ADDING POLYMERS TO DEODORANT HELPS FIGHT BODY ODOUR

By incorporating powdered molecularly imprinted polymers (MIPs) into a deodorant formulation, French researchers have improved its ability to remove body odours. The MIPs capture chemicals that act as precursors to smelly compounds produced by skin bacteria.

PLATINUM CROSS-LINKED POLYMER TIGHTENS WRINKLY SKIN

A newly developed two part cream helps reduce the appearance of wrinkles on skin. First, a cream containing polysiloxanes is applied to the skin, followed by another cream containing a platinum catalyst. The catalyst crosslinks the polysiloxane chains, tightening the skin.

MEASURING VAN DER WAALS FORCES OF INDIVIDUAL ATOMS

The weak van der Waals forces between individual atoms, due to electron distributions, have been measured for the first time. The experiment used an atomic force microscope and noble gas atoms; the forces measured were larger than expected from calculated values.

HORMONE INJECTIONS TACKLE CHINA’S CATKIN FLUFF PROBLEM

A cocktail of plant hormones are being injected into willow trees in Beijing in an attempt to stop the large volumes of catkin fluff the trees are producing. The hormones include auxins and gibberellin, which prevent the trees from flowering, but still promote tree growth.

PFIZER BLOCKS THE USE OF ITS DRUGS IN EXECUTIONS

The drug company Pfizer has announced that it is to bar the sale of its drugs for use in lethal injections. Many other companies have already done this, but Pfizer’s move means there are now no FDA-approved drug companies allowing their products to be used in executions.

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