Bulletin No. E810833300A
Date issued: July 3, 2012

Polymer-Alloy Type Permanent Antistatic Agent
for Polyolefin (Low-Resistivity)

PELECTRON PVH

Preface

PELECTRON PVH is a polymer-alloy type permanent antistatic agent for polyolefin resins (e.g., polyethylene, and polypropylene) which was developed by using an original Sanyo Chemical compatibilization technique.

This product imparts a long-lasting antistatic property to polyolefin resins while causing practically no lowering of their physical properties and moldability. This product dry-blended with polyolefin can be directly molded without a kneading process because this product exhibits excellent dispersibility in polyolefin. In addition, compared to conventional permanent antistatic agents, PELECTRON PVH exhibits an excellent antistatic property even when used in small amounts because this product substantially decreases surface resistivity of polyolefin.

Typical Properties

Property	Value	Remark
Appearance	Pale yellow pellet	−
Melting point	Approx. 150 °C (302 °F)	−
Surface resistivity	Approx. 2×10^{6} Ω	−
Thermal degradation temperature	Approx. 250 °C (482 °F)	*

* The lowest temperature at which PELECTRON PVH begins to thermally decompose.
(Measured using a thermal gravimeter in air)

Features

PELECTRON PVH has the following features:

· Imparts an excellent antistatic property (the ability to prevent problems such as dust and electrostatic faults) to polyolefin when the amount added is between 5 and 20 wt %.

· Imparts an excellent antistatic property to polyethylene and polypropylene for films and sheets while causing practically no lowering of their physical properties.

· Exhibits a long-lasting antistatic property immediately after molding. The antistatic property in the resulting plastic minimally changes even after washing with water because it is a high-molecular-weight antistatic agent. In addition, it works even in low humidity due to its low dependency on humidity.

· This product dry-blended with polyolefin can be directly molded without a kneading process because this product exhibits excellent dispersibility in polyolefin, particularly polyethylene.

Application Methods

1. General Procedure

As shown in Figure 1, polyolefin and PELECTRON PVH are dry-blended using a blender. This blend is then molded using an appropriate molder (e.g., an extruder). Fillers and dispersants can be added during the dry-blending process if necessary.

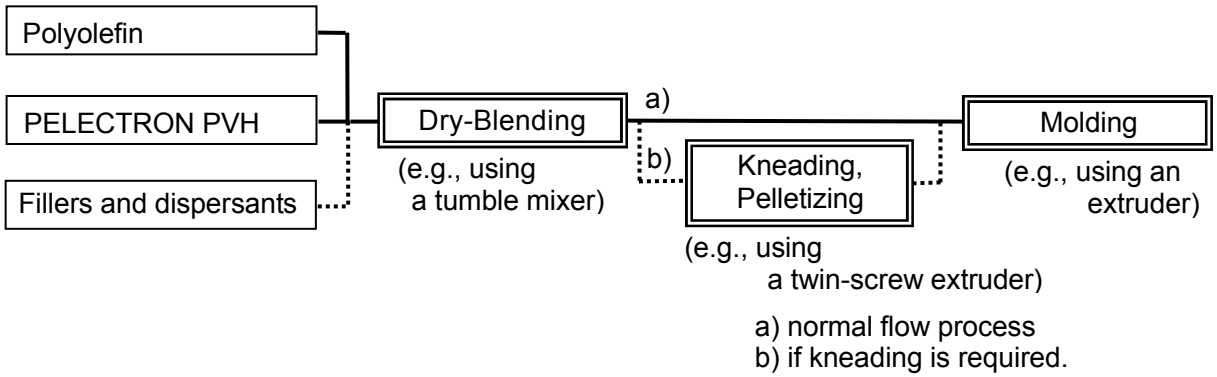

Figure 1. General Procedure for Application of PELECTRON PVH

2. Amount to be Used

The standard amount of PELECTRON PVH is between 5 and 20 wt %.
Determine the optimal amount by referring to the results of its performance tests.

3. Kneading Conditions

Use a high share rate kneader (e.g., a twin-screw extruder) if the kneading process is required. The standard kneading temperature is between 180 and 230 °C (356 – 446 °F). Determine the kneading temperature according to the resin applied.

