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#### Full Length Article

Incorporation of the zosteric sodium salt in silica nanocapsules: synthesis and characterization of new fillers for antifouling coatings

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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

### **Incorporation of the zosteric sodium salt in silica nanocapsules:**

# synthesis and characterization of new fillers for antifouling coatings

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10 Abstract

In the last decade many commercial biocides were gradually banned for toxicity. This work reports, for the 11 12 first time, the synthesis and characterization of silica nanocontainers loaded with a natural product antifoulant (NPA), the zosteric sodium salt which is a non-commercial and environmentally friendly product 13 with natural origin. The synthesis approach is a single step dynamic self-assembly with tetraethoxysilane 14 (TEOS) as silica precursor. Unlike conventional mesoporous silica nanoparticles, the structure of these silica 15 16 nanocontainers provides loading capacity and allows prolonged release of biocide species. The obtained 17 nanocapsules have been characterized morphologically by scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and transmission electron microscopy (TEM). The encapsulation was checked by FTIR ATR spectroscopy and 18 thermogravimetric analyses. The results of the release studies show the great potential of the here 19 presented newly developed nanofillers in all applications where a controlled release of non-toxic and 20 21 environmentally friendly biocides is required.

KEYWORDS: Zosteric sodium salt, environmentally friendly biocide, encapsulation of biocides, silicananoparticles, TEOS

24

#### 25 HIGHLIGHTS

- Design of a new system to reduce the amount of biocide in antifouling coatings
- A single step self-assembly method to encapsulate environmentally friendly biocide
- Successful encapsulation of the zosteric sodium salt in silica nanocapsules

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