



# Styling Hair Naturally

## Revolymer Personal Care

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# Outline

- RevCare NE 100S - Polyitaconic Acid (NK)
- Characteristics of Hair Styling Agents (NK)
- Efficacy Studies (RP)
  - High Humidity Curl Retention
  - Combability
  - Curl Stiffness
  - Anti-Frizz
- Summary & Conclusions (NK)

# RevCare NE 100S

## Polyitaconic Acid

# Background

- “Natural” and “Naturally-Derived” are enduring concepts in Personal Care
- Hair Styling is a major category in Personal Care
- There are few natural hair styling polymers available currently

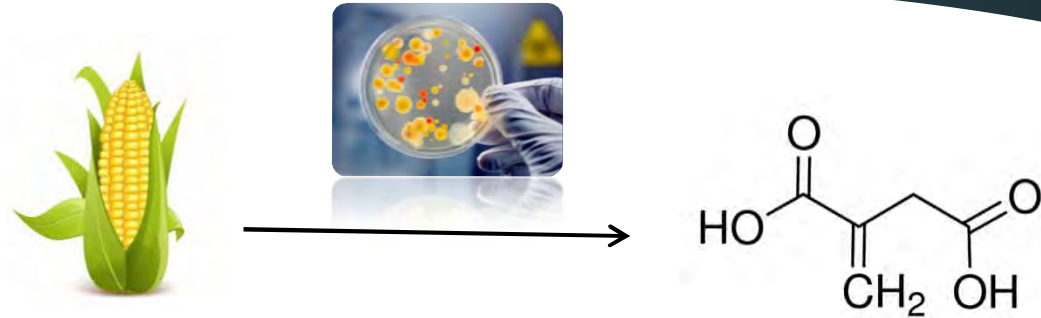
Market Opportunity



# Polyitaconic Acid: Characteristics

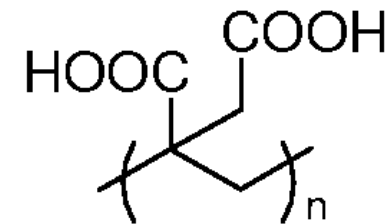
## • Itaconic Acid

- Naturally occurring
- Non-toxic
- Readily biodegradable
- Produced on an industrial scale by fermentation (e.g. glucose) with *Aspergillus terreus*



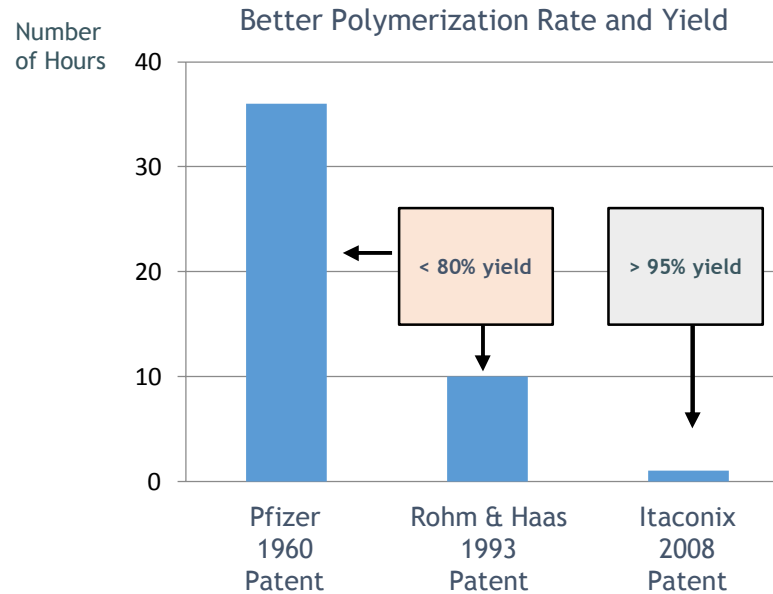
## • Polyitaconic Acid

- Film forming polymer
- Properties can be tailored via the degree of neutralisation
  - Hydrophilic / hydrophobic balance
  - Hold / flexibility balance
  - Hold / wash-out balance



# Polyitaconic Acid: Manufacture

- **Method of Polymerisation (US 7,920,676)**
  - Polymers are prepared under selected conditions of partial neutralisation
  - High conversion rate
- **Continuous Production (US 8,420,758)**
  - Exothermic heat from the polymerisation reaction
  - Endothermic heat transfer from solvent (water) evaporation



# Characteristics of Hair Styling Agents

# Characteristics of Hair Styling Agents

- **Function**

- Build inter-fibre forces to maintain the desired configuration or shape

- **Consumer Expectations**

- Style held firmly over extended periods of time and exposure to environmental conditions

- **Requirements**

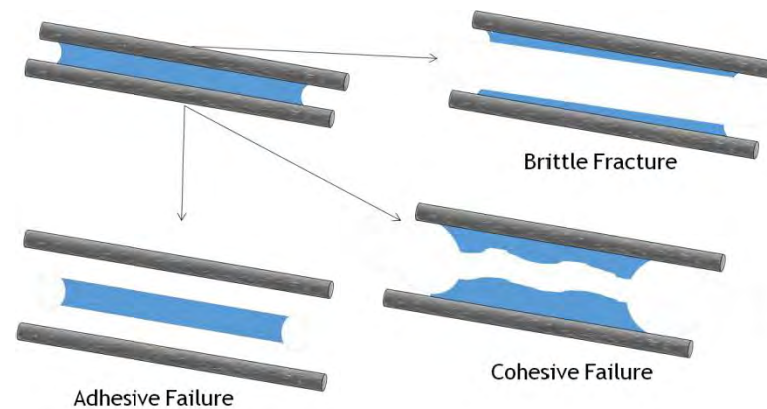
- Uniform application
- Clear layer
- Hair appears natural - and glossy
- Hair feels natural - not tacky, not too stiff
- Hair easily combed (wet and dry)
- Product readily removed during washing