4. Drying of PELECTRON PVH

· This product can be immediately used after the factory sealed package is opened because this product is packed under moisture-proof conditions.

· Drying is necessary when the factory sealed package is kept unsealed for several hours because this product has some hygroscopic properties. The following are examples of the conditions for drying.
We recommend that you should use a hopper dryer or dehumidifying dryer during the molding process. (because there is a possibility that fisheyes, blisters and silver streaking will occur on molded products of PELECTRON PVH and resins if the water content of the mixture exceeds 500 ppm).

Drying under reduced pressure
Vacuum : Below 1300 Pa (0.2 psi)
Temperature: 70 – 80 °C (158 – 176 °F)
Duration : 2 – 4 hours

Hot-air drying
Temperature: 85 – 95 °C (185 – 203 °F)
Duration : 4 – 6 hours

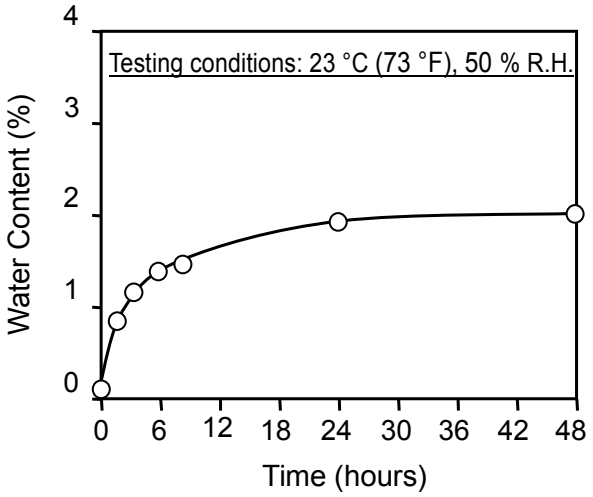

Figure 2. Hygroscopic Properties of PELECTRON PVH

Precaution Against Mishandling

· In the case of using resins at molding temperatures below 170 °C (338 °F), PELECTRON PVH may not fuse, possibly resulting in poor effectiveness. Furthermore, in case of using resins at molding temperatures above 240 °C (464 °F), this product may thermally decompose, possibly resulting in poor effectiveness. The recommended molding temperature is between 170 and 230 °C (338 – 446 °F).

· Depending on the kind of resin, this product may have an influence on the resin's physical properties including mechanical properties. Test their influence on each other’s physical properties beforehand to ensure that there are no problems.

Performance Tests

The examples on pages 4 to 8 are the results of performance tests using polyolefin mixed with PELECTRON PVH.

This product imparts a long-lasting antistatic property to polyolefin that cannot be attained by any other conventional blend-type, low-molecular-weight antistatic agent. In addition, compared to conventional permanent antistatic agents, this product exhibits an excellent antistatic property even when used in small amounts. Furthermore, this product minimally affects physical properties of polyolefin and its fluidity in molding because this product exhibits excellent dispersibility in polyolefin.

1. Application to Low-Density Polyethylene (LDPE)

A. Relationship Between Amount of PELECTRON PVH and Resulting Surface Resistivity

LDPE containing PELECTRON PVH is highly antistatic when the amount of this product added is between 5 and 20 wt %. Refer to Figure 3 and determine the optimal amount according to the desired surface resistivity.

