



# David DeVore

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Present Affiliation   | <b>Functional Products Inc.</b>  |
| Areas of Interest     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Polymer additives for lubrication</b></li><li>• <b>Strategies to reduce formulation costs</b></li></ul> |
| Achievements / Awards | <b>PPC Gonsalves Memorial Award (NLGI-IC 2018)</b><br><b>NLGI Author Award (2018), ELGI Best Paper Award (2011)</b>                                |

# Upgrade Your Grease with FUNCTIONAL Polymer Technology

David DeVore, Erik Willett  
Functional Products Inc.

NLGI-IC 27th Lubricating Grease Conference – Pune, India

# Functional Products Inc.

FUNCTIONAL PRODUCTS INC.  
Innovative Chemistry for Lubricants

- US-based additive manufacturer – 40 years in the industry
  - Specializing in polymer-based technology with excellent service
- ISO 9001:2015 with Design
- NLGI-IC attendee for 17 years (Aurangabad 2008)
- Distributed by Environ in India for 20+ years
  - NLGI-IC sponsor, please visit their booth

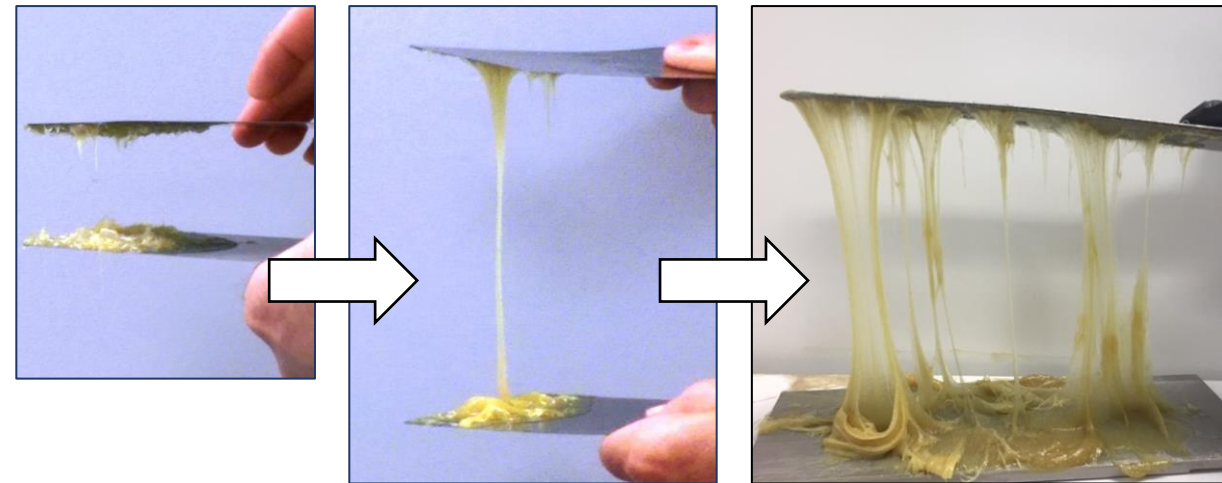


# Agenda

- Polymer additives to enhance grease
  - Tackifiers for adhesion/cohesion and tactile feel
  - Specialty “grease polymers” to improve test performance
- How Functional Products can help you succeed in grease R&D

# Tackifiers

- Very high molecular weight polymers used to add viscoelasticity (“tack”)
- Treat rates from 0.25 – 4.0wt%
- Tack and feel is the first thing a customer experiences



## Key Benefits

- Improved adhesion of the grease to metal surfaces
  - Prevents fling-off from high speed machinery
  - Allows stiffer greases to adhere properly
- Improved cohesion of the grease film layer
  - Enhanced ability to seal out dirt, dust, water
  - Prevents grease from channeling in a bearing, rack and pinion, etc.



# Recommended Options

## FUNCTIONAL V-176



- **Standard grade**
- Well-balanced performance
- Light color

Improved cost



Improved milling  
resistance



## FUNCTIONAL V-178N



- Higher molecular weight
- Lower cost and treat rate
- Dark color

## FUNCTIONAL PARATAC



- Lower molecular weight
- Resistant to loss of tack during milling (polyurea, clay, CaSX)