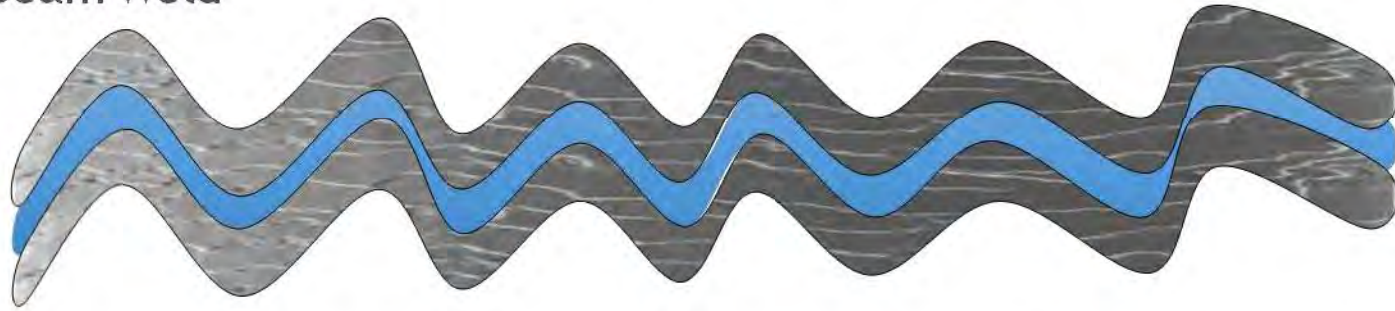
# Hair Fibre Welds

- Hair styling polymers function by forming seam welds and spot welds between adjacent fibres in a hair array
- Strong forces are exerted on the welds as a result of hair movement
- Styling polymers must form durable films which adhere to hair fibres strongly otherwise welds will undergo:
  - Brittle fracture - film is too hard and glassy
  - Cohesive failure - film is too soft or rubbery
  - Adhesive failure