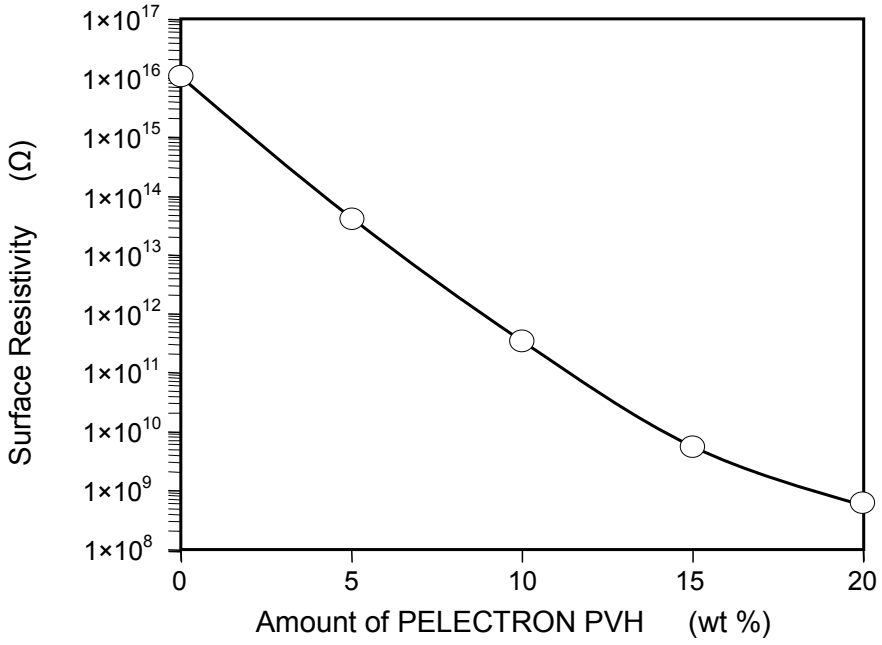

Figure 3. Relationship Between Amount of PELECTRON PVH and Surface Resistivity

Materials and Methods:

Materials:

A predetermined amount of PELECTRON PVH was dry-blended with the LDPE* and the mixture was molded using sheeting equipment [extruder (20mmØ, L/D=25, revolution rate: 50 rpm), die (120 mm, die temperature: approx. 200 °C, 392 °F)] into sheets 100 µm (approx. 3.9 mils) in thickness.

Method:

Each sample was kept at 23 °C (73 °F), 50 % R.H. for 24 hours. Then, the surface resistivity of each was measured using a megohmmeter according to ASTM D 257.

* Melt flow rate (film type of LDPE): 2 g [10 min, 190 °C (374 °F), 21.18 N]

B. Effect on Surface Resistivity When Washed with Water (Evaluation of Durability of Antistatic Effect)

The surface resistivity of the LDPE blended with PELECTRON PVH minimally changes, remaining antistatic even when washed with water. This product imparts a long-lasting antistatic property that cannot be attained by any other conventional blend-type, low-molecular-weight antistatic agent, which loses its antistatic property after being washed with water approximately three times.

