

PRESS RELEASE

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WACKER and Vietnam Institute of Building Materials Open Up New Test Center for Dry-Mix Mortars

Munich / Hanoi, September 04, 2009 – Today, the Munich-based chemical company Wacker Chemie AG and the Vietnam Institute of Building Materials (VIBM), a subsidiary of the Vietnamese Ministry of Construction, celebrated the opening of an independent dry-mix mortar testing center in Hanoi. WACKER has cooperated with the VIBM to establish the new facility. The aim is to support the development and professional application of dry-mix mortars in Vietnam. Furthermore, the center will certify dry-mix mortar products in accordance to local and international building standards.

As the Vietnamese construction industry is growing fast, the need for more and more sophisticated building materials such as polymer-modified dry-mix mortars is rising. For this reason, WACKER and the VIBM decided last year to work together to establish a new testing facility. WACKER supports the new center by supplying test equipment, training local technicians and transferring expertise on international testing procedures. As the inventor of dispersible polymer powders and the global market and technology leader in polymer binders, WACKER has an unrivalled understanding of modern dry-mix mortars. Consequently, WACKER will assist the VIBM to introduce and promote the use of high-quality, efficient construction materials and techniques in Vietnam.

“The new testing center in Hanoi represents a major milestone for the Vietnamese construction industry. By supporting this facility unprecedented in Vietnam, we can strengthen our position as a technology leader for high-quality chemical raw materials and help the local building sector make further advances”, says Patrick de Wolf, Director Market Development at WACKER’s Construction Polymers Division.

Modern factory-made and pre-packed polymer-modified dry-mix mortars with consistent quality offer various advantages as opposed to traditional job-site mixtures. Modified with WACKER’s VINNAPAS® polymer powders, they reduce job-site mistakes, enable fast and clean work with high quality results and reduce renovation cycles. Thus, polymer-modified dry-mix mortars are state-of-the-art building materials and meet important needs of Vietnam’s building industry today. For example, exterior insulation and finish systems can reduce energy consumption for cooling or heating buildings considerably. Sealing slurries prevent water from penetrating into building structures and thus protect them and reduce necessary repair and renovation work.

VINNAPAS® Dispersible Polymer Powders and Dispersions

VINNAPAS® dispersible polymer powders and dispersions are thermoplastic, plasticizer-free polymers derived primarily from vinyl acetate and ethylene. In 1957, WACKER chemists first succeeded in industrially manufacturing the first powder binder as an additive for dry-mix mortars. That same year, the first spray dryer for dispersible polymer powders started operating. Today, WACKER is a global market and technology leader in the field of vinyl acetate-based

copolymers and terpolymers – marketed worldwide under the VINNAPAS® trademark.

Through its sales offices in Singapore and representative offices in Vietnam, Thailand and Indonesia, WACKER has established a presence in the key economic centers in South East Asia.

VINNAPAS® dispersible polymer powders and dispersions are used in a variety of building applications such as exterior insulation and finish systems, tile adhesives, screeds, self-leveling flooring compounds, plasters, repair mortars, fillers, and cementitious sealing slurries.

For further information, please contact:

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The company in brief:

WACKER is a globally-active chemical company with some 15,900 employees and annual sales of around €4.3 billion (2008). WACKER has 27 production sites and over 100 sales offices worldwide.

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 and solid resins used as binders for construction chemicals, coatings, adhesives, paints, plasters and nonwovens

WACKER FINE CHEMICALS

Fine chemicals, biologics and other biotech products, such as cyclodextrins and cysteine

WACKER POLYSILICON

Polysilicon for the semiconductor and photovoltaics industries; solar wafers

Siltronic

Hyperpure silicon wafers and monocrystals for semiconductor devices