

## Evonik breaks ground for expansion of its membrane production in Schörfling (Austria)

- Investment volume in the mid double-digit million euro range
- Doubling of SEPURAN® production capacities for gas separation
- Thirty new jobs created at Evonik in Schörfling

Evonik Industries held a groundbreaking ceremony today for the expansion of its Austrian site in Schörfling, where the Group will build another operations complex for producing gas separation membrane modules of its SEPURAN® brand. In addition to a new hollow fiber spinning plant, the facility will include further spaces for research and development, application technology, and another warehouse. Overall, Evonik is investing an amount in the mid double-digit million euro range. The new plant, which will double the existing production capacity is scheduled to open in late 2017 and will bring more than thirty new jobs to Schörfling.

“As one of our growth fields, the membrane business is an outstanding example of the way we access new markets with innovative products. With today's groundbreaking ceremony, we continue the success story of our membrane business and position ourselves as a technology leader in the attractive market for gas separation,” said Klaus Engel, chairman of the Evonik Executive Board.

Evonik's Schörfling plant is currently producing gas separation modules primarily for the biogas market and for hydrogen and helium recovery. The new hollow fiber spinning plant will focus on the manufacture of membrane modules for efficient on-site nitrogen generation.

“We want to supply the gas separation market with tailor-made products that make a significant contribution to greater efficiency for our customers. The investment in Schörfling creates additional opportunities to further broaden our membrane portfolio,” noted Dr. Claus Rettig, chairman of the Board of Management of Evonik Resource Efficiency GmbH.

October 17, 2016

**Scarlett Shi**

Communications

Tel +86 21 6119-1200

Fax +86 21 6119-1116

scarlett.shi@evonik.com

**Evonik Industries AG**

Rellinghauser Straße 1-11

45128 Essen

Germany

Phone +49 201 177-01

Telefax +49 201 177-3475

www.evonik.de

**Supervisory Board**

Dr. Werner Müller, Chairman

**Executive Board**

Dr. Klaus Engel, Chairman

Dr. Ralph Sven Kaufmann

Christian Kullmann

Thomas Wessel

Ute Wolf

Registered office Essen

Registered court

Essen local court

Commercial registry B 19474

VAT ID no. DE 811160003

SEPURAN® membranes offer a particularly efficient method for separating gases such as methane, nitrogen, or hydrogen from gas mixtures. The advantages of Evonik membrane technology for gas separation include more precise separation of gases and greater productivity.

The company's plant in Lenzing near the Schörfling site manufactures the source material polyimide, a high-performance polymer, which is spun and then further processed in Schörfling. The infrastructure in Lenzing will be upgraded accordingly as part of the site expansion.

The SEPURAN® product family of Evonik's Resource Efficiency Segment includes membranes for biogas processing, on-site nitrogen generation as well as for helium and hydrogen recovery. For over fifty years, the High Performance Polymers Business Line within the Segment has developed and produced high-performance polymers that allow for resource-efficient innovations in a wide range of industries. SEPURAN® Green membranes for biogas processing were successfully launched in 2011. Since then, the membrane technology has been consistently developed further. The product range has been supplemented with the SEPURAN® Noble membrane for helium and hydrogen processing, as Evonik expects growth in the lower two-digit percentage range for the helium and hydrogen market in the coming years. The new hollow fiber membrane for efficient on-site nitrogen generation—SEPURAN® N2—was added to the membrane portfolio in early 2016.

#### **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 2015 more than 33,500 employees generated sales of around €13.5 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of about €2.47 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 over €1.3 billion in 2015.

**Disclaimer**

In so far as forecasts or expectations are expressed in this press release or where our statements concern the future, these forecasts, expectations or statements may involve known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Actual results or developments may vary, depending on changes in the operating environment. Neither Evonik Industries AG nor its group companies assume an obligation to update the forecasts, expectations or statements contained in this release.