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PRESS RELEASE

Number 10

WACKER EXPANDS POLYMER SITE IN CHINA AND BUILDS TWO NEW PRODUCTION FACILITIES

- AROUND €40 MILLION INVESTMENT AT INTEGRATED PRODUCTION SITE IN NANJING
- DOUBLING OF DISPERSION CAPACITY TO 120,000 METRIC TONS PER YEAR
- NEW PLANT FOR POLYVINYL ACETATE SOLID RESINS
- EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER AUGUSTE WILLEMS: “THIS INVESTMENT WILL STRENGTHEN OUR POSITION AS ONE OF THE WORLD’S LEADING MANUFACTURERS OF POLYMER DISPERSIONS AND GUMBASE RESIN”

Munich, March 5, 2012 – Wacker Chemie AG is expanding its Chinese polymer activities by investing around €40 million in building two new production facilities at its Nanjing site. As announced by the Munich-based chemical group today, it is expanding the site’s existing facilities for vinyl acetate-ethylene copolymer (VAE) dispersions by adding a new reactor with an annual capacity of 60,000 metric tons. This measure will double Nanjing’s VAE dispersion capacity to approx. 120,000 metric tons per year, making the complex one of the biggest of its kind in China. The new reactor is scheduled to come on stream in mid-2013. At Nanjing, WACKER is also building a new plant to produce polyvinyl acetate (PVAc) solid resins with an annual capacity of 20,000 metric tons. This plant is due for completion in early 2013.

The new production facilities will give WACKER sufficient long-term capacity to meet the strong demand for VAE dispersions and PVAc solid resins in the Asia-Pacific region. As a result, it will be able to continue offering its customers there consistently high delivery reliability and product quality in the years ahead. The main application fields for VAE dispersions lie in construction, coatings and adhesives. PVAc solid resins are used in industrial applications and to manufacture gumbase.

“These expansion measures are necessary to keep pace with our customers’ robust demand for top-class VAE dispersions and high-quality polyvinyl acetate solid resins in the future,” explains Auguste Willems of Wacker Chemie AG’s Executive Board. “By expanding our integrated site in Nanjing, we will strengthen our position as one of the world’s leading manufacturers of polymer dispersions and gumbase resin.”

WACKER’s fully integrated plant at Nanjing already produces vinyl acetate-ethylene copolymer dispersions and dispersible polymer powders for the construction, coating, adhesive, and other industries. By bundling its Chinese polymer activities at a single site, the company expects to gain decisive advantages and synergies – achieving economies of scale through a common infrastructure and energy supply. Additionally, it will be able to enhance its transport and logistical efficiency.

WACKER's Nanjing site: this fully integrated plant manufactures VINNAPAS® dispersions and dispersible polymer powders as binders for sectors such as construction, coatings and adhesives (photo: Wacker Chemie AG).

Note:

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Polyvinyl acetate solid resins are an essential component of modern high-quality gumbase and are manufactured by WACKER according to highest quality and hygiene standards (photo: Wacker Chemie AG).

Note:

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This press release contains forward-looking statements based on assumptions and estimates of WACKER's Executive Board. Although we assume the expectations in these forward-looking statements are realistic, we cannot guarantee they will prove to be correct. The assumptions may harbor risks and uncertainties that may cause the actual figures to differ considerably from the forward-looking statements. Factors that may cause such discrepancies include, among other things, changes in the economic and business environment, variations in exchange and interest rates, the introduction of competing products, lack of acceptance for new products or services, and changes in corporate strategy. WACKER does not plan to update the forward-looking statements, nor does it assume the obligation to do so.

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The company in brief:
WACKER is a globally-active chemical company with some 16,300 employees and annual sales of around €4.75 billion (2010).
WACKER has a global network of 26 production sites, 20 technical competence centers and 50 sales offices.

WACKER SILICONES
Silicone fluids, emulsions, rubber and resins; silanes; pyrogenic silicas; thermoplastic silicone elastomers

WACKER POLYMERS
Polyvinyl acetate and vinyl acetate copolymers in the form of dispersible polymer powders, dispersions, solid resins and solutions used as binders for construction chemicals, paints and coatings, adhesives, plasters, textiles and nonwovens, as well as for polymer materials based on renewable resources

WACKER BIOSOLUTIONS
Biotech products such as cyclodextrins, cysteine and biologics, as well as fine chemicals and PVAc solid resins

WACKER POLYSILICON
Polysilicon for the semiconductor and photovoltaic industries

Siltronic
Hyperpure silicon wafers and monocrystals for semiconductor devices