

# PRESS RELEASE

Number 16

## WACKER STARTS UP NEW PRODUCTION PLANT FOR POLYVINYL ACETATE IN CHINA

- ◆ AVAILABLE ANNUAL CAPACITY OF 20,000 METRIC TONS
- ◆ INVESTMENT SPENDING TOTALS SOME €20 MILLION
- ◆ AUGUSTE WILLEMS, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER: "THIS INVESTMENT WILL STRENGTHEN OUR POSITION AS THE WORLD'S LEADING MANUFACTURER OF SOLID RESINS FOR GUMBASE"

Munich / Nanjing, March 31, 2015 – Wacker Chemie AG inaugurated its new production plant for food-grade polyvinyl acetate (PVAc) solid resins at its Nanjing site (Jiangsu province) in China today. With an annual capacity of 20,000 metric tons, the plant is the largest of its kind in Asia and it is certified to the highest food standards. PVAc solid resins find use in the manufacture of gumbase for chewing gum. With this investment, WACKER intends to secure sufficient long-term capacity to meet the strong demand for PVAc solid resins and thus continue to offer its Asia-Pacific customers high supply security and product quality. The Group invested around €20 million in the expansion project. WACKER is thereby strengthening its position as the world's leading manufacturer of PVAc solid resins for the chewing-gum industry.

"The new solid-resins plant in Nanjing is an important milestone for our continued growth in the region," explained Auguste Willems, Wacker Chemie AG Executive Board member, at the opening

ceremony. "Asia has become one of the biggest markets for chewing gum. Thanks to the new plant, we can keep pace with our customers' strong demand for high-quality polyvinyl acetate solid resins in the region in the future – and are thus strengthening our position as the world's leading manufacturer of solid resins for gumbase."

WACKER's fully integrated Nanjing site is already producing vinyl acetate-ethylene copolymer dispersions and dispersible polymer powders for the construction, coating, adhesive and other industries. By bundling its Chinese polymer activities at a single site, the company expects to gain decisive advantages and synergies, achieving economies of scale through a common infrastructure and energy supply. Additionally, it will be able to enhance transport and logistical efficiency and sustainability.

WACKER has been a leading supplier of food-grade polyvinyl acetate solid resins for over 50 years and manufactures them in Germany and China. The products can be found on the chewing-gum market under the trademarks VINNAPAS® and CAPIVA®. PVAc solid resins from WACKER are a key component of various modern gumbase types.



WACKER's production plant in Nanjing: with this new plant, which has an overall annual capacity of 20,000 metric tons for food-grade polyvinyl acetate solid resins, WACKER is strengthening its leading position in this field (photo: Wacker Chemie AG).



Polyvinyl acetate solid resins are an essential component of modern, high-quality gumbase. WACKER produces them in compliance with strict quality and hygiene standards (photo: Wacker Chemie AG).

**Note:**

*You can download this photo at:*

<http://www.wacker.com/pressreleases>

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**The company in brief:**

WACKER is a globally-active chemical company with some 16,000 employees and annual sales of around €4.48 billion (2013). WACKER has a global network of 25 production sites, 21 technical competence centers and 52 sales offices.

**WACKER SILICONES**

Silicone fluids, emulsions, rubber and resins; silanes; pyrogenic silicas; thermoplastic silicone elastomers

**WACKER POLYMERS**

Polyvinyl acetates and vinyl acetate copolymers in the form of dispersible polymer powders, dispersions, solid resins and solutions used as binders for construction chemicals, paints and coatings, adhesives, plasters, textiles and nonwovens, as well as for polymeric materials based on renewable resources

**WACKER BIOSOLUTIONS**

Biotech products such as cyclodextrins, cysteine and biologics, as well as fine chemicals and PVAc solid resins

**WACKER POLYSILICON**

Polysilicon for the semiconductor and photovoltaic industries

**Siltronic**

Hyperpure silicon wafers and monocrystals for semiconductor components