

BASF opens world-scale production site for customer specific antioxidant blends in Bahrain

RELEASED ON 12/12/12 (DD/MM/YY)

Today, BASF is opening a state-of-the-art production site for customer specific antioxidant blends (CSB) in the Kingdom of Bahrain. This is the largest facility of this kind worldwide and will become fully operational in December.

With this investment BASF Plastic Additives continues to strengthen its position as the leading partner in plastic additives for the plastic processing industry worldwide and shows its strong commitment to support the growth of the polymer industry in the Gulf Corporation Council (GCC). CSB are additives-blends individually tailored to meet individual customer needs and are an integral part of the portfolio BASF offers to the plastics industry.

"BASF's investment in this new site demonstrates our steadfast commitment to support growing industries in the Middle East, while at the same time setting standards with regard to quality, safety and employee training," said Michael Heinz, Member of the Board of Executive Directors of BASF, during the opening ceremony.

Kamal bin Ahmed, Minister of Transportation and Acting Chief Executive of the Bahrain Economic Development Board, said: "We are delighted to welcome BASF, a leading international company, to Bahrain. Large manufacturing firms like BASF are playing an increasingly important role in our economy and will be a significant part of our plan to create sustainable long term economic growth and high quality jobs."

The new facility, which is based on proprietary CSB technology, will provide local production and services to the fast growing polymer market in the Middle East with special focus on key customers in the countries of the GCC. It comes in addition to the existing manufacturing agreement for CSB with Astra Polymer in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which has been extended earlier this year.

John Frijns, Head of Plastic Additives Europe/ EAWA, stresses the necessity of local structures: "As BASF, we are committed to accompany the growth in the region with technical and flexible supply solutions through local production."

The new facility is part of a strong antioxidants production network comprising Asia, Europe and the Americas, which will be further optimized once the new capacity comes on stream.

SOURCE BASF Official Press Release