

Acrylic acid: Arkema acquires 55% stake in Sunke

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French chemicals group Arkema has finalised the creation of Sunke, its 55:45 joint venture with Jurong Chemical (the Chinese acrylics market leader). Sunke's factory in Taixing, China has 2 acrylic acid production lines, each with 160,000 tonnes/y capacity. It is the largest site making this type of product in China. A third production line at the unit will enter service at start 2015 increasing capacity at the site to 480,000 tonnes/y. Following a \$240 M investment, Arkema will have 50% of the site's capacity. At start 2015 the French group will spend \$235 M on increasing its stake in Sunke's capital to 67% (giving it 320,000 tonnes/y capacity). The project will improve Arkema's ability to serve clients in the superabsorbents, paints, adhesives and water treatment industries in China and Asia.

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