# Specialty Tackifier Options

Some examples of specialty tackifiers developed for specific markets/needs

Colorless for Textile  
Machinery  
**FUNCTIONAL V-298**



Biobased &  
Biodegradable  
**FUNCTIONAL V-584**



“Full Synthetic” /  
“Oil-Free” Claim  
**FUNCTIONAL V-188P2**

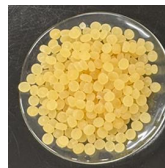




# “Grease Polymer” Technology

- “Grease polymers” are polymer concentrates that reinforce the thickener
- Polymer-modified greases outperform on tests including:

|                    | <b>Oil Bleed</b> | <b>Water Resistance</b>  | <b>Mechanical Stability</b> | <b>Antiwear Testing</b>                      | <b>Bearing Life and EMCOR Corrosion</b>          |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Test Method</b> | D6184, D1742     | D4049 (WSO), D1264 (WWO) | D217 (100K), D1831 (roll)   | Promotes retention of grease in contact zone | Improves grease retention in unshielded bearings |



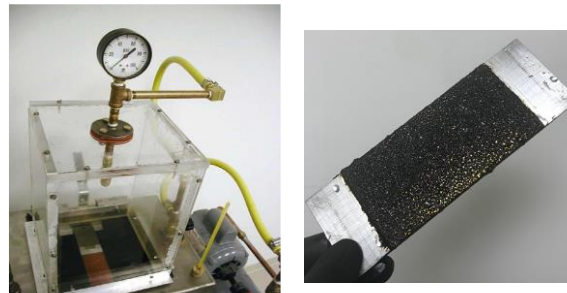
# What Can Grease Polymers Do?

**Reduction in static and dynamic oil bleed**



Oil bleed reduced by 90%

**Reduction in water sprayoff and water washout %**



90% water sprayoff reduced to 20%

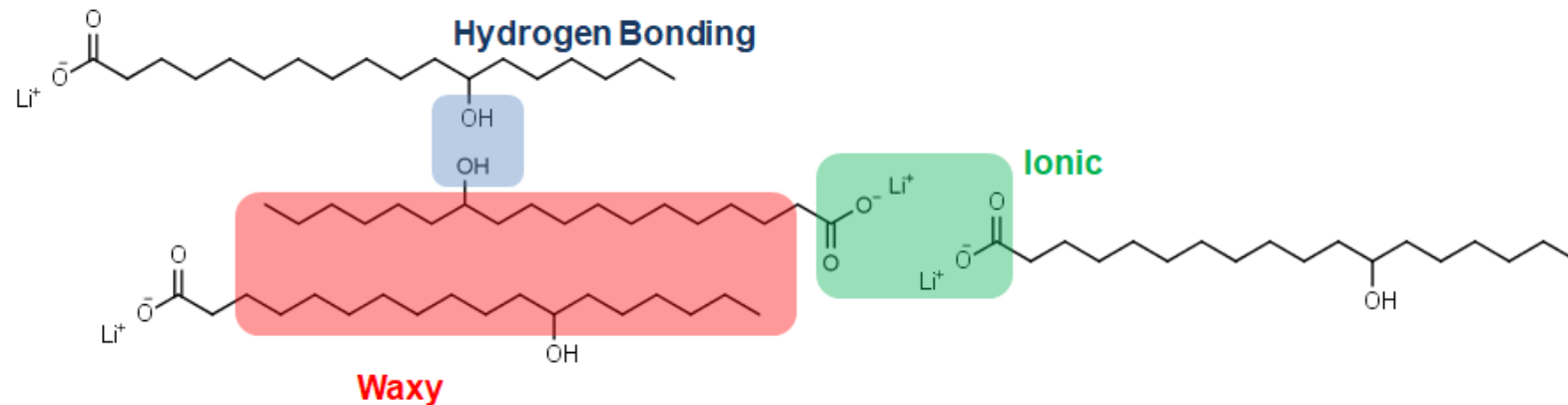
**Improve mechanical stability**



Up to 95% reduction in % change with roll stability

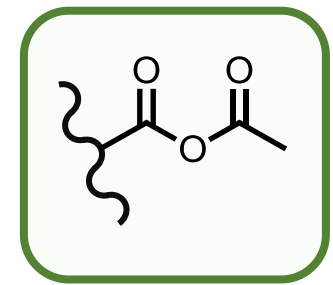
# How It Works – Modifying the Structure of Grease

- Greases are held together by three fundamental interactions
- For example, in lithium grease:



# Three Types of Grease Polymers

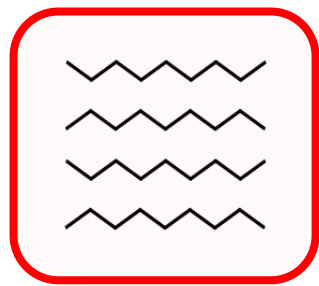
## Reactive Polymer



**Highest  
Effect With:**

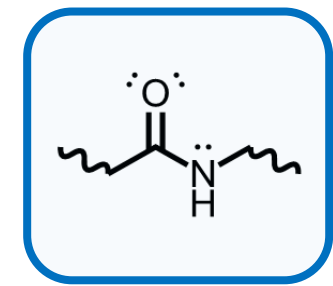
Soap-based  
greases (Li/LiX)

