

Univation Begins Engineering Work for Rio Polimeros' UNIPOL PE Plant
Brazilian company will produce metallocene polyethylene in Latin America

HOUSTON, Texas (August 21, 2000) – Univation Technologies today announced that engineering work has begun for Rio Polimeros' new two-line, 540,000 metric tons-per-year UNIPOL PE Plant. The project progressed when Rio Polimeros of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil gained governmental approval to license the UNIPOL PE Process and EXXPOL metallocene catalyst technologies for the new PE plant in Duque de Caxias, Brazil. The combined ethylene and polyethylene complex is scheduled to start-up in early 2004.

"We are pleased to move forward on this project and look forward to being a Latin American market leader by producing a broad range of polyethylene including advanced PE products made with EXXPOL metallocene technology," said Roberto Villa, managing director of Rio Polimeros. Mr. Villa added, "We chose Univation as our PE licensor because of its licensing experience and commitment to provide state of the art technology that will keep Rio Polimeros at the forefront of PE technology."

"The proven and continually evolving product capabilities of the UNIPOL PE Process employing both conventional and EXXPOL metallocene catalyst technology gives Rio Polimeros the ability to meet the growing and changing needs of the Latin American market," said Gregory L. McPike, Univation's CEO and president.

The Rio Polimeros license, announced in 1998, includes design support, construction and technical consultation, training in all phases of operations and marketing, and access to Univation's product knowledge and technology advances.

Rio Polimeros is owned by Brazilian companies Unipar-Uniao de Industrias Petroquimicas SA, Cia. Suzano Papel e Celulose, Petrobras and BNDESPar. Univation Technologies, a technology and licensing joint venture between Union Carbide and ExxonMobil Chemical Company, offers the UNIPOL Process with a full range of conventional and advanced catalysts including EXXPOL metallocene catalysts as fundamental parts of its comprehensive licensing package. There are 84 UNIPOL PE reactors currently in operation in more than 25 countries worldwide with an annual operating capacity of about 12 million tons.

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UNIPOL, a trademark of Union Carbide Chemicals and Plastics Technology Corporation and EXXPOL, a trademark of Exxon Mobil Corporation, have been licensed for use to Univation Technologies.

