

## Forty Years of Isophorone in Herne

The 4th Isophorone Line of the Chemicals Business Area of Evonik Industries successfully goes onstream



Inauguration ceremony in Herne (from left to right):  
Mr. H. Schiereck, Mayor of Herne, Dr. M. Spindler,  
Dr. K. Engel (member of the board of Evonik Industries),  
Dr. H.-P. Schauffer (head of BU Coatings & Colorants)

In its 40th year of isophorone production, the Chemicals Business Area of Evonik Industries has successfully started up its 4th isophorone line in Herne, thereby significantly strengthening its already prominent position in isophorone chemistry.

Says Gerd Brand, head of the Crosslinkers Business Line, "With this investment we're laying the foundation for further growth and continued successful collaboration with our customers in the years to come."

The Chemicals Business Area of Evonik Industries now operates a total of four production lines, three in Herne (Germany) and one in Alabama in the U.S. This investment represents the second major expansion of the Herne site in recent years: in 2006, with the startup of the VESTANAT® H<sub>12</sub>MDI plant, the Chemicals Business Area of Evonik Industries made an important new addition to its product portfolio for high-grade polyurethane (PUR) coatings.

Isophorone serves as the base for a wide range of coating raw materials for high-grade and environment-friendly coating systems. The derivative VESTAMIN IPD® (isophorone diamine) is a reliable component for formulation of high-grade epoxy resin hardeners for industrial flooring, for example. PUR raw materials with the VESTANAT® brand name are used, for instance, in formulation of light- and weathering-resistant automotive coatings and for high-quality components in automotive interiors. Crosslinkers with the VESTAGON® brand name are used in weathering-resistant powder coatings.

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