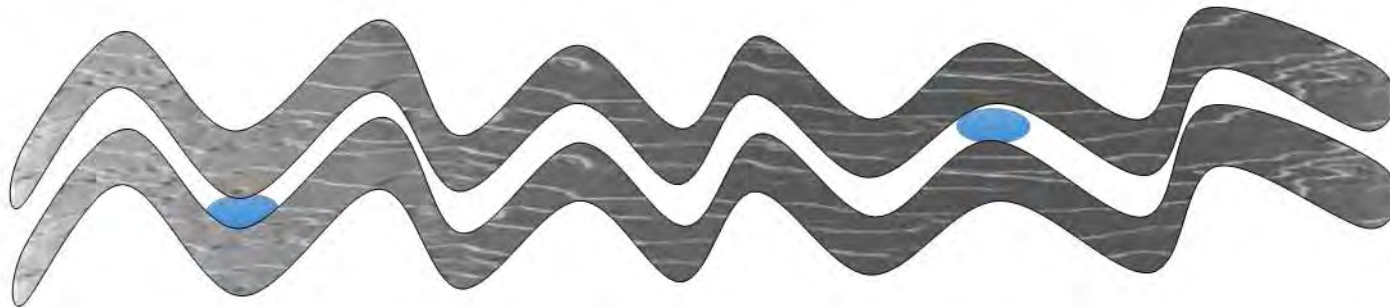
# Bending Modulus of Hair

Seam Weld



The bending modulus is that of the composite

Spot Weld



Natural bending modulus of the hair is retained



# Efficacy Studies

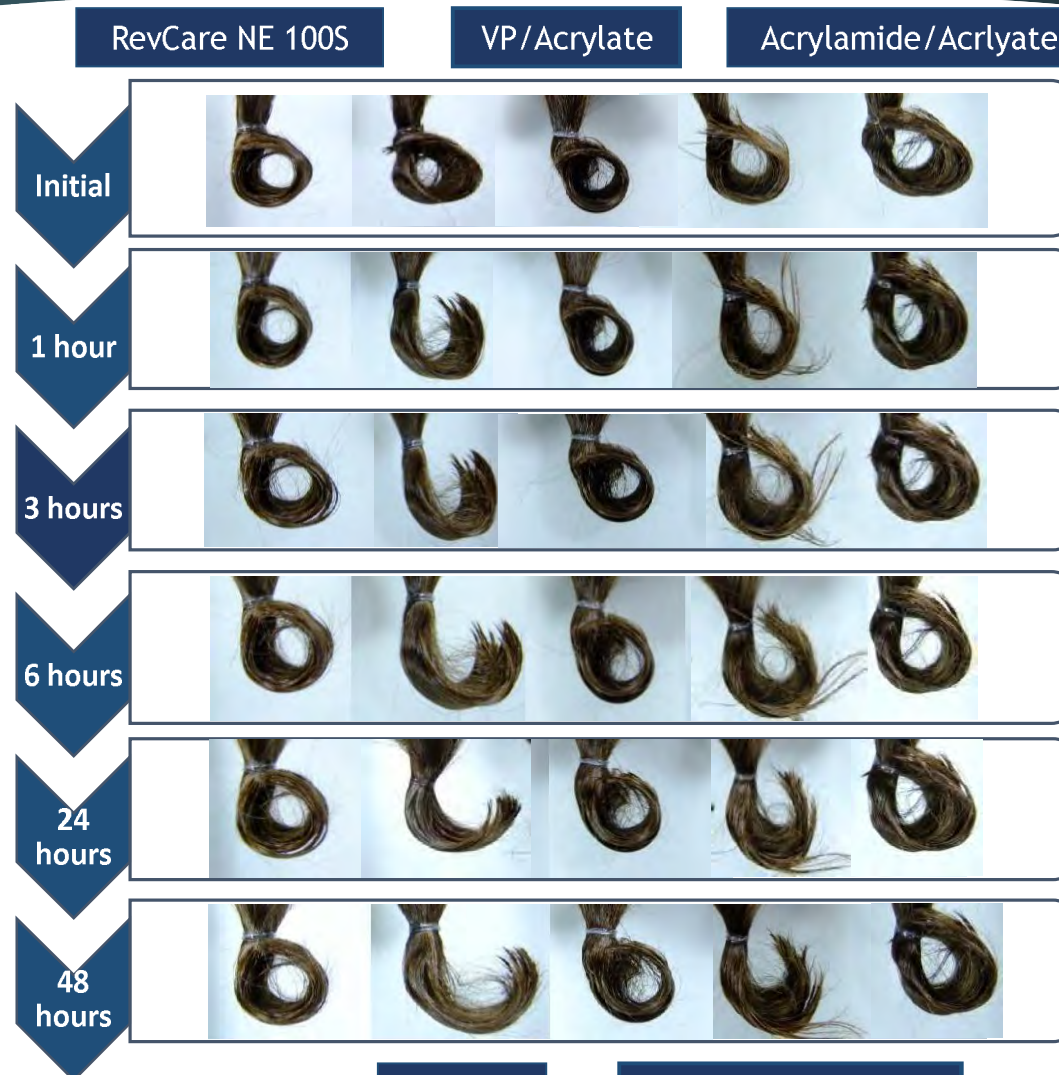
# High Humidity Curl Retention

# Style Retention: Method

- Tresses are wetted
- Product is applied - wet applied and combed through
- Tresses are styled and air-dried overnight
- Tresses are placed in a humidity chamber at 35°C/85% RH



# Style Retention: Results





# Observations & Conclusions

- In a high humidity environment polymer films will absorb water. Films that are too hygroscopic will over plasticise and fail.
- Tresses treated with RevCare NE 100S retain their configuration demonstrating a resistance to over plasticisation and weld failure
- RevCare NE 100S outperforms the PVP/VA benchmark and is at least as effective as leading synthetic styling polymers

