

2012 Polyurethane Industry Events Review—Expansion & Shutdown

Dear PUDaily Clients & Readers,

Thank you very much for your attentions to PUDaily and to the latest events review in 2012. In this chapter, we are going to take a review on events in 2012 by keywords of EXPANSION & SHUTDOWN and we will update reviews next time by keyword of COOPERATION & ACQUISITION.

Any feedback is welcome to be sent to pudaily@chem366.cn.

KEYWORDS: EXPANSION

-----AkzoNobel-----

AkzoNobel to Expand Operations in the Middle-East



Dec.4, 2012-AkzoNobel signed an expanded JV agreement with the Yusuf Bin Ahmed Kanoo Group to continue offering performance coatings including professional woodcare, automotive refining, marine, yacht, fire protection, protective and powder coatings to Kanoo family.

PUDaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=35511>

-----BASF-----

BASF Expands Automotive Coatings Production in China

Aug. 14, 2012-BASF (Shanghai) Coatings Company is investing in a new basecoat plant with 135,000 tons/year in Shanghai, China; the plant is designed according to the latest and most environmentally friendly manufacturing processes and technologies.

It's expected to start production in the first half of 2014.

PUDaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=33677>



BASF Expands Center of Competence for Adhesive Coatings

Aug.24, 2012-BASF expanded its coating center recently in Ludwigshafen by adding a laboratory coating and laminating facility. The new coater facilitates the development of adhesive systems for flexible packaging, labels, tapes and functional film coatings and increases the capacity for customer tests and speeds up the development of new products as well as the adaption of existing adhesive formulations to new carrier materials.

PUDaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=33929>

BASF Increases Global PolyTHF Capacity

Aug.27, 2012-BASF has increased its global annual capacity for the production of the chemical

intermediate PolyTHF® (chemical name: polytetra-methylene ether glycol – PTMEG) from 185,000 metric tons to 250,000 metric tons.

PolyTHF is primarily used to make elastic spandex fibers for a large variety of textiles as well thermoplastic polyurethanes (TPU).

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=33960>

BASF Celebrates 20 Years of MDI Production in Yeosu



Nov.27, 2012-BASF celebrated the 20th anniversary of (methylene diphenyl diisocyanate) MDI production in Yeosu, South Korea after it began commercial production in 1992 ¹.

In June of 2012, BASF expanded the MDI capacity from 190,000 tons/year to 250,000 tons/year ².

MDI is feedstocks for polyurethane products that can be used in construction, vehicle and furniture.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=35407> ¹

<http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=30698> ²

BASF Expands Capacity for High Performance Ultramid® B in Germany

Dec.26, 2012- BASF increased its capacity for Ultramid® B (polyamide 6) film product materials at its Ludwigshafen Verbund site by 21,000 metric tons per year in December 2012, in line with growing customers' demand for sophisticated polymer applications in the area of flexible film food packaging.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=35932>

Cangzhou Dahua

Cangzhou Dahua Expands TDI to 150,000 tons/year



May 16, 2012-China Cangzhou Dahua conducted successful trial production on May 16 at its newly-built 70,000 tons/year in Cangzhou, Hebei province.

The Company started construction in 2009 and it also plans to add another 30,000 tons/year in the following years.

Cangzhou Dahua also runs other two TDI plants in Cangzhou with each capacity at 30,000 tons/year and 70,000 tons/year respectively.

Chemtura

Chemtura Increasing Production at Polyurethane Plant in Italy



Mar.23, 2012Chemtura Corporation has recently announced the increase in production capacity for its Adiprene® / Vibrathane® range of high-performance polyurethane prepolymers at the company's Latina Scalo facility in Italy. Engineering work at the Latina site is already complete and startup of the additional production has commenced.

