

China Petrochemical Receives UNIPOL Process License For A New Polyethylene Plant In The PRC

HOUSTON, Texas (February 2, 2000) -- Univation Technologies announces that China Petrochemical International Company (SINOPEC) and Yangzi Petrochemical Corporation have been licensed with the UNIPOL PE process and will build a 200,000 tonnes-per-year polyethylene plant in Nanjing, Jiangsu Province, People's Republic of China. SINOPEC and Yangzi also have an option to obtain rights to Univation's EXXPOL metallocene catalyst technology. The new facility, to be constructed by Yangzi with engineering services provided by Snamprogetti S.p.A. of Milan, Italy, is scheduled for start-up in 2002 and will produce a full range of linear low and high-density polyethylenes.

Univation Technologies, a technology and licensing joint venture between Union Carbide and ExxonMobil Chemical, offers the UNIPOL PE Process and EXXPOL metallocene technology as fundamental parts of its licensing package. Univation develops and licenses a comprehensive portfolio of process and catalyst technologies.

"We chose the UNIPOL PE Process because it is the most economical way to manufacture a broad range of polyethylenes and significantly reduce our capital investment," said Li Zeming, chief engineer, Yangzi Petrochemical. "The possibility of adding EXXPOL metallocene technology to the product versatility of the UNIPOL Process was also a major consideration, as were Univation's engineering and manufacturing services," he added.

"SINOPEC and Yangzi have positioned themselves for success in Asia's rapidly growing marketplace with the advantage of new technology combinations, such as the UNIPOL process and EXXPOL metallocene catalysts," said Gregory L. McPike, Univation's president and CEO. "They will also benefit through Univation's continuing research and development efforts and the resulting catalyst, process and product enhancements," he added.

Yangzi Petrochemical Corporation is one of the largest and most reputable petrochemical companies in China. SINOPEC is a state holding corporation with business scope that covers petroleum, gas and petrochemicals. Yangzi/SINOPEC becomes the 51st licensee of the UNIPOL PE Process, and the ninth Chinese licensee. The license is Univation's sixth announced agreement since its start-up in April of 1997. There are 82 UNIPOL PE reactors currently in operation in more than 20 countries worldwide with an annual operating capacity exceeding 11 million tonnes.

Univation Technologies, headquartered in Houston, Texas, has principal licensing offices in Danbury, Connecticut, and Houston, and other licensing offices in Tokyo, Vienna, Geneva and Cairo. Research and Development is done at Bound Brook, New Jersey, Baytown, Texas and South Charleston, West Virginia. Additionally, Univation's fully operational metallocene catalyst manufacturing plant is located at Mont Belvieu, Texas.

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