BYK-345 is a silicone-based surface agent for water-based coatings and inks. Specifically, BYK-345 imparts a strong reduction of surface tension, and also imparts improved substrate wetting without increasing surface slip. BYK-345 is the solvent-free version of BYK-346. BYK-346 also improves levelling, and does not impact intercoat adhesion. BYK-346 requires a small amount of co-solvent in the formulation to avoid turbidity. However, excess co-solvent will reduce the effectiveness of BYK-345.

While BYK-345 is a very good product, it is TRiiSO’s opinion that AFCONA 3580 represents a much better option. AFCONA 3580 is also a modified polysiloxane wetting agent for water-based coatings. While not a direct chemical offset, our side-by-side comparisons demonstrate that AFCONA 3580 provides the same level of performance as BYK-345. In fact, our tests indicated that AFCONA 3580 provided much better levelling and defoaming than BYK-345. Afcona 3580 Slip and Levelling Agent is very mobile in water-based coatings and can quickly migrate to problem areas to fix coating defects. Additionally, Afcona 3580 Slip and Levelling Agent prevents cratering and does not cause inter-coat adhesion problems. Finally, Afcona 3580 Slip and Levelling Agent does not stabilize foam. Afcona 3580 Slip and Levelling Agent is particularly recommended for use in all types of water-based coatings with a pH range of 4-10.

Please click [here](#) to request a sample, quotation or additional information on BYK-345.

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