# Combability

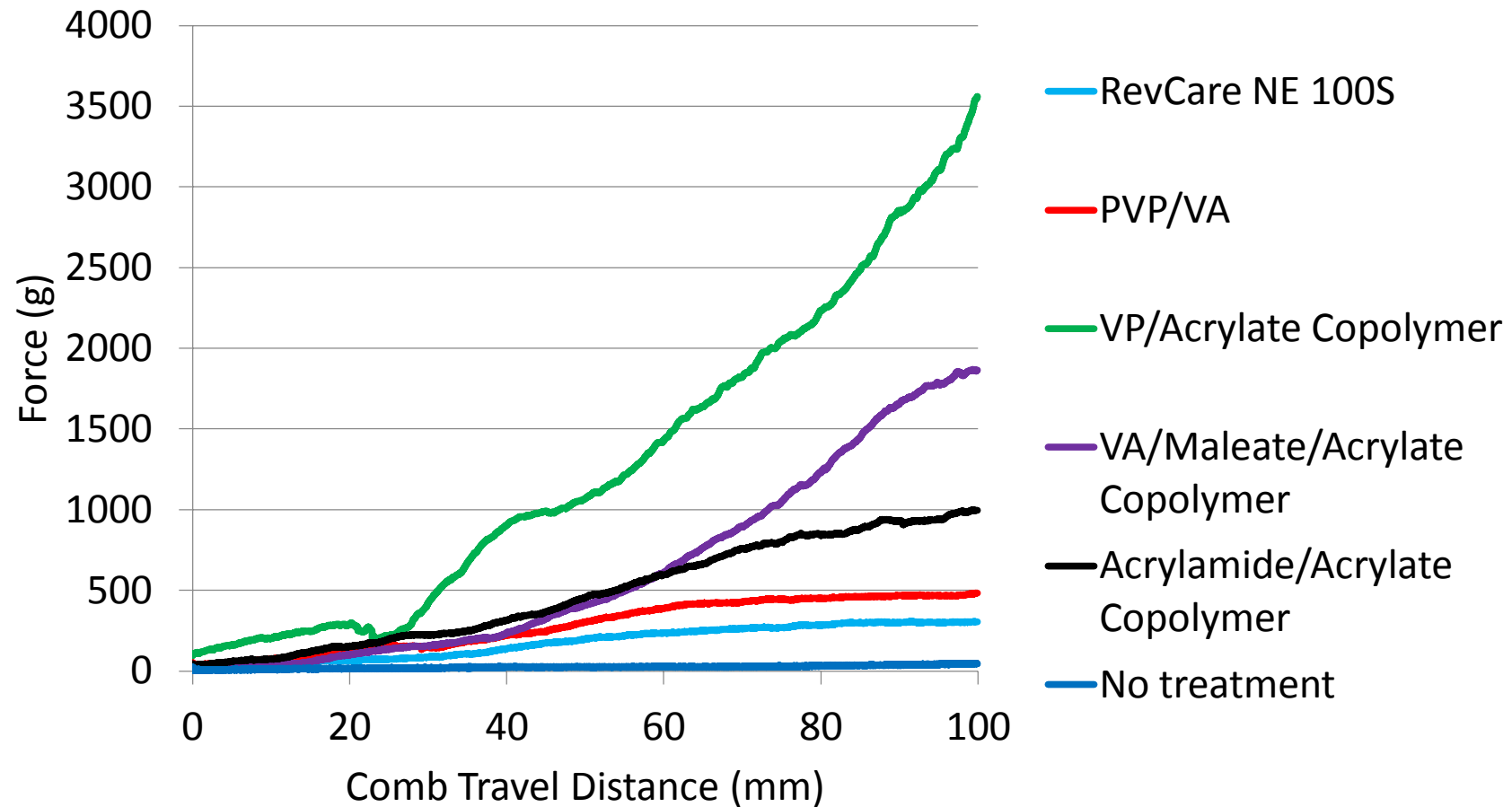


# Comb Resistance: Method

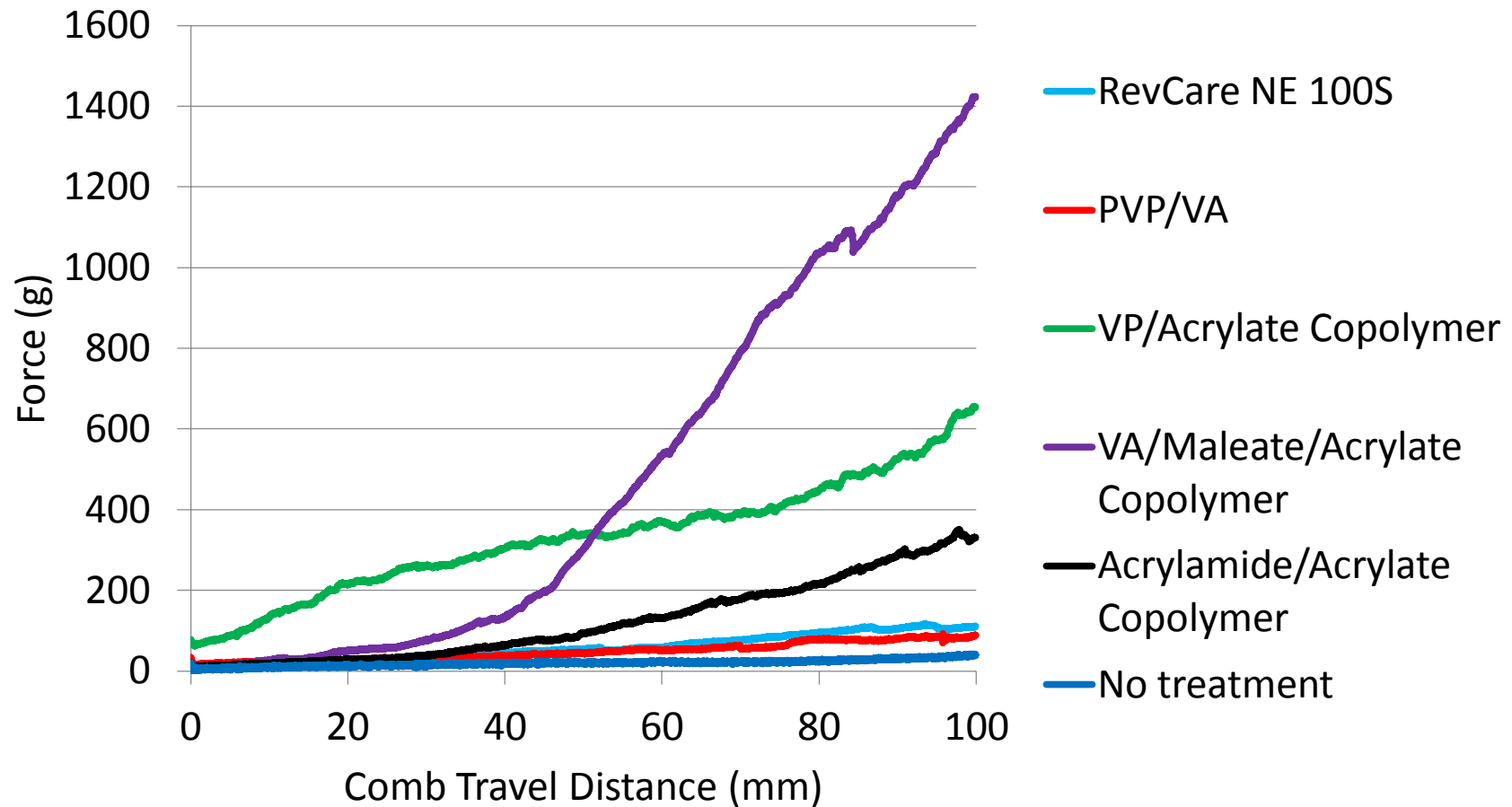
- Tresses are wetted
- Product is applied
- Tresses air-dried overnight
- Force required to comb the tresses is measured using a hair combing rig attached to a texture analyser



# Comb Resistance: Results (First Cycle)



# Comb Resistance: Results (Second Cycle)



# Observations & Conclusions

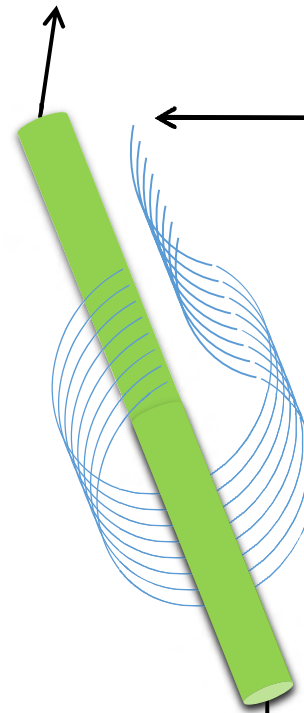
- The force required to comb styled hair depends on how the fibres interact - styled hair requires a larger force
- The greater the degree of welding (seam welds, number of spot welds) the larger the combing force
  - VP/Acrylate copolymer predominantly seam welds - first cycle highest force, second cycle notable reduction in the combing force
  - VP/Maleate/Acrylate copolymer welds more flexibly - lower force differential between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> cycles
  - RevCare NE 100S and PVP/VA weld lightly - comb force is low and tends towards no treatment