Chemtura's Adiprene® / Vibrathane® prepolymers are used in a multitude of industrial applications and markets where high wear resistance, toughness and durability are essential requirements

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=29604>

Dow

Dow Coating Materials to Expand Dispersants Production

Dec.4, 2012-Dow Coating Materials, a business unit of The Dow Chemical Company will expand its TAMOL™ and OROTAN™ High-Performance Hydrophobically Modified Copolymer Dispersants and the production is slated to begin in Q1 2013. The additional TAMOL Dispersant will be produced for: Architectural and Industrial coatings manufacturers, Hygiene and Medical applications, and Personal and Home Care products.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=35532>

DSM

DSM Increases Capacity for Innovative Solar Coatings

Oct.23, 2012-Royal DSM has announced plans to increase the installed manufacturing capacity for KhepriCoat® anti-reflective coating in line with growing demands in the globe. The additional capacity is expected to be on stream by the end of 2012 at the Chemelot site in Geleen, the Netherlands.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=34934>

FSI

Foam Supplies Expands Into India

Jun.13, 2013-Foam Supplies Inc. (FSI) of St. Louis, MO, USA, recently announced the formation of Foam Supplies India Pvt. Ltd. The India operations will focus primarily on the distribution of Ecomate, a non-ozone depleting, and no global warming potential polyurethane foam blowing agent technology based on methyl format, in Asia and the Pacific.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=31850>

Huntsman

Huntsman Increases PU Catalyst Capacity in Hungary and Spain

Apr.17, 2012-Huntsman announced plans to expand manufacturing capacity by 25% of specialty amines used as polyurethane catalysts in Petfurdo, Hungary and in Barcelona, Spain. Financial details were not disclosed.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=30208>

Huntsman Mulls to Expand its US MDI Manufacturing Plant

Aug.10, 2012-Huntsman announced engineering design studies to increase its methylene diphenyl diisocyanate (MDI) capacity in Geismar, Louisiana, taking the advantage of US shale gas.

The global market for MDI Urethanes is expected to continue to grow strongly well into the next decade,

and the proposed investment in the United States will complement Huntsman's previously announced planned expansion in China.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=33562>

ICL

ICL to Add U.S. Flame Retardant Capacity

Nov.12, 2012-ICL Industrial Products said it is expanding production of Fyrol HF-5 polymeric flame retardant at its Gallipolis Ferry, W.Va., plant to serve growing international furniture market.



The company will stop sale of TDCP starting Jan.1, 2013 and stop production of by the end of 2015.

Fyrol HF-5 is used to flexible polyurethane foam applications while TDCP is mainly for automotive sector.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=35228>

Invista

INVISTA to Expand Production of Terate® Polyols



Aug.15, 2012-INVISTA Specialty Materials is investing several million dollars at its two Terate® aromatic polyester polyols manufacturing sites in Wilmington, N.C., and Vlissingen, Netherlands. These investments involve upgrades to boost global production volumes of the Terate® HT polyols product line.

Terate® polyols has applications in polyurethane and polyisocyanurate foams as well as in coatings, adhesives, elastomers and sealants.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=33683>

Johnson Controls

Johnson Controls Adding 10 Auto Seats Plants in China



December 26, 2012-Johnson Controls will invest in another 10 auto seating plants in China as part of a long-term business strategy which continues to expect growth in China and slow expansion in the North American market to offset expected slowdown in Europe.

The US-based company does \$5bn (€3.8bn) in business in China now with 56 plants between its wholly-owned operations and joint ventures.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=35931>

KMCI

Kumho Mitsui Chemicals Finished MDI Facility Expansion in Yeosu

Aug. 30, 2012-Kumho Mitsui Chemicals Inc. (KMCI) has expanded its methylene diphenyl diisocyanate (MDI) facilities to 200,000 tons/year by adding another 50,000 tons/year.



KMCI expected MDI market to grow by around 6-8 percent annually until 2020 and Asian market by 8-10 percent.