## Crystalline Polymer



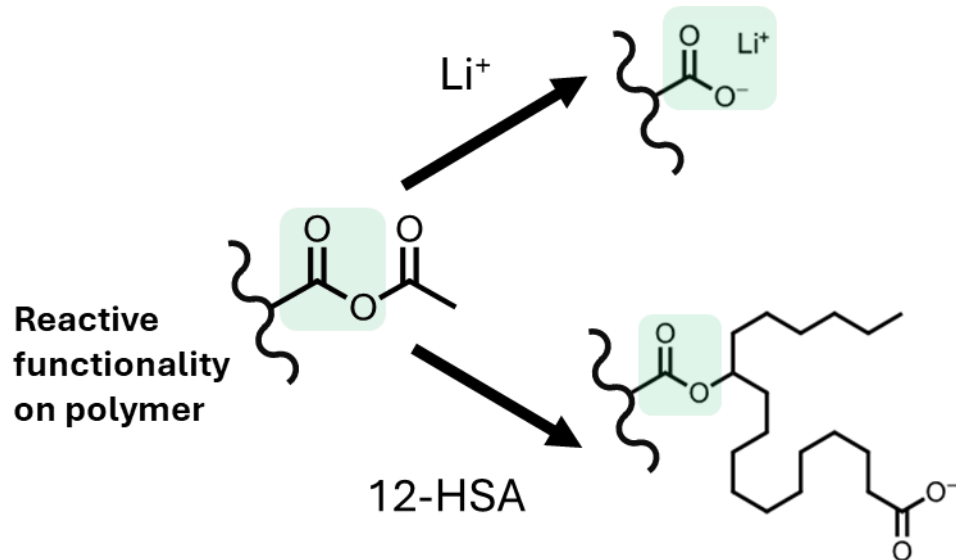
Detergent-based  
greases (sulfonates)

## Associative Polymer

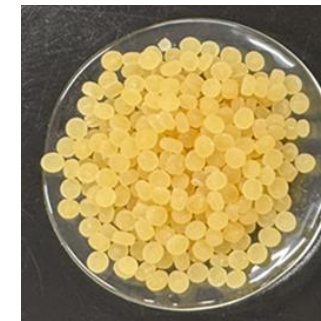


Particle-based  
greases (clay, silica, PU)

# Reactive Grease Polymer: FUNCTIONAL V-4020



- V-4020, “multi-functional” chemistry that is added during saponification
- Forms polymer complex like a diacid with Li<sup>+</sup>
- Forms ester like a borate with hydroxyls / 12-HSA

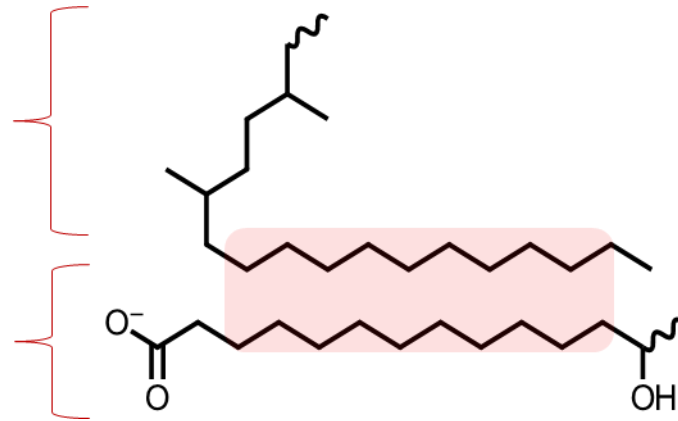


Pellet Form

# Crystalline Grease Polymer: FUNCTIONAL V-207

Waxy ethylene regions in polymer

Waxes in thickener

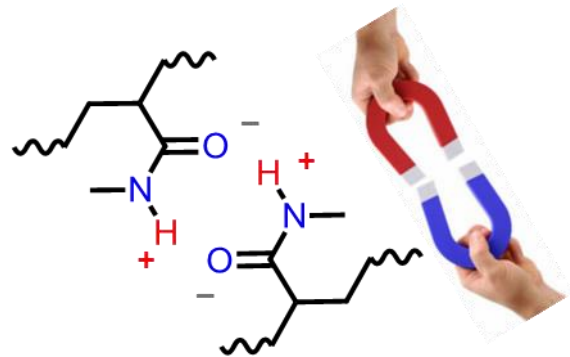


- V-207 is cooked into grease after saponification
- Used in detergent greases: calcium sulfonate, calcium sulfonate complex
- Adds fiber-like reinforcement for significant water resistance