# Curl Stiffness

# Style Flexibility: Method

- Tresses are wetted
- Product is applied
- Tresses air-dried overnight
- Force required to flick a curl with a metal rod is measured using a modified hair combing rig attached to a texture analyser

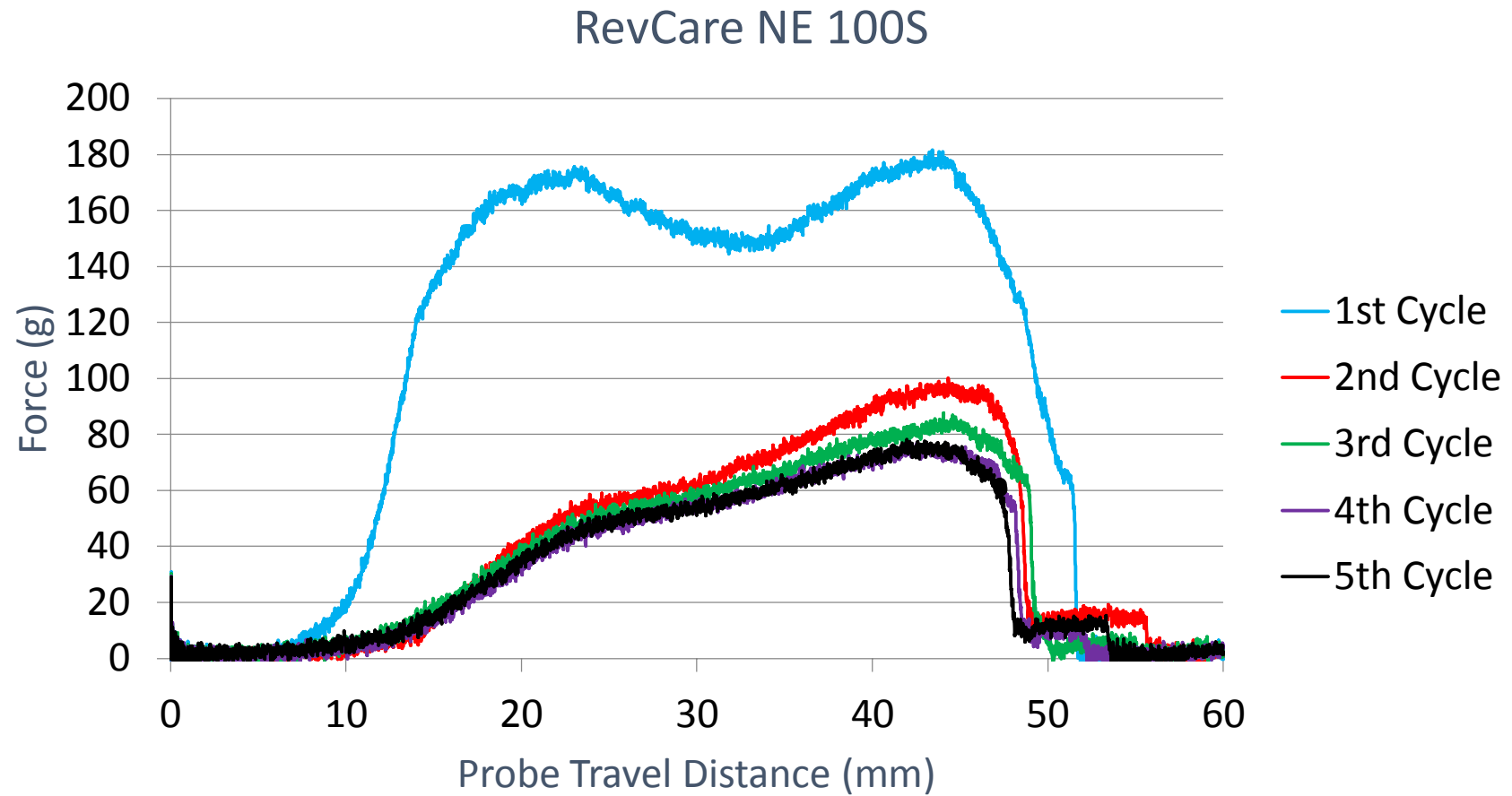
Rod attached to the load cell



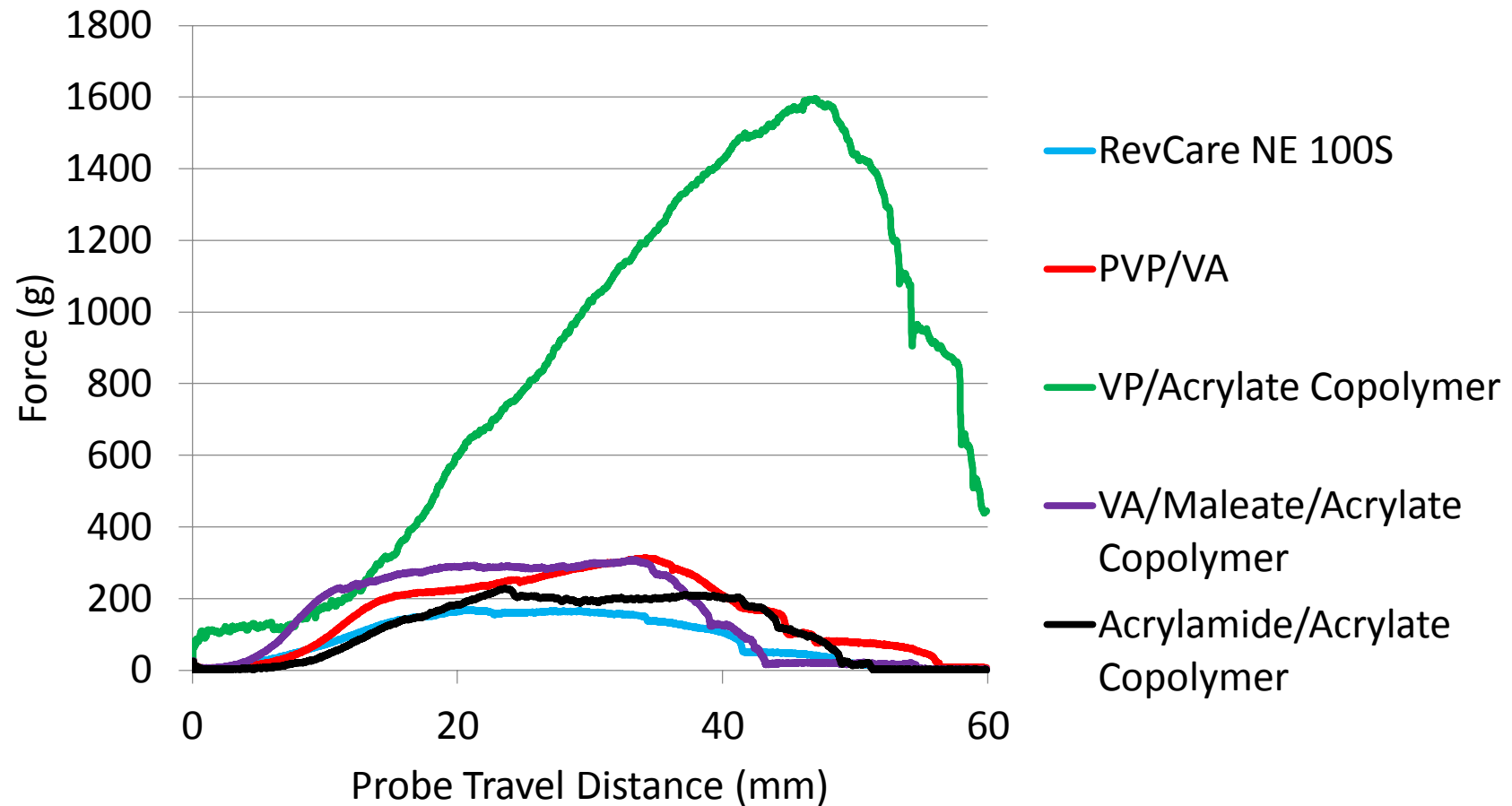
