Kolding, Denmark, 2020, March 26th

**Advisory Notice concerning DST DEGREEZ products and Corona virus**

The coronavirus - known as COVID-19 - spreads from person to person close together, similar to other respiratory illnesses, such as the flu.

Droplets of body fluids - such as saliva or mucus - from an infected person are dispersed in the air or on surfaces by coughing or sneezing.

These droplets can come into direct contact with other people or can infect those who pick them up by touching infected surfaces and then their face.

According to scientists, coughs and sneezes can travel several feet and stay suspended in the air for up to 10 minutes and experiments indicates that the virus can survive outside the host, ex on surface for several days.

According to guideline from WHO (https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses), towards dealing with corona virus, one of the most important precautions towards spread of the infection, is to wash your hand with water and soap on a regular basic.

This fact is also relevant for infected surfaces.

Soap – like DST DEGREEZ products – contains surface active ingredients, called surfactants or tensides. These surfactants are characterized by having at hydrophobic end and hydrophilic end within the same molecule, making them ideal components to interact with the lipid (fatty) bilayer in the virus membrane in water environment. Most viruses consist of three key building blocks: ribonucleic acid (RNA), proteins and lipids. A virus-infected cell makes lots of these building blocks, which then spontaneously self-assemble to form the virus. Critically, there are no strong covalent bond holding these units together, which means you do not necessarily need harsh chemicals to split those units apart. The surfactant molecules “compete” with the lipids in the virus membrane and loosens the interaction between the virus and the surface where it sticks to (skin, metal, plastic etc.). On top of that the surfactants also disrupt the interactions that hold the proteins, lipids and RNA in the virus together.

DST DEGREEZ/12x has proven to be very effective washing agent, for removing grease, dirt, soil, particles and other graphite deposits from metals surfaces at temperatures as low as 50 °C.

It therefore makes good sense to use the high alkaline product DST DEGREEZ/12x, to prevent the coronavirus from spreading from person to person via metals surfaces, by cleaning them with a 5% solution followed by rinse with water.