Flake Form

# Associative Grease Polymer: FUNCTIONAL V-191



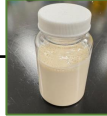


- Best for greases with particle structure like clay, silica, polyurea
- Positive/negative charges between the polymer and thickener bind them together and reinforce
- V-191 is added with cool down oil, before additives



Emulsion

# Grease Polymer Summary

| Polymer Type            | Reactive    | Crystalline                  | Associative                        |
|-------------------------|--|---|---|
| <b>Additive</b>         | FUNCTIONAL V-4020  | FUNCTIONAL V-207  | FUNCTIONAL V-191  |
| <b>Best Application</b> | <u>Soap based grease</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Li, Li Complex</li> <li>Anhydrous Calcium</li> <li>Aluminum Complex</li> </ul> | <u>Detergent based grease</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calcium Sulfonate &amp; Complex</li> </ul> | <u>Particle based grease</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clay</li> <li>Silica</li> <li>Polyurea</li> </ul> |
| <b>Typical Treat</b>    | 0.20 – 0.40wt%   | 0.25 – 1.0wt%   | 0.25 – 1.0wt%   |
| <b>Key Benefits</b>     | Water Resistance<br>Mechanical Stability<br>Yield Improvement  | Water Resistance<br>Oil Bleed   | Oil Bleed<br>Water Resistance   |



# Grease Projects and Testing

- Send 5 liter sample of base grease to us
- Functional lab can top treat to scout the best additive and wt% to achieve your goal
- We support NLGI's new HPM specification program and will help you pass the tests

| Area                          | Tests                           | GC-LB | HPM | HPM WR | HPM CR | HPM HL | HPM LT |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Consistency, Worked Cone      | D1403 (1/4-scale), D217 (100Kx) | X     | X   | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Roll Stability                | D1831 (2hrs@RT, 50hrs@80C)      |       | X   | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Dropping Point                | D566 (old), D2265 (new)         | X     |     |        |        |        |        |
| Low Temperature Rheology      | Brookfield viscometer to -60C   |       | X   |        |        |        | XX     |
| Low Temperature Torque        | D1478 (-20 or -30C)             |       | X   | X      | X      | X      | XX     |
| Kesternich Mobility           | DIN 51805 (-30C)                |       |     |        |        |        | X      |
| Oxidative Stability RPVOT     | D942 (100hrs@100C)              |       | X   | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Oil Separation, Conical       | D6184 (30hrs@100C)              |       | X   | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Oil Separation, Storage       | D1742 (24hrs@25C)               | X     | X   | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Water Washout                 | D1264 (1hr@79C)                 | X     | X   | XX     | X      | X      | X      |
| Water Sprayoff                | D4049 (5min@40C)                |       |     | X      |        |        |        |
| Roll Stability with Water     | D8022 (2hrs@RT)                 |       |     | X      |        |        |        |
| 4-Ball Wear Scar              | D2264                           | X     | X   | X      | X      | XX     | X      |
| 4-Ball EP and Load Wear Index | D2596                           | X     | X   | X      | X      | XX     | X      |
| Copper Corrosion              | D4048 (24hrs@100C)              |       | X   | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Elastomer Compatibility       | D4289 (168hrs @ 125C)           | X     | X   | X      | X      | X      | X      |

"XX" = improved requirements for this category

# Summary

To get you started with improving your greases using FUNCTIONAL polymer technology

## For tacky grease

Good – **FUNCTIONAL V-178N** for economics

Better – **FUNCTIONAL V-176** for balanced performance/cost

Best – **FUNCTIONAL PARATAC** for resistance to milling

## To improve oil bleed / water resistance / stability:

Soap Grease (LiX) – **FUNCTIONAL V-4020**

Detergent Grease (Sulfonate) – **FUNCTIONAL V-207**

Particle Grease (Clay, PU) – **FUNCTIONAL V-191**

# Thank You! and Let's Start a Project

For questions: **ddevore@functionalproducts.com**

Product information and brochures online:  
**www.functionalproducts.com**

Contact Environ, our distributor for India:  
**sales@environchem.com**

**FUNCTIONAL PRODUCTS INC.**  
Innovative Chemistry for Lubricants



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brochure online:

