

Nufarm Crude C4 Inhibitors for Butadiene Units

Crude C4 cuts are produced by naphtha crackers and contain varying amounts of the valuable monomer 1,3-butadiene. These can be processed on site but can also be transported and traded for processing at sites remote from the crackers.

Butadiene can form polymers during storage and transportation, both poly-butadiene rubber and, via reaction with oxygen, polyperoxides that are highly unstable and hazardous.

Crude C4s are therefore stabilized during transport and the ideal product is one which combines a phenolic anti-oxidant to remove poly-peroxides and a stable free radical product that can prevent any polybutadiene formed from carbon radical reactions. Since the presence of oxygen is hazardous in butadiene it is ideally stored in anaerobic conditions where standard anti-oxidant products are ineffective.

Nufarm's crude C4 stabilizer, Inhibitor AHM E870, is designed to perform these functions and has been successfully used for many years.