

Focus on biopolymers: Shanghai site's capacity to be expanded

April 17, 2012

To meet the constantly growing demand for biopolyamides, Evonik Industries has begun to undertake extensive measures to increase production capacities for the bio-based VESTAMID® *Terra* polymers at the beginning of this year. As essential component of this plan, an additional compounding facility will become operative in the third quarter of 2012. The new facility will safeguard long-term supplies for specialty compounds, both to existing markets and for many new fields of application. Measures for capacity expansion in the area of polymerization are also in the works. The commissioning is scheduled for the second half of 2013.

Thomas Lange

Communications

High Performance Polymers

Phone: +49 2365-49-9227

Fax: +49 2365-49-809227

thomas.lange2@evonik.com

Demand for renewably sourced materials has risen substantially in recent years, because, for one, many customers wish to conserve resources sustainably. Evonik's VESTAMID® *Terra* Product Line offers a broad range of renewably sourced high-performance polyamides whose properties are comparable with strictly oil-based polyamides. VESTAMID® *Terra* is used in innovative, high-quality products for the electronics, sports, hygiene and cosmetics, and automotive industries. Its CO₂ footprint is impressively small: Viewed across its entire lifecycle, VESTAMID® *Terra's* footprint is more favorable than that attributable to ordinary polyamides made from fossil-based resources. VESTAMID® *Terra* products therefore make a valuable contribution to reducing the greenhouse effect. A broad spectrum of eco-certification—including among others USDA, DIN, and Certco—has amply confirmed this.

Company information

Evonik, the creative industrial group from Germany, is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. Its activities focus on the key megatrends health, nutrition, resource efficiency and globalization. Profitable growth and a sustained increase in the value of the company form the heart of Evonik's corporate strategy. Evonik benefits specifically from its innovative prowess and integrated technology platforms.

Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In fiscal 2011 more than 33,000 employees generated sales of around €14.5 billion and an operating profit (EBITDA) of about €2.8 billion.

Evonik Industries AG

Rellinghauser Strasse 1-11

45128 Essen

Germany

www.vestamid-terra.com

Chairman of the Supervisory Board

Wilhelm Bonse-Geuking

Executive Board

Dr. Klaus Engel, Chairman

Dr. Wolfgang Colberg,

Dr. Thomas Haerberle, Thomas Wessel,

Patrik Wohlhauser, Dr. Dahai Yu

Registered Office: Essen

Register Court: Essen Local Court

Commercial Registry B 19474

VAT ID no. DE 81116003

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Evonik Industries AG
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45128 Essen
Germany
www.vestamid-terra.com

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