

Brazil's Braskem To Bring High Performance Metallocene PEs To South American Market

Strategic move intended to differentiate company quickly and cost effectively

Houston, Texas (December 2, 2003) – Univation Technologies has signed an agreement to supply metallocene technology and catalysts to Braskem, Latin America's leading petrochemical company producer, who has successfully conducted a first run of the technology. Under the terms, Braskem will introduce Univation's XCAT™ Metallocene Catalysts into an existing UNIPOL™ PE plant in Camaçari, Brazil to produce both metallocene linear low-density polyethylene (mLLDPE) and metallocene very low-density polyethylene (mVLDPE). The retrofit of metallocene technology into an existing UNIPOL PE reactor allows Braskem to quickly focus on value-added film applications with the opportunity to develop and expand into other end-uses as the South American market grows.

“With the retrofit of metallocene technology, Braskem will be able to quickly and economically broaden its range into advanced polyethylene products. The addition of metallocene technology is a strategic move to bring high performance products to the market and value to our customers,” said Luiz Mendonça, the company's Vice President of Polyolefins.

Univation's President, John Verity, indicates that Braskem made a bold strategic decision to add value to its PE business through the application of leading edge technology. “Braskem had the vision to recognize that the best way to differentiate itself and gain a competitive edge is through the addition of advanced metallocene PEs to its portfolio. They are doing this by joining the growing list of successful practitioners of Univation's XCAT metallocene catalyst technology,” said Verity.

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Braskem, a world-class Brazilian petrochemical company, is the leader in the thermoplastics segment in Latin America and is positioned among the five largest industrial companies of the Brazilian private sector. With 13 industrial plants located throughout Brazil, the company produces 5 million tons of thermoplastic resins and other chemical and petrochemical products a year. (For more information, access <http://www.braskem.com.br/>)

Univation Technologies, a joint venture between ExxonMobil Chemical Company and The Dow Chemical Company, is headquartered in Houston, Texas. Univation has comprehensive technology programs focused on the UNIPOL™ polyethylene gas-phase process, XCAT™ Metallocene Catalysts, UCAT™ conventional Ziegler-Natta and chrome-based catalysts, and PREMIER™ Products & Services. These technologies deliver the most economical solutions for advantaged products to the polyethylene industry and help PE producers utilize their UNIPOL-based assets to maximum optimization.

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