
Castor Oil	CasChem Incorporated
Darvan [®]	R. T. Vanderbilt Company
Tamol [®]	Rohm & Haas Company
Foamaster [®] VF	Cognis Incorporated
Vinac [®] XX210, XX230	Air Products