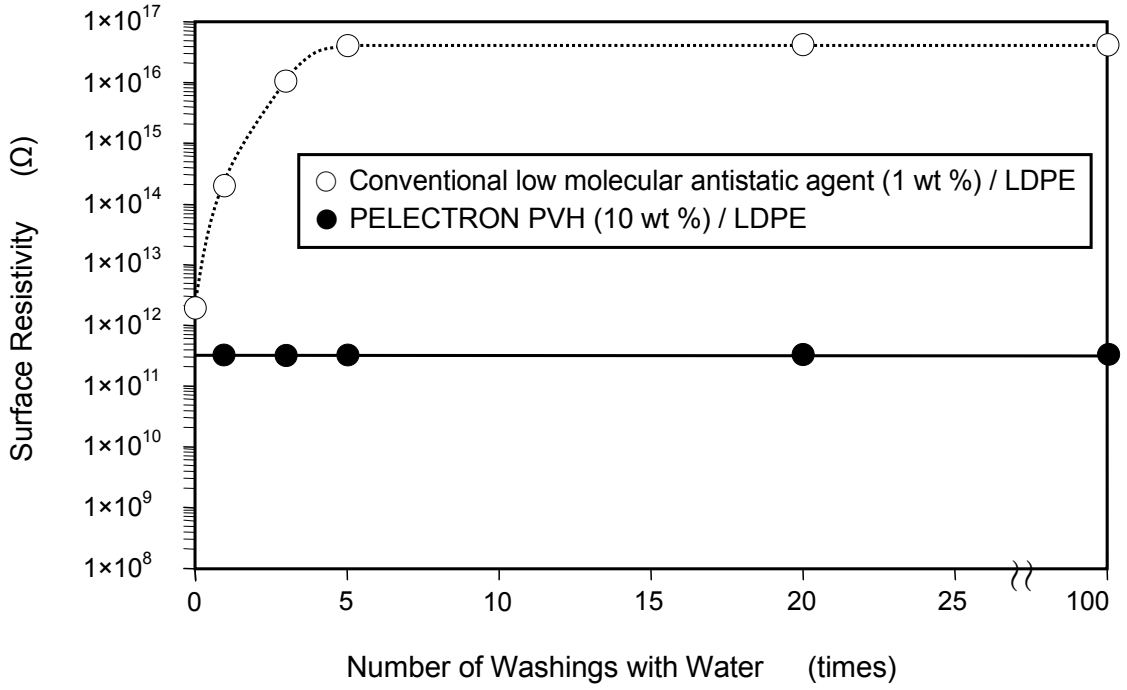

Figure 4. Effect on Surface Resistivity When Washed with Water

Materials and Methods:

Materials:

PELECTRON PVH (10 wt %) / LDPE

PELECTRON PVH (10 wt %) was dry-blended with the LDPE, and the mixture was then molded using sheeting equipment [extruder (20 mmØ, L/D=25, revolution rate: 50 rpm), die (120 mm, die temperature: approx. 200 °C, 392 °F)] into sheets 100 µm (approx. 3.9 mils) in thickness.

Conventional low-molecular-weight anionic antistatic agent (1 wt %) / LDPE

A conventional blend-type, low-molecular-weight antistatic agent, a Sanyo Chemical product, was used. It was dry-blended with the LDPE, and the mixture was kneaded using a twin-screw extruder at approx. 220 °C (428 °F). These samples were prepared by using the molding method described above.

Method:

Each sample was submerged in water and its surface was rubbed with a cotton cloth. The samples were dried under reduced pressure [133 Pa (0.02 psi)] at 70 °C (158 °F) for 2 hours. They were kept at 23 °C (73 °F), 50 % R.H. for 24 hours, and then the surface resistivity was measured using a megohmmeter according to ASTM D 257. This process was repeated according to the number of washings with water as described in Figure 4.

C. Effect of Humidity on Surface Resistivity

The surface resistivity of the LDPE blended with PELECTRON PVH minimally changes even in low humidity due to this product's low dependency on humidity. Conversely, an LDPE blended with any other conventional low-molecular-weight antistatic agent loses its antistatic property in low humidity.