Hair tress fixed to the rig

Movement of the rod/load cell assembly

# Style Flexibility: Results

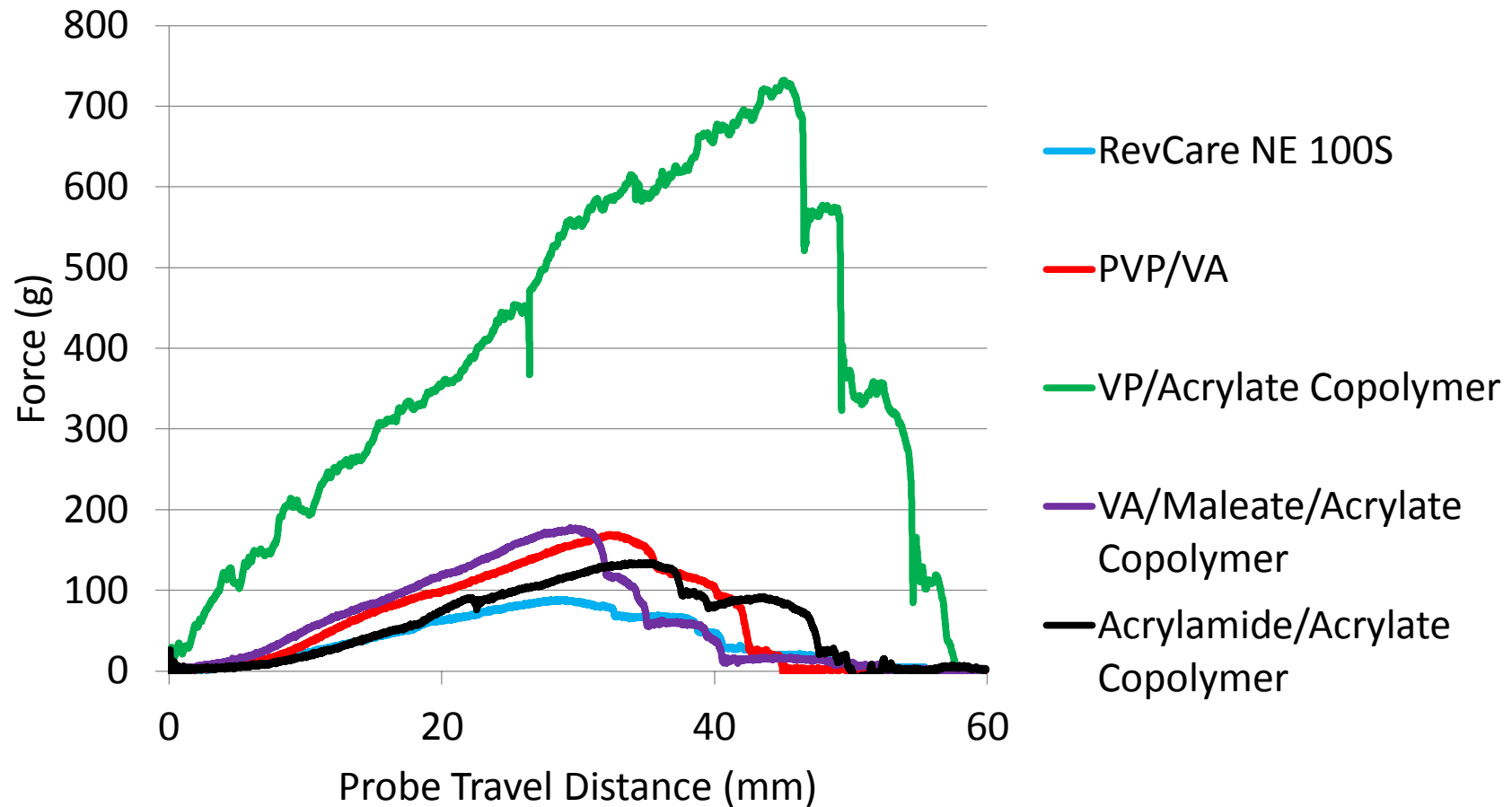


# Style Flexibility: Results (First Cycle)

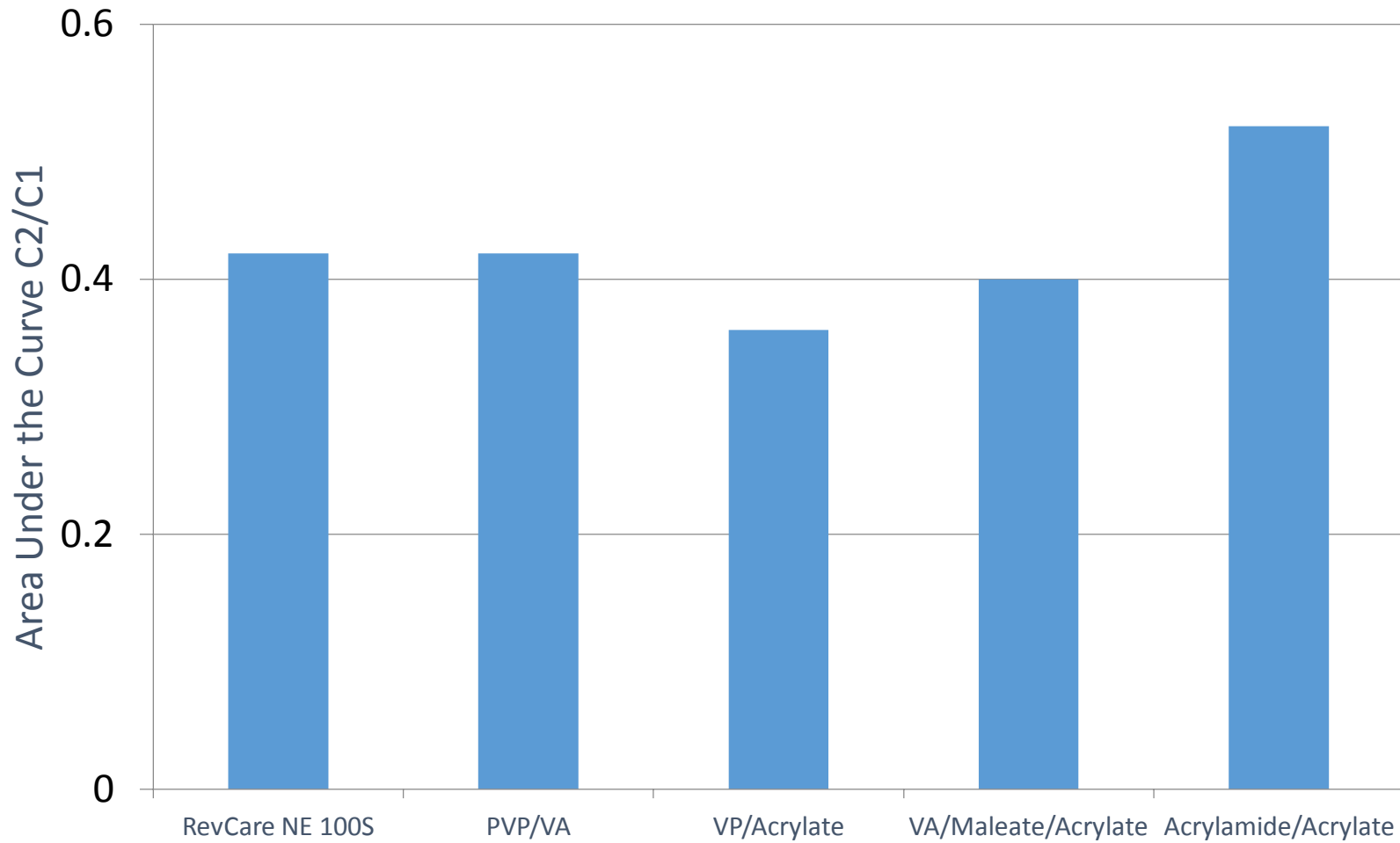




# Style Flexibility: Results (Second Cycle)



# Flexibility Ratios



# Observations & Conclusions

- For styled hair, bending the array exerts forces on the polymer film leading to some weld failure - subsequent bending requires less force
- The bending force required gives an indication of the inherent softness of the hold
- Differences in forces required in consecutive bending cycles are an indication of the flexibility of the polymer film
- RevCare NE 100S delivers a relatively soft hold and has good flexibility

