

# WHAT IS EXILVA MICROFIBRILLATED CELLULOSE (MFC)?

# NATURES OWN HIGH-END PERFOMANCE ENHANCER

Exilva is a three-dimensional network of cellulose microfibrils suspended in water. The microfibrils form flexible aggregates with a high surface area allowing for very efficient interactions with the surroundings/matrix (other components in the formulation). These interactions have a huge impact on the rheology (the flow properties) and are very dependent on the shear/force applied.



Micrometer size aggreagate of cellulose microfibrils. Image on the left is 10  $\mu$ m, image on the right is a magnification of the image to the left.

# CHARACTERISTICS OF EXILVA:

- Very high viscosity at rest
- Extreme shear thinning properties.
- High and tunable yield stress ("gel strength")
- Extreme high water retention value (WRV)
- Excellent film forming properties
- Excellent air and gas barrier properties





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### AVAILABLE IN TWO GRADES:



#### BOTH GRADES IN TWO TYPES:



The differences between Exilva P and Exilva F are related mainly to the size of the aggregates of microfibrils, consequently to the 3D-network properties. These differences are reflected by the parameters in the table below.

BROOKFIELD VISCOSITY IN WATER	HIGHER FOR EXILVA F
SURFACE AREA/WATER RETENTION VALUE	HIGHER FOR EXILVA F
MECHANICAL PROPERTIES (TENSILE STRENGHT)	HIGHER FOR EXILVA F
EASE OF INCORPORATION/REDISPERSION IN WATER	EASIER FOR EXILVA P

# THE PERFORMANCE OF THE 3D NEWORK IN APPLICATIONS IS HIGHLY **DEPENDENT ON THE MATRIX** IN THE RELEVANT APPLICATION.

Factors that could affect the performance of Exilva in an application are the following:

- Charge, density, size and load of particles in the matrix •
- Ionic strength of matrix (mono or multivalent ions) •
- Polarity of liquids / materials / solvents •
- Ratio of organic phase to water phase

Both Exilva P and Exilva F are stable/robust in extreme pH conditions (pH 1 to 13).

**PHYSICAL PROPERTIES** White, opaque and odor free. **STORAGE** 

Both grades should be stored in closed container protected from heat (<20C) and direct sunlight. Damaged if frozen.

### SHELF LIFE

Stored as advised, both grades have a shelf life of at least 12 months.

## WHAT TO THINK ABOUT WHEN ADDING EXILVA?

It is important to disperse Exilva throroughly (high shear) in all the available water to be used in the formulation. It is further recommended to introduce Exilva-water dispersion as early as possible in the formulation process.

Watch our dispersion how-to video on or by scanning this code:



