

Evonik establishes leading additive supplier for the coatings industry

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- New business line with globally unique technology platform
- Solutions for almost any formulation challenge in the paints and coatings industry
- Strong business counts on excellent and creative solutions

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Evonik Industries is transforming into one of the leading suppliers of additives for the coatings industry. The acquisition of Air Products' Performance Materials division that was completed in early January made a key contribution to this. Effective January 3, 2017, Evonik merged its Coating Additives Business Line, the coatings business of its Silica Business Line, and the specialty additives branch of Air Products with a focus on substrate wetting additives. Dr. Claus Rettig, Chairman of the Board of Management, Evonik Resource Efficiency GmbH, says, "The result is one of the world's leading additives suppliers for the coatings industry. Our technology platform is unlike any other in the world. It allows us to develop innovative solutions for just about any formulation challenge in the paints and coatings industry."

The products of the new business line complement each other well. The broad range of additives for water-based coatings under the TEGO® brand will be combined with AEROSIL® silica to control the rheological properties of paints and coatings as well as the ACEMATT® matting agent. The acquired substrate wetting agents under the SURFYNOL® and DYNOL™ brand names and additional expertise on the formulation of automotive coatings in particular are the perfect complement to the coatings additives portfolio.

To Dr. Gaetano Blanda, head of the new business line, joining forces to create added value for customers and Evonik is one of the most important goals. He wants to further strengthen the unit and places his trust in the excellently qualified employees. Some 450 employees at around 30 production and research sites of the new business line currently offer about 500 products.

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Other than the expanded product portfolio, the acquisition of the Performance Materials division of Air Products will not initially mean any changes for customers. Blanda promises: “Contact persons and existing contracts will remain unaffected. It is our aim to provide our customers in the coatings industry with the best possible long-term product and service portfolio.

Evonik merges three successful units in the new Coating Additives Business Line:

Part of the former specialty additives business of the Performance Materials division of Air Products

This former division of Air Products has been an important supplier of specialty additive technologies for the paints and coatings industry for over 30 years. The business offers a large number of wetting agents, defoamers, grinding agents, and dispersion additives that help formulators achieve the perfect finish. Some of the most important applications are in the automotive industry. The challenge facing formulators of automotive finishes is producing coatings that are environmentally friendly, cost-effective, and free of defects. The most well-known products of this business include SURFYNOL® and DYNOL™.

Silica Coatings

Among its other achievements, the coatings business of the Silica Business Line of Evonik produces two world-renowned product groups for the coatings industry: AEROSIL® and ACEMATT®. As components of coatings and paints, AEROSIL® fumed silicas are primarily used for controlling rheological properties, as thickeners, thixotropic agents and anti-settling agents, and for improving anti-corrosion properties. ACEMATT® silica-based matting agents can alter the surface of a coating in order to scatter incident light in defined ways. Invisible to the human eye, the matting agent particles protrude from the coating, and do not significantly alter either the color of the coating or that of the substrate when used in clear varnishes.

Coating Additives

The former Coating Additives Business Line of Evonik leads the additives market for water-based finishes. The business line's TEGO® brand offers a unique range of products for customers in the coatings and printing inks industries. Its over 200 products allow formulators to selectively adjust the functional properties of coatings. In addition to its familiar defoamers and deaerators, the additive portfolio also includes wetting agents, dispersion additives, leveling additives, substrate wetting additives, radiation curing additives, rheological additives, and hydrophobizing agents. Rounding out the product portfolio are cobinders, nanocomposites, and specialty resins.

Company information

Evonik, the creative industrial group from Germany, is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. Profitable growth and a sustained increase in the value of the company form the heart of Evonik's corporate strategy. Its activities focus on the key megatrends health, nutrition, resource efficiency and globalization. Evonik benefits specifically from its innovative prowess and integrated technology platforms. Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world with more than 35,000 employees. In fiscal 2016 the enterprise generated sales of around €12.7 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of about €2.165 billion.

Evonik Industries has been producing specialty chemical products in the Greater China region (Mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan) since the late 1970's; with wide-ranging trading relations already in place prior to this in the region. Evonik regards Greater China as one of the driving forces of the global economy and we consequently endeavor to grow our business in the region. The company now has around 3,000 employees in the Greater China region, the regional sales reached about €1.3 billion in 2016.

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