

Univation Expanding Metallocene Catalyst Manufacturing Plant to Meet Demand

Univation is the No.1 PE catalyst producer for the polyolefins industry

HOUSTON, Texas (November 9, 2001) -- Univation Technologies has begun expansion of the EXXPOL metallocene catalyst manufacturing plant at its Mont Belvieu, Texas facility. With this expansion project, the metallocene catalyst manufacturing capability has now been increased to the equivalent of over 2.5 million tonnes of polyethylene (PE) per year.

The new plant, scheduled for start-up in the first quarter of 2003, will have the capability to produce all existing grades of EXXPOL catalysts as well as other advanced catalysts to be commercialized in the future.

According to Paul Payne, Univation Technologies' Catalyst Business director, "EXXPOL metallocene catalysts will create value for our customers through added business capabilities, improved product lines, capability to reach a wider market, and opportunities in new markets".

"In order to compete effectively in today's technology-driven marketplace", Payne continued, "producers will need to provide the economic and performance benefits of metallocene-catalyzed resins. Their market place will demand them, and those producers that have the capability to produce these resins will be advantaged in the market place."

Through this expansion, Univation catalyst customers will be assured of adequate supply of the polyethylene industry's most advanced catalyst technology and manufacturing know-how. The Univation catalyst business has the manufacturing and distribution infrastructure in place to deliver PE catalyst all over the world. The Univation catalyst business is the No. 1 producer of catalysts for the polyethylene industry with a catalyst portfolio that includes Ziegler-Natta catalysts, Chromium catalysts, supported metallocene catalysts, and engineered catalysts.

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Univation Technologies is a joint venture between ExxonMobil Chemical Company and The Dow Chemical Company. Univation has a comprehensive technology program focused on the UNIPOL polyethylene gas-phase process and EXXPOL metallocene catalyst technology, as well as conventional Ziegler-Natta and chrome-based catalysts.

To find out more about Univation visit <http://www.univation.com/>.

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