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PRESS RELEASE

Number 11

WACKER BUILDS NEW PRODUCTION PLANT FOR SPECIALTY MONOMERS IN BURGHAUSEN

Munich and Burghausen, March 3, 2015 – Wacker Chemie AG is currently building a new plant for specialty monomers with an annual capacity of 3,800 metric tons at its Burghausen site. The Group has budgeted around €8 million for this. The specialty monomers vinyl neodecanoate and vinyl laurate are key raw materials for the manufacture of specific dispersible polymer powders. The plant is scheduled for start-up in the second quarter of 2015. This new development allows WACKER to meet increasing demand for high-quality polymeric binders and strengthens its position as the world's leading manufacturer of dispersible polymer powders.

WACKER aims to meet the globally rising demand for its dispersible polymer powders, which is driven by worldwide trends such as urbanization, renovation and energy efficiency. With the construction of the new plant for specialty monomers, the Munich-based chemical Group is creating the necessary capacity to independently secure the supply of key raw materials for the manufacture of the powders at its Burghausen site over the long term. The specialty monomers vinyl neodecanoate and vinyl laurate confer special properties on WACKER's dispersible polymer powders, such as hydrophobicity.

"The construction of the new plant for specialty monomers is an important strategic step," explains Christoph Riemer, head of

dispersible polymer powder business at WACKER POLYMERS. “It makes us more independent of raw-material price fluctuations and boosts supply security during peak-demand periods. In addition, it strengthens the position of specialty products in our dispersible polymer powder portfolio.”

“The new plant uses a process that was specifically developed and patented by WACKER. It is state of the art and allows us to strengthen our market and cost position over the long term,” says Bors C. Abele, head of acetyls business at WACKER POLYMERS.

WACKER has been producing dispersible polymer powders as binders for dry-mix mortars in Burghausen, Germany, since 1957 and, today, is a global technology and market leader in this field. VINNAPAS® dispersible polymer powders find use in various construction applications such as tile adhesives, self-leveling flooring compounds, plasters, repair mortars, external thermal insulation composite systems and cementitious waterproofing membranes. They enhance important end-product properties, such as adhesion, cohesion, flexibility and flexural strength. Water retention, processing properties and weatherability benefit from VINNAPAS®, too.

About WACKER POLYMERS

WACKER POLYMERS is a leading producer of state-of-the-art binders and polymeric additives based on polyvinyl acetate and vinyl acetate copolymers. These take the form of dispersible polymer powders, dispersions, solid resins, and solutions. They are used in construction chemicals, paints, surface coatings, adhesives and nonwovens, as well as in fiber composites and polymeric materials based on renewable resources. WACKER POLYMERS has production sites in Germany, China, South Korea and the USA, as

well as a global sales network and technical centers in all major regions.

New plant for specialty monomers at WACKER's Burghausen site: Specialty monomers are key raw materials for the manufacture of specific dispersible polymer powders. With the construction of the new plant, WACKER is strengthening its position as a market and technology leader in this field (photo: Wacker Chemie AG).

Note:

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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