

Evonik enhances its capabilities to develop specialty PU additives with new Essen innovation center

8 November 2021

- Investment further strengthens Evonik's position as a leading solutions provider for the PU industry
- New facility enables a strategic focus on high-growth and sustainable market applications like the production of sustainable artificial leather and e-mobility solutions
- This laboratory and testing facility will increase product development and bring new PU solutions to market faster

Contact person

Fabian Schwane

Head of Market Communications
Comfort & Insulation
Phone +49 201 173-2426
fabian.schwane@evonik.com

Responsible

Katja Marx

Head of Market Communications
Specialty Additives
Phone +49 6181 59-13831
katja.marx@evonik.com

Essen, Germany. Evonik has further expanded its leadership position in the polyurethane (PU) industry with a new state-of-the-art laboratory and innovation facility at its Essen Goldschmidt site in Germany, which was inaugurated at the end of October.

The new 400-square-meter laboratory will enhance the Group's development capabilities for high-performance specialty PU additives and processing aids for a variety of PU applications. The focus is on high-growth application areas such as the production of sustainable artificial leather, low emission catalysts for high-quality coatings and adhesives, performance additives for making PU shoe soles more durable and comfortable, and emission optimized release agents for molded foams and elastomers.

"Our new laboratory and innovation center sends a strong signal to the market and reinforces our strategy to not only be the leading, but also the most innovative, solutions provider to the PU industry," said Ralph Marquardt, Head of Evonik's PU additives business. "This latest investment enables us to develop innovative and more sustainable additive solutions for our customers to help them meet changing market demands and increasing environmental regulations."

Evonik's specialty additives and processing aids make, for example, the production of artificial leather more sustainable by replacing organic solvents with water in the production process. Another application area that Evonik's PU experts are already working on in the new laboratory and innovation facility are environmentally friendly catalysts for polyurethane foams and

Evonik Industries AG

Rellinghauser Straße 1-11
45128 Essen
Germany
Phone +49 201 177-01
www.evonik.com

Supervisory Board

Bernd Tönjes, Chairman

Executive Board

Christian Kullmann, Chairman

Dr. Harald Schwager, Deputy Chairman

Thomas Wessel, Ute Wolf

Registered Office is Essen
Register Court Essen Local Court
Commercial Registry B 19474

materials with rubber-like properties (elastomers). They are used in the production of high-performance PU materials that protect electronic components in cell phones from vibrations or prevent the mechanical failure of electric car battery components during the charging and discharging process. Another example are additives and processing aids that extend the lifespan of PU shoe soles by improving the durability, appearance and wearing comfort.

"The new facility's state-of-the-art equipment enables our team to work efficiently and safely on developing new additive solutions and bring them to market much quicker," said Matt Aldag, Head of Evonik's Advanced PU business.

For more details about our solutions for the PU industry please visit our

- digital customer portal "ExplorePU"
- LinkedIn channel "Evonik Polyurethane Additives"

Company information

Evonik is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. The company is active in more than 100 countries around the world and generated sales of €12.2 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of €1.91 billion in 2020. Evonik goes far beyond chemistry to create innovative, profitable and sustainable solutions for customers. About 33,000 employees work together for a common purpose: We want to improve life today and tomorrow.

About Specialty Additives

The Specialty Additives division combines the businesses of versatile additives and high-performance crosslinkers. They make end products more valuable, more durable, save more energy and simply better. As formulation experts in fast growing markets such as coatings, mobility, infrastructure and consumer goods, Specialty Additives combines a small amount with a big effect. With its 3,700 employees the division generated sales of €3.23 billion in 2020.

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.