Kumho Mitsui Chemicals, founded in 1989, is a 50-50 joint venture between Kumho Petrochemical and Mitsui.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=34065>

-----Krauss Maffei-----

Krauss Maffei Group Doubles Production Capacity in Slovakia



Nov. 30, 2012-The KraussMaffei Group officially commissioned the second assembly hall at the plant in Sucany (Slovakia), earlier than expected. This means that the production capacity is being doubled just two years after the opening of the Sucany plant.

In future, this plant will also produce for the KraussMaffei brand injection molding machines in the EX series, linear robots, reaction process machines and systems, and component trimming machines.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=35467>

-----Michelman-----

Michelman Expands in India



Sept. 14, 2012-Michelman, a global developer of water-based packaging coatings and surface modifier additives, is continuously expanding in burgeoning Indian market with the opening of new offices in Mumbai, India to cater to local coatings & inks market.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=34362>

-----Mitsui-----

Mitsui Chemicals Sets-up Polypropylene Production Facility



Mitsui Chemicals

Jan. 29, 2012-Mitsui Chemicals, Inc. and Prime Polymer Co. Ltd. have announced a 18,000 tons/year polypropylene augmentation on its new line in Thailand, which will start commercial operation in third quarter in 2012. A fully automated high-rise storage facility will be constructed to accelerate delivery and improve exactness in match with the expansion.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=28140>

Mitsui Chemicals to Expand Singapore Elastomer Facility

Aug. 31, 2012-Mitsui Chemicals is planning to invest approximately JPY2.5bn (\$32m) to increase the production of Tafmer, a high performance elastomer, at its wholly-owned subsidiary Mitsui Elastomers Singapore (MELS) in Singapore.

As part of the proposed investment, the company will establish a warehouse and logistics facilities at MELS to manufacture an additional 8,000tpy of elastomer.

The expansion project is expected to be completed by October 2013.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=34069>

-----Momentive-----

Momentive Performance Materials Expands Polyurethane Additives Capacity



May 31, 2012- May 31, 2012-Momentive Performance Materials Inc., continues to expand capacity expansions in urethane additives to meet growing demand by adding more capacity outside North America. Expansion plans include Nantong, China; Chennai, India; Itatiba, Brazil and Antwerp, Belgium.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=31444>

-----Omkar-----

Omkar Speciality Chemicals to Expand in India



Nov. 20, 2012- India-based Omkar Specialty Chemicals is planning to invest Rs1.5bn (\$27m) during the next 18 months in order to increase its production to 3,650mtpa from 950mtpa by expanding its Badlapur plant, Ratnagiri plant, Raigad plant; also Omkar is planning a fourth plant in the same locality.

The increased commercial production in all the company's plants will begin within 18 months.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=35290>

-----PPG-----

PPG and Asian Paints to Expand India Coatings Joint Venture



Jul. 20, 2012-PPG Industries has got the approvals for expanding its coatings joint venture and creating a second joint venture with Asian Paints Ltd. (APL) from Indian government.

Both coatings producers will expand their current 50-50 joint venture, PPG Industries Mumbai-based Asian PPG Industries, to serve India's industrial liquid, marine, consumer packaging and transportation coatings customers and they will form a second 50-50 joint venture, Asian Paints PPG Limited, to provide protective, industrial powder, industrial container and light industrial coatings to customers.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=32947>

-----Solvay-----

Solvay Increases Its Specialty Polymers Production Capacity by 70% in India



Sept. 18, 2012-Solvay announced a capacity increase of 70% at its largest plant in Panoli, India, for the production of high performance polymers KetaSpireR polyetheretherketone (PEEK) and AvaSpireR polyaryletherketones (PAEK), which tower at the top of the plastics performance pyramid.

Nearly half of this capacity increase has already been implemented and successfully brought on-line. The

second phase of the project will be completed by mid 2013 and will allow the plant to continue to satisfy growth in demand.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=34448>

-----Wacker-----

Wacker Expands its Korea Technical Center

Mar. 6, 2012-Wacker has completed the expansion and relocation of its technical labs and offices in South Korea focusing on silicones and polymers applications ¹.