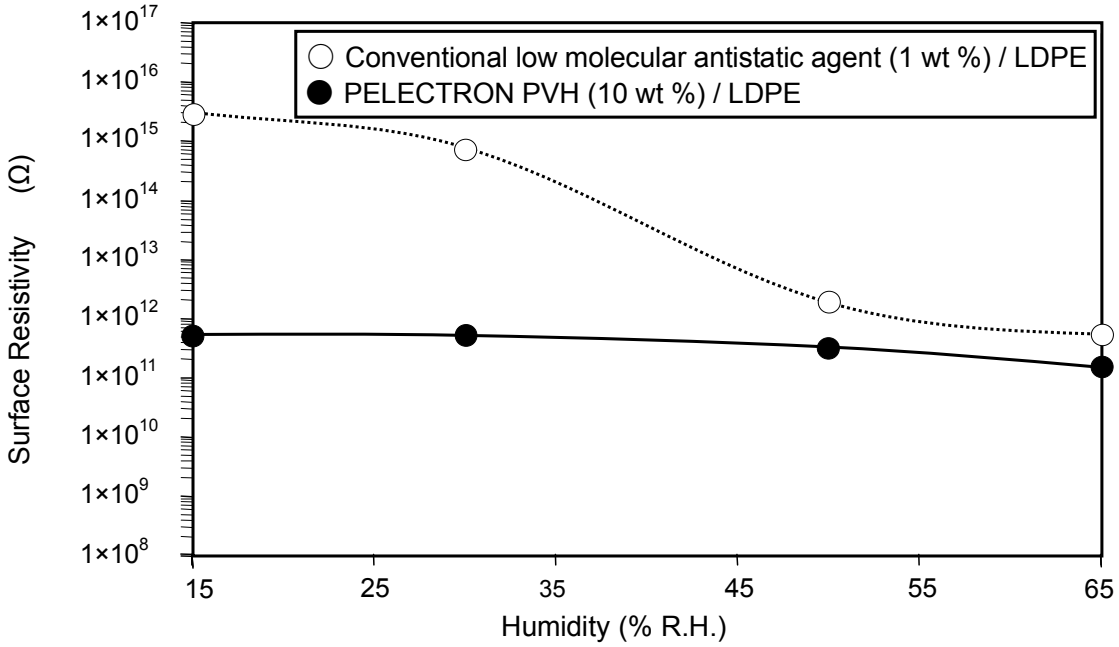

Figure 5. Effect of Humidity on Surface Resistivity

Materials and Methods:

Materials:

See Figure 4.

Method:

Each sample was kept at 23 °C (73 °F) at a predetermined humidity for 24 hours. Then, the surface resistivity of each was measured using a megohmmeter.

D. Examples of Resin Physical Properties

As shown in Table 1, PELECTRON PVH minimally affects the LDPE physical properties.

Table 1. Examples of LDPE Physical Properties

Property		Method	PELECTRON PVH (10 wt %) / LDPE	LDPE
Surface resistivity	Ω	ASTM D 257	3×10^{11}	$> 10^{16}$
Melt flow rate (10 min, 190 °C, 21.18 N)	g	ASTM D 1238	3	2
Tensile strength	MPa (psi)	ASTM D 638	21 (3045)	20 (2900)
Fracture elongation	%	ASTM D 638	590	580
Haze	%	JIS K 7105	35	34
Total light transmittance	%	JIS K 7105	86	86

Materials and Methods:

Materials:

Surface resistivity

PELECTRON PVH (10 wt %) was dry-blended with the LDPE, and the mixture was molded using sheeting equipment [extruder (20 mmØ, L/D=25, revolution rate: 50 rpm), die (120 mm, die temperature: approx. 200 °C, 392 °F)] into sheets 100 µm (approx. 3.9 mils) in thickness. LDPE was also molded under the same conditions.

Melt flow rate
The above molded materials were cut into pellets, and used as samples.

Other mechanical properties
Samples were prepared under the same conditions except that the predetermined size described in ASTM D 638 was applied to measure the tensile strength and fracture elongation.

Methods:
See the methods described in Table 1.
(The testing method for surface resistivity is described in Figure 3.)

E. Dispersibility of PELECTRON PVH in LDPE

As shown in Figure 6, PELECTRON PVH is finely dispersed in the LDPE.

Figure 6. Transmission Electron Micrograph of Molding (TEM photo)
Composed of PELECTRON PVH (10 wt %) and LDPE

[Explanation of Photograph]

Black stripes: PELECTRON PVH

Figure 6 is a magnification (approx. 10,000 times) of a section of the PELECTRON PVH (10 wt %) / LDPE mixture described in Figure 4.

2. Application to Other Resins

PELECTRON PVH imparts a long-lasting antistatic property to extrusion molding type HIPS (high impact polystyrene). The compatibility of this product with this resin is excellent, and the physical properties of this resin show minimal change.

A. Relationship Between Amount of PELECTRON PVH and Resulting Surface Resistivity

HIPS containing PELECTRON PVH is highly antistatic when the amount of this product added is between 5 and 20 wt %. Refer to Figure 7 and determine the optimal amount according to the desired surface resistivity.

