

Evonik celebrates expansion of its Oil Additives Technology Center Asia Pacific

SHANGHAI – Evonik Industries’ Oil Additives Technology Center employees, their customers and VIP guests celebrated the move of the Shanghai Oil Additives staff to new and expanded laboratory facilities on May 20. The festivities included inaugural ceremonies, tours, and seminars at their facilities in the Xinzhuang Industrial Park in the Minhang district of Shanghai.

Evonik is a recognized leader in oil additives technology and supports high quality lubricant marketers worldwide with its global network of regional technology centers and production facilities. Evonik produces its oil additives under the brand name VISCOPLEX® and its synthetic base fluids under the VISCOBASE brand.

“Evonik is proud to be keeping pace with China’s fast-growing lubricants market and providing additional technical service capabilities to our customers,” explained Wei Kiat Tan, Asia-Pacific regional manager for Evonik’s Oil Additives business line. “Since 2005, when we first opened our Shanghai Technology Center, the China lubricants market has grown more than 50 percent and vehicle production has increased more than three-fold,” he adds.

Dr. Hans-Josef Ritzert, president of the Evonik Greater China Region, in his speech celebrating the Oil Additives expansion, noted the importance of Evonik’s automotive industry customers in China and Evonik’s commitment to providing them with a wide variety of innovative products and solutions. “As part of Evonik’s Automotive Industry Team (AIT), our Oil Additives business offers technologies and products that improve fuel efficiency,” he states. “Other Evonik AIT businesses in China provide light structural foams, Plexiglas glazing and adhesives, making cars much lighter and more environmentally-friendly,” he stated

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Energy-saving results have been demonstrated with VISCOPLEX® Viscosity Index Improvers (VIIs) in engine oils, driveline fluids and gear oils. Industrial and off-highway equipment field tests have also recorded up to double-digit improvements in fuel savings with DYNAVIS® technology for hydraulic fluids, reducing operating costs as well as CO2 emissions.

With the move from its previous location, the Oil Additives team of lab technicians and technical service specialists have gained not only more space, but have also acquired additional and sophisticated laboratory test equipment. The team's analytical capabilities now include more than two dozen key industry tests, enabling a significant expansion in the variety and sophistication of technical analyses the group performs for its lubricant-formulating customers and major OEMs.

Notable among these tests is a lubricants industry-recognized low-temperature, aged oil performance test developed by Evonik itself. The ROBO test, as it is known in the industry, is a key measure for engine oil specifications. Lubricant formulators particularly appreciate the significant cost savings ROBO provides when compared to previous test methods. The Evonik Shanghai Technology Center has been certified to perform ROBO testing since 2012.

“Evonik’s Oil Additives team is strengthening its technical resources and capabilities in China, and is also expanding its manufacturing resources in Asia,” states Wei Kiat Tan. The company’s oil additives manufacturing plant in Singapore is presently at mid-completion of a two-year program to double its capacity through a combination of expansion and “debottlenecking” projects.

About Oil Additives at Evonik

In addition to its VISCOPLEX® Viscosity Index Improvers (VIIs) in engine oils, driveline fluids, gear oils, and hydraulic fluids, Evonik's VISCOBASE® synthetic base fluids provide excellent solvency in automotive gear oil formulations such as heavy duty axle oils and manual transmission fluids.

The Oil Additives business line of Evonik Industries also specializes in high-performance additives and technologies for fuels and refinery products. Evonik's VISCOPLEX® Cold Flow Improvers (CFIs) provide outstanding flow properties for biofuels in any region or season. VISCOPLEX® dewaxing aids (DWAs) are designed for refinery solvent dewaxing processes that involve differing lube oil viscosity grades, especially bright stocks.

Advanced regional technology centers, modern global manufacturing centers, and a secure and reliable supply chain worldwide enable Evonik's continuous development of customized solutions for customers anywhere on earth.

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. In fiscal 2013 more than 33,500 employees generated sales of around €12.7 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of about €2.0 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 endeavour to grow our business in the region. The company now has around 3,200 employees in the Greater China region, the regional sales reached over €1 billion in 2013.

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