

Company brings certified foam to market

HICKORY

Hickory Springs is among the first domestic foam producers to bring CertiPUR-USCM compliant foam to the domestic market.

CertiPUR originated in Europe in 2004.

The American version, CertiPUR-US, is open to all manufacturers of flexible polyurethane foam selling product in the United States.

The CertiPUR-US certification process involves intense foam testing.

It also involves signed affirmation that CertiPUR-US-prohibited ingredients, such as ozone-depleting CFCs, PBDE fire retardants, lead, mercury and other materials

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of concern, are not being utilized in the foaming process.

Dwayne Welch, Hickory Springs' executive vice president of marketing, said the company sees the program as added value, offering its customers — and theirs — peace of mind.

"In addition, it comple-

ments our ongoing company-wide environmental responsibility and sustainability efforts," Welch said.

Hickory-based Hickory Springs is one of several founding members of the CertiPUR-US program, which was officially introduced by the Polyurethane Foam Association earlier this year and is now operated under the auspices of the Alliance of Flexible Polyurethane Foam (AFPA), of which Bobby Bush, Hickory Springs vice president, is chairman.

"We see this as the foam industry's best route for the fu-

ture," Bush said.

"I'm excited about the possibilities. This program not only levels the field, no matter where the foam is produced, but it also establishes a level of verified quality control and product safety that the industry has never had before."

Don Coleman, president of Hickory Springs, said the certification is an indication that Hickory Springs "remains the leader in flexible polyurethane foam technology."

ON THE WEB:

www.certipur-us