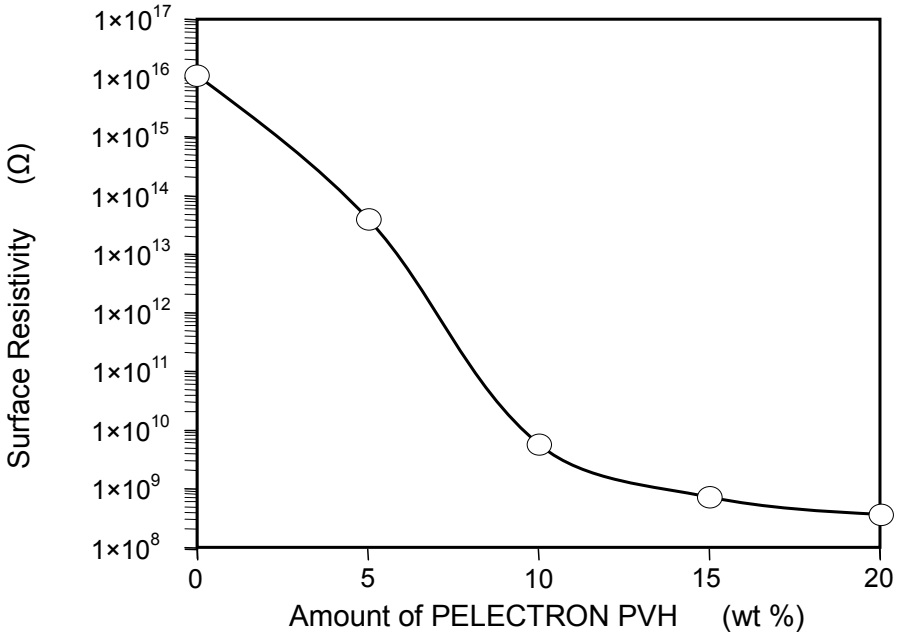

Figure 7. Relationship Between Amount of PELECTRON PVH and Surface Resistivity

Materials and Methods:

Materials:

A predetermined amount of PELECTRON PVH was dry-blended with the HIPS*, and the mixture was molded using sheeting equipment [extruder (20 mmØ, L/D=25, revolution rate: 50 rpm), die (120 mm, die temperature: approx. 220 °C, 428 °F)] into sheets 100 µm (approx. 3.9 mils) in thickness.

Method:

Each sample was kept at 23 °C (73 °F), 50 % R.H. for 24 hours. Then, the surface resistivity of each was measured using a megohmmeter according to ASTM D 257.

* Melt flow rate (extrusion molding type of HIPS): 2.6 g [10 min, 200 °C (392 °F), 49 N]

B. Effect on Resin Physical Properties

As shown in Table 2, even when PELECTRON PVH is added to HIPS, the physical properties of this resin show minimal change.

Table 2. Effect on Resin Physical Properties

Property		Method (ASTM No.)	PELECTRON PVH (10 wt %) / HIPS	HIPS
Surface resistivity	Ω	D257	5×10^{9}	$> 10^{16}$
Tensile strength	MPa (psi)	D638	24 (3480)	28 (4060)
Fracture elongation	%	D638	121	104

Materials and Methods:

Materials:

PELECTRON PVH (10 wt %) / HIPS

Surface resistivity: A predetermined amount of PELECTRON PVH was dry-blended with the HIPS and the mixture was molded using sheeting equipment [extruder (20 mmØ, L/D=25, revolution rate: 50 rpm), die (120 mm, die temperature: approx. 220 °C, 428 °F)] into sheets 100 µm (approx. 3.9 mils) in thickness.

Others: Samples were prepared by the same method described above except that the predetermined size described in ASTM was applied.

HIPS

Samples were prepared under the same conditions described above except that HIPS was only used.

Methods:

See the ASTM No. described in Table 2.
(The testing method for surface resistivity is described in Figure 7.)

Examples of Applications

PELECTRON PVH has been used as a permanent antistatic agent in polyolefin in the following applications:

- Blown films, sheets, trays, etc. for electric and electronic parts.
- House hold electrical goods (TV, air conditioners, air purification systems, etc.), office equipment, etc.
- Floor materials, protector films, base materials for tapes, etc.

Hazards Description

PELECTRON PVH is a polyether-polyolefin block copolymer.

This product is insoluble in water.

This product has no flash point (by Sets Closed Cup) below 300 °C (572 °F).

UN dangerous goods regulations are not applied to this product.

Vapor or fume from molten material causes eye and nose irritation.

This product is for industrial use only.

Important :

Before handling this product, refer to the Material Safety Data Sheet for recommended protective equipment, and detailed precautionary and hazards information.

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