Intermediates
Formic acid from BASF

The efficient alternative to phosphoric acid

Formic acid from BASF is more efficient and environmentally more acceptable than most other organic or inorganic acids. Compared to phosphoric acid, it offers following advantages when used in detergent formulations:

- **More efficient cleaning**
  Formic acid removes limescale more efficiently than phosphoric acid: the same result is obtained with a less concentrated formic acid formulation.

- **More sustainable**
  The use of phosphoric acid in cleaning applications results in phosphate contamination of effluents. Formic acid, in contrast, does not cause any phosphate emission.

- **Reduced cost to the end-user**
  High phosphate contamination of effluents results in significant treatment charges for the end-user. This additional driver substantially increases the overall cost for using phosphoric acid. To summarize, the TOTAL cost impact of phosphoric acid is up to TWICE that of formic acid.

The data contained in this publication is based on our current knowledge and experience. In view of the many factors that may affect processing and application of our product, the data does not relieve processors from carrying out their own investigations and tests; neither does the data imply any guarantee of certain properties, nor the suitability of the product for a specific purpose. Any descriptions, drawings, photographs, data, proportions, weights etc. given herein may change without prior information and do not constitute the agreed contractual quality of the product. It is the responsibility of the recipient of our products to ensure that any proprietary rights and existing law and legislation are observed. The safety data given in this publication is for information purposes only and does not constitute a legally binding Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). The relevant MSDS can be obtained upon request from your supplier or you may contact BASF directly at product-safety.intermediates@basf.com.

2009 edition