# Anti-Frizz

# Frizz Control: Method

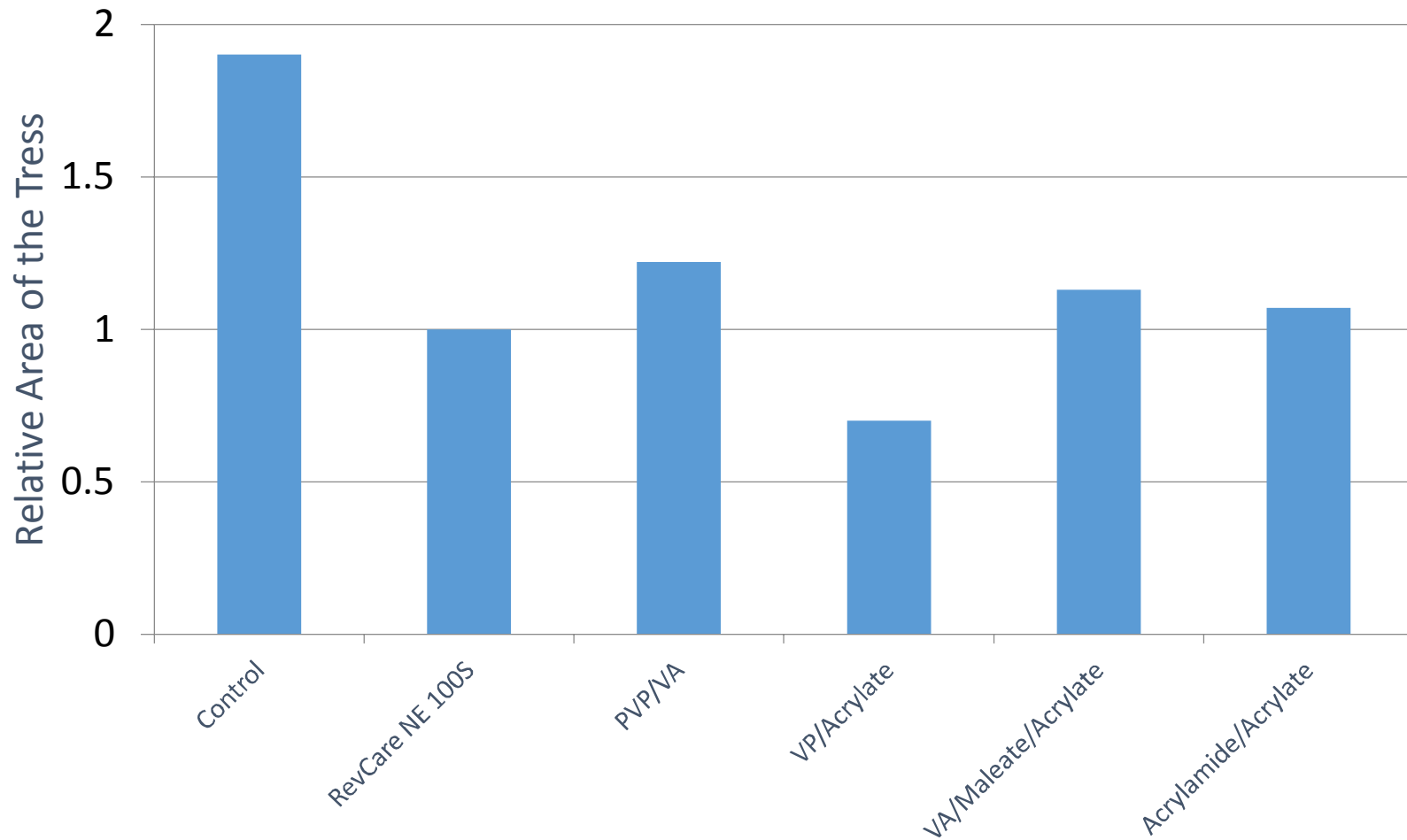
- Tresses are wetted
- Product is applied
- Tresses air-dried overnight
- Tresses are placed in a humidity chamber at 25°C / 85% RH



# Frizz Control: Results



# Frizz Control: Image Analysis Ratios



# Observations & Conclusions

- Hair becomes frizzy owing to hydrogen bonds between adjacent fibres being broken
- Styling polymers supplement the degree of inter-fibre bonds
- This bonding is diminished gradually as the polymer film hydrates and plasticises
- RevCare NE 100S bonds hair lightly but is resistant to plasticisation helping to prevent frizz





# Summary

# Summary

- Styling polymers form welds between adjacent fibres in a hair array
  - Seam welds → bending modulus is that of the composite
  - Spot welds → natural bending modulus of the hair is retained



- Styling polymers must form flexible durable films
  - The bending force → softness of the hold
  - Consecutive bending cycles → flexibility of the polymer film

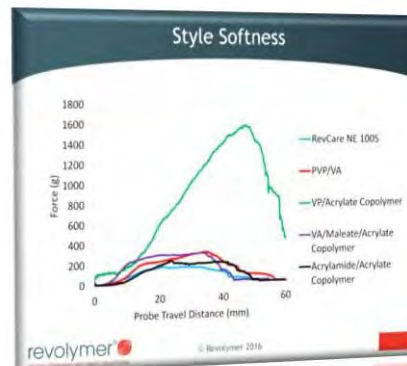
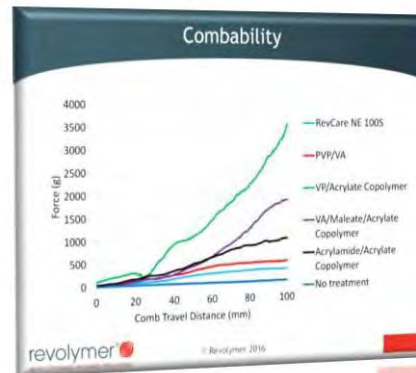
# Summary

- In a high humidity environment polymer films will absorb water
  - Hygroscopic films → over plasticise → fail
- Hair becomes frizzy owing to hydrogen bonds between adjacent fibres being broken
  - Styling polymers → inter-fibre bonds → anti-frizz



# Summary

- RevCare NE 100S (Polyitaconic Acid)
  - Resistant to over plasticisation and weld failure
    - Retains its configuration in a high humidity environment
  - Welds lightly
    - Delivers a relative soft hold and good flexibility
    - Required combing force is low
    - Functions well as an anti-frizz agent





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