

Press release

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Joint press release by WACKER and Amyris

WACKER and biomanufacturing pioneer Amyris join forces in the personal-care sector

- Collaboration aims to develop bio-based functional ingredients for cosmetics and personal care products
- WACKER to expand its silicone portfolio to include bio-based raw materials
- Another focus of research is the evaluation of novel functional molecular compounds
- Both companies bring long-term expertise in the fields of biomanufacturing and silicone chemistry

Munich / Emeryville (CA) – WACKER and Amyris, a U.S. based biomanufacturing company, are joining forces. As announced at the in-cosmetics trade show which begins today in Paris, France, the two companies will be stepping up their collaboration in the development of bio-based functional ingredients for the personal care sector. The goal is to systematically evaluate the potential of such ingredients and building blocks for innovative personal care applications and new development approaches.

WACKER and Amyris have already been collaborating in the field of biotechnology for several years. Amyris is a leader in biomanufacturing with more than 20 years of expertise in the development and manufacturing of biological chemistry. As a leading manufacturer of silicone specialties and biotech products, WACKER has decades of experience in the formulation of silicone-based

ingredients and in the fermentation of cyclodextrin and cysteine products for the personal-care and life-science industries.

The collaboration of both companies reflects current trends in the personal care and consumer goods sectors. According to current studies, the market for bio-based cosmetics will grow faster going forward than for conventional, purely chemically produced counterparts.

WACKER has already responded to this trend by introducing a new product line. Under the brand name BELNEXT[®], the company will, for the first time, be presenting products based exclusively on renewable raw materials at in-cosmetics in Paris. “This allows us to offer manufacturers and formulators of personal-care products a wide range of ingredients, from proven silicone-based solutions to plant-derived products that offer similar properties but are completely bio-based,” says Ian Moore, head of WACKER’s Consumer & Healthcare unit.

The company is also collaborating with Amyris, a pioneer in the production of renewable biological chemistry. The California-based company uses precision-engineered microorganisms to transform abundantly available renewable feedstocks into high-performing molecules, enabling access to chemistries that would otherwise be too rare to source from nature. Amyris’s ingredients, produced using advanced precision fermentation, have been widely adopted across diverse end-markets including flavors and fragrances, beauty and personal care and specialty chemicals for industrial applications.

The high availability and scalability of biological chemistry is of interest to WACKER as well. The focus of the collaboration is on bio-based molecules whose functional potential is unlocked through targeted processing and formulation capabilities at WACKER. “At the moment, we are investigating how we can use certain Amyris ingredients to specifically expand and supplement our personal-care portfolio,” says personal-care expert Ian Moore.

WACKER is also examining the extent to which selected bio-based raw materials produced using Amyris’s technology can be integrated into existing production structures in the future. “The development of market-ready solutions and the formulation and application compatibility of such solutions at the customer’s site are largely shaped by WACKER’s expertise in development, formulation, and production,” Moore emphasizes.

For Amyris, WACKER’s market expertise and global sales and technical service network are an important asset. “WACKER is a global leader in the development of functional ingredients for the cosmetics and personal care industries. WACKER also brings deep insights into product performance expectations from global

customers through its technical application and testing centers”, says Lisa Roessler, Chief Commercial Officer at Amyris.

The cooperation will enable both companies to significantly accelerate the development of new bio-based ingredients for personal care applications. WACKER contributes its extensive expertise in formulation and application, while Amyris brings its know-how in biotechnology and biomanufacturing. “Combining these strengths creates synergies and a strong foundation for developing innovative, high-performance, and resource-efficient solutions”, says Roessler. “By bringing together WACKER’s deep formulation and application expertise with Amyris’s leadership in producing biological chemistry, we have a uniquely complementary partnership to translate renewable innovation into high performing cosmetic ingredients at scale.”

About WACKER

As a globally active company with highly developed chemical and biotechnological specialty products, WACKER is helping to meet the challenges of our time – from energy transition and digitalization to health care for a growing global population. WACKER products can be found in countless everyday items. The company’s portfolio comprises more than 3,000 products supplied in over 100 countries, and ranges from tile adhesives to computer chips. Its main customers are in the automotive, construction, chemical, semiconductor, consumer goods & personal care, medical technology, pharmaceutical, and photovoltaic sectors. Founded in 1914 and headquartered in Munich, Germany, the Group currently operates 27 production sites worldwide. In 2025, WACKER generated sales of around €5.5 billion and employed some 16,000 employees.

About Amyris

Amyris is a vertically integrated biomanufacturing company that creates specialty molecules for a range of industries, including flavors and fragrances, advanced materials, beauty and personal care, food, and more. Using advanced fermentation technology, Amyris customizes, creates, and manufactures ingredients that enhance lives, protect ecosystems, and take products to the next level of performance. Amyris was founded in 2003 with a bold humanitarian vision to transform access to a life-saving antimalarial compound using biotechnology. Now, with over two decades of proven commercial success, Amyris’s proprietary platform is redefining the precision, consistency, and sustainability that is possible with renewable biological chemistry. The company operates fermentation plants in

Barra Bonita and Campinas, Brazil, as well as a finishing plant for cosmetic ingredients in Leland, N.C.

Visit WACKER at in-cosmetics Global in Paris, Booth 1P20, from April 14 to 16, 2026.

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, 22 technical competence centers and 47 sales offices. With around 16,600 employees, WACKER generated annual sales of around €5.5 billion in fiscal 2025.

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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