

Chemopetrol Selects Univation For Second UNIPOL PE License

To Build 200,000 Ton HDPE Plant

HOUSTON, Texas (August 18, 1998) – Univation Technologies today announced that Chemopetrol of the Czech Republic has taken a second UNIPOL PE Process license for a 200,000 metric-tons-per-year high-density polyethylene facility. The plant will be located at Litvinov, Czech Republic, and is scheduled for start-up by the end of 2001.

Chemopetrol's first manufacturing license was among the earliest granted by Union Carbide, one of Univation's parent companies, for the then fledgling UNIPOL PE process. Since start-up in 1976, the original facility, which will remain in operation, has produced more than one million metric tons of PE resin.

"Although we were completely satisfied with the performance of our original UNIPOL PE unit, we wanted to review all available process technologies for the new plant," said Jiri Svoboda, managing director of Chemopetrol's petrochemicals division. "In every respect, UNIPOL technology led the field, especially in cost savings and production efficiencies. That, combined with UNIPOL's outstanding support services, and our long time positive experience with the UNIPOL process, led us to our decision." Mr. Svoboda added that the array of Univation's polyethylene technologies -- including catalysis and capacity expansion -- was also a factor in the decision.

"Chemopetrol's choice of the UNIPOL PE process after rigorous competitive comparisons provides further validation that this is the technology of choice for leading PE producers around the world," said Gregory L. McPike, Univation Technologies' CEO and president. "The UNIPOL PE process will provide Chemopetrol with many advantages for the production of a full range of polyethylenes."

Chemopetrol is the 50th UNIPOL PE license, Univation's first Eastern Europe license, and the fifth PE license announced since Univation's launch 15 months ago.

Univation Technologies, a technology and licensing joint venture between Union Carbide and Exxon Chemical, offers the UNIPOL Process, EXXPOL metallocene catalyst and conventional catalyst technologies, Super Condensed Mode Technology (SCM-T) and other capacity expansion capabilities as fundamental components of its licensing package. More than 10 million tons of polyethylene are produced annually worldwide via the technologies.

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