

PRESS RELEASE

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TEN YEARS OF WACKER METROARK CHEMICALS IN KOLKATA

Munich / Kolkata, November 17, 2009 – Wacker Metroark Chemicals Pvt. Ltd. recently celebrated its tenth anniversary. The Kolkata-based company was set up in 1998 as a joint venture between the Munich chemical company WACKER and Metroark Ltd. in India, with operations starting in 1999. With a workforce of over 130, the joint venture – in which WACKER has a 51 percent stake – produces and distributes silicones primarily for the textile, personal care, construction and automotive sectors.

The role played by Wacker Metroark Chemicals Pvt. Ltd. in the Group's distribution network is to oversee all sales and marketing activities concerning silicone products on the Indian subcontinent. In recent years, the company has experienced above-average growth exceeding 20 percent a year.

“Wacker Metroark Chemicals is ideally positioned, thanks to its high product quality, excellent service and committed team of experts,” said Dr. Wilhelm Sittenthaler, a member of Wacker Chemie AG's Executive Board, at a ceremony to mark the joint venture's tenth anniversary. Dr. Sittenthaler also said, he sees further growth potential in the years ahead, too. “Having recently expanded our Mumbai office, which now includes a new technical center, we are well prepared for any future challenges facing the Indian market.

Wacker Metroark Chemicals is thus able to offer its customers even more effective local support than before during the development of new products and customized applications.”

Today, Wacker Metroark Chemicals – with offices in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bangalore and Chennai as well as in Dhaka (Bangladesh) – operates in the Indian subcontinent’s major commercial centers. Key markets are the textile, personal-care, automotive, construction, coatings, plastics, adhesives and packaging sectors. Additionally, the company markets WACKER silicone sealants, silanes and pyrogenic silica in India. The workforce in India has virtually doubled over the last five years. Wacker Metroark Chemicals’ current workforce in India numbers over 130 employees.



Wacker Metroark Chemicals’ production facility in Kolkata, India. The joint venture, in which WACKER has a 51 percent stake, produces silicones for the textile, personal-care, automotive, and construction sectors (photo: Wacker Chemie AG).

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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

Siltronic

Hyperpure silicon wafers and monocrystals for semiconductor devices