

Press release

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WACKER strengthens silicone business in China with new technology center for specialty silanes

- 2,300-square-meter center consolidates Group expertise in the field of organofunctional silanes
- Focus on high performance additives for the plastics, coating and adhesives industry
- Technology center accelerates market launches of new products
- Tom Koini, head of WACKER's silicones business: "the new technology center is a key milestone for our growing specialties business in China."

Munich / Jining – To strengthen its specialties business, German chemical company WACKER and Chinese specialty silane producer and joint-venture partner SICO Performance Material have opened a new application development center for organofunctional silanes in Jining, China. The approx. 2,300-square-meter facility features several laboratories where high-performance additives for the plastics, coatings and adhesives industries will be developed going forward. In addition, the technology center acts as an interface between research, technical support and production. For example, SICO's production and scale-up resources, which are likewise located in Jining, can be fully leveraged for development work. The technology center thus enables the rapid market launch of new products. Investments in the WACKER SICO Application Development Center (ADC) facility total a mid-six-figure euro sum.

“As a provider of innovative silicone specialties and solutions, we can use this development center to achieve a key milestone for our business in China. Our focus is on high-margin specialty silanes, for which demand in China is rising continuously. This investment together with our partner SICO strengthens our presence and commitment to the region”, says Tom Koini, President of WACKER’s Silicones business division.

WACKER and SICO Performance Materials have decades of experience in organofunctional silanes. They are used, for example, as adhesion promoters for the production of high-performance adhesives, sealants and coatings, as binders for composite materials or as additives to enhance plastics. Because specialty silanes improve the mechanical and chemical properties of products, demand for such hybrid polymers has been rising for many years. “The opening of our Application Development Center in Jining enables us to strengthen our position as a specialties manufacturer in China,” said Koini. “In partnership with SICO, we can now support customers even better in the development and marketing of innovative products.”

At an opening ceremony, Kevin Qu, General Manager of SICO Performance Material, praised the new laboratories as an investment in the future and the cornerstone of a new era of cooperation between WACKER and SICO. “We can now pool all of our silane expertise here at our application development center. This know-how ranges from chemical product properties and supply chain matters through to questions of process engineering and current marketing trends. We will leverage this in-depth knowledge to develop forward-looking innovations for our customers. This marks a new chapter of success in the history of our joint venture.”

The 2,300-square-meter application development center is located in Jining, not far from SICO Performance Material’s own production site. The center’s focus is on the development of additives, adhesion promoters and stabilizers based on organofunctional silanes and functional silicone fluids. Such specialty silanes make it possible to formulate high-quality adhesives and sealants, coatings and plastic products, which in turn are used in a large number of high-tech sectors, such as electromobility, electronics, power engineering, telecommunications, and coatings. In addition to broad applications expertise, the center’s experts have extensive knowledge relating to production and process engineering as well.



German chemical group WACKER and Chinese specialty-silane manufacturer and joint-venture partner SICO Performance Material have opened a new organofunctional silanes application development center in China. (Source: WACKER)



Jining-based SICO Performance Material is one of China's leading producers of specialty silanes. WACKER has held a majority stake in the company since 2022. (Source: WACKER)



Laurent Morineaux, head of the Energy & Industrial Business Unit at WACKER's Silicones division, and Kevin Qu, SICO Performance Material's General Manager (fourth and fifth from left) were among those who attended the opening of the WACKER SICO Application Development Center in Jining, China. (Source: WACKER)

Note: All photos are available for download at: www.wacker.com/pressreleases.

Additional information

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The company in brief

WACKER is a global company with state-of-the-art specialty chemical products found in countless everyday items, with applications ranging from tile adhesives to computer chips. The company has a global network of 27 production sites, 21 technical competence centers and 46 sales offices. With around 16,600 employees, WACKER generated annual sales of around €5.7 billion in fiscal 2024.

WACKER operates through four business divisions. The Silicones and Polymers chemical divisions supply products (silicones, polymeric binders) for the automotive, construction, chemical, consumer goods and medical technology industries. Biosolutions, the life sciences division, specializes in bioengineered products such as biopharmaceuticals and food additives. Polysilicon produces hyperpure polysilicon for the semiconductor and photovoltaic industries.

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