EARTHCOLORS®® / How can you harness the power of nature?
How do we harness the power of nature together?

As a global leader in color and specialty chemicals, we touch and color people’s lives every day, everywhere. That is why, at Archroma, we continuously challenge the status quo in the deep belief that we can make our industry sustainable.

We are committed to develop innovative systems and services to provide you with custom solutions that are:

SAFE – It’s our nature to protect.
Safe to use, safe to release and safe to wear.

EFFICIENT – It’s our nature to rethink sustainable manufacturing.
Innovating application processes that minimize resources and maximize productivity.

ENHANCED – It’s our nature to add another level of value.
Effects, functionality and aesthetics to give additional value, for a life enhanced.

We call it “The Archroma way to a sustainable world”. Because it’s our nature!
With the boom of the petrol-based chemical industry at the turn of the 20th Century, synthetic dyestuffs of higher performance and bigger volumes started to be commercialized around the world.

EarthColors® is Archroma’s patented new method of synthesizing dyes to produce warm shades from nature.

Archroma’s EarthColors® technology creates fully traceable biosynthetic dyes derived from natural waste products of the agriculture and herbal industries, leaving the edible part still available for food consumption.
EarthColors® are available in a range of six dyes that are made from waste left over by the agricultural and herbal industry, covering a palette of natural shades for cellulosic based fibres such as cotton, viscose, linen, bamboo, kapok, etc.

Diressul® Earth-Oak manufactured using 100% ALMOND SHELLS from the food industry

Diressul® Earth-Cotton manufactured using 100% COTTON PLANT residues from the cotton industry

Diressul® Earth-Sand manufactured using 90% BITTER ORANGE residues from the herbal industry

Diressul® Earth-Clay manufactured using 90% BEET residues from the food industry

Diressul® Earth-Forest manufactured using 90% SAW PALMETTO residues from the herbal industry

Diressul® Earth-Stone manufactured using 70% SAW PALMETTO residues from the herbal industry
PROTECTING THE PLANET
AND ITS PEOPLE

With EarthColors® we are able to produce cleanly, closing the loop, and respecting the environment.

Our EarthColors® technology helps to reduce the negative impact on the water footprint, and preserve human wellness, natural resources and climate change compared to conventional synthetic dyes*. Moreover, the fact that waste is up-cycled from other industries contributes to a circular economy.

Using natural waste based raw materials has no negative impact in any other steps of the dye manufacturing, such as water and energy consumption or waste generation. During the synthetization of EarthColors®, 100% of the natural raw material is transformed into a new dyestuff, guaranteeing full waste management into our production.

*Based on internal LCA comparative screening
With EarthColors®, you help us to protect Mother Earth and future generations.

EMBRACING TRACEABILITY, FROM NATURE TO FASHION

Archroma’s dyes, manufactured using patented EarthColors® technology, are fully traceable – from natural waste material to the store.

Archroma is providing brand owners with the possibility to offer traceability of the EarthColors®, tracking the origin of the raw material and progress of the specific EarthColors® batch along the supply chain. Traceability information is available on smart hangtags which are attached to each item of clothing.

Watch our EarthColors® video to see how it works.
EarthColors® was honored with the prestigious Outdoor Gold Industry Award 2017 in the Sustainable Innovations category. EarthColors® dyestuffs are bluesign® and GOTS approved.

*Archroma’s EarthColors dyes have received the Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute’s Platinum Level Material Health Certificate.
Are EarthColors® suitable for all fibers?
At present, they are available for cellulosic fibers such as cotton, viscose, linen, bamboo, kapok, etc. Our experts in R&D are continuously working on making EarthColors® suitable for other fibers.

How is EarthColors® technology commercialized?
EarthColors® is currently exclusive to brands & retailers. EarthColors® dyestuffs are only supplied to approved textile mills, supporting the efforts of the brands & retailers towards transparency and traceability.

What’s the applicability for EarthColors®?
Archroma’s dyes, manufactured using patented EarthColors® technology, can be applied using dyeing technologies well established within the textile industry. EarthColors® dyes are suitable for yarn and woven continuous dye equipment, as well as garment dyeing facilities under closed atmospheric conditions.

What’s the performance level of EarthColors®?
Archroma’s dyes, manufactured using patented EarthColors® technology, have good affinity for cellulosic fibers and during the dyeing process they are directly linked to the fiber by covalent bonds. Therefore, EarthColors® dyes equal the fixation rate, fastness and overall performance of Archroma’s existing range of sulfur dyes made from conventional petroleum-based raw materials.

Where are EarthColors® currently produced?
Archroma uses its dye facility outside Barcelona with state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment especially adapted to produce Archroma’s dyes using patented EarthColors® technology. Raw materials are nearly sourced within 500 km from the production site.

Are EarthColors® REACH registered?
Archroma’s dyes, manufactured using patented EarthColors® technology, are exempt of REACH regulation because both raw material and final product are not considered harmful for human health neither environment.

Is any brand already using EarthColors® at scale?
Yes, major brands & retailers from the USA, Europe, Asia and Australasia have already launched collections based on EarthColors®.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

About Archroma
Archroma is a global color and specialty chemicals company committed to innovation, world-class quality standards, high service levels, cost-efficiency and sustainability. Archroma is headquartered in Reinach near Basel, Switzerland, and operates with approximately 3000 employees over 35 countries. Through its three businesses: Brand and Performance Textile Specialties, Packaging & Paper Specialties and Coatings, Adhesives & Sealants, Archroma delivers specialized performance and color solutions to meet customer needs in their local markets.

Archroma helps people fulfill their desire for products that appeal to their emotions and sensibilities for a greater life experience, by developing beauty- and performance-improving technologies applied to everyday products. Products enhanced, colors enhanced, performance enhanced – “Life enhanced”.

About Brand and Performance Textile Specialties
From fiber to finish, Archroma’s Brand and Performance Textile Specialties play a key role throughout the entire textile supply chain, with special chemistries for pretreatment, dyeing, printing and finishing of textiles. Our product packages replace the properties of apparel and other textiles in applications as diverse as high fashion, home textiles and special technical textiles.

From crisis response to resistance management as well as compelling; our functional effects provide added value features to textile manufacturers, our specialist advisers provide color matching, trend forecasting as well as sector specific concepts, including our ONE WAY sustainability service, to ensure that customers generate greater value from their products.

We touch and color people’s lives every day, everywhere.
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