Mar. 6, 2012-The Company also invested €40 million in doubling its can of vinyl acetate-ethylene copolymer (VAE) dispersions in Nanjing by adding another 60,000 tons/year, and the facility is expected to go on stream in mid-2013. At the same time, Wacker is building a new plant in the site to produce



polyvinyl acetate (PVAc) solid resins with an annual capacity of 20,000 metric tons, which is due for completion in early 2013 ².

Apr. 12, 2012-In parallel, the company has expanded service portfolio at its technical center in Singapore, enabling the company to better serve local customers as well as promote international recognized quality standards in the region ³.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=29161> ¹

<http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=29228> ²

<http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=30034> ³

Wacker Expands Technical Centre in Dubai

Nov. 27, 2012- Germany-based chemical company Wacker has expanded the service portfolio at its technical centre in Dubai Silicon Oasis" (DSO) technology park and the center now also includes a dedicated laboratory for interior and exterior paints and coatings applications. The new lab comprises applications technology and test equipment for polymer dispersions needed as binders for interior architectural paints.

A further focus is on silicone additives and binders for interior and exterior paints and coatings.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=35387>

-----Wanhua-----

Yantai Wanhua Expands MDI Capacity by 600ktpa



Jun. 6, 2012-China Yantai Wanhua expanded its methylene diphenyl diisocyanate (MDI) capacity to 900,000 tons/year in the H2 of 2012 by adding 300,000 tons/year in its subsidiary in Ningbo, Zhejiang province.

The company now has MDI capacity of 1,100,000 tons/year with 200,000 tons/year in Yantai plant and 900,000 tons/year in Ningbo.

Wanhua had plan to add 300,000 tons/year more in Ningbo plant at the end of 2012 but it has yet to implement.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=31636>

Yantai Wanhua Increased Ningbo MDI Capacity to 900,000 tons/year

Jul.18, 2012-Yantai Wanhua has resumed MDI production in Ningbo, Zhejiang province, east China, adding its capacity to 900,000 tons/year by adding another 300,000 tons/year after technical transformation, according to the Company's statement.

Ningbo Wanhua, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Yantai Wanhua, shut down MDI plant on Jun.1 for preventive turnaround and technical transformation to expand its MDI plant. Besides, the Company plans to add another 300,000 tons/year by the end of 2012 through debottleneck.

KEYWORDS: SHUTDOWN

-----Asahi Kasei -----

Asahi Kasei to Close U.S. Spandex Facility



Aug. 7, 2012-Asahi Kasei will shut its spandex facility in Bushy Park, S.C. in October due to continuous weakness in America market.

Asahi Kasei will continue to operate the German spandex plant as well as facilities in Japan, Taiwan, and Thailand that make the firm's Roica brand spandex fiber.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=33411>

-----Dow-----

Dow Chemical to Cut Workforce by 5%, Shut 20 Plants



Oct. 24, 2012-Dow Chemical says it will eliminate approximately 2,400 positions or 5% percent of its global workforce and shut down approximately 20 manufacturing facilities due to persistently slow macroeconomic growth and also in line with the company's cost-savings goal.

Dow says it will also reduce capital spending and investments.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=34904>

-----DuPont-----



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DuPont to Cut 1,500 Jobs as Earnings Miss Estimates

Oct. 24, 2012-Chemical maker DuPont said it is cutting 1,500 jobs or about 2% of its work force due to large drop in third-quarter revenue.

Roughly half of the layoffs are due to the weak economy, and DuPont took a one-time charge of \$242 million to pay out severance to workers. The other half of the layoffs is connected to DuPont's August sale of its slow-growing car paint business to investment firm Carlyle Group for \$4.9 billion.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=34905>

-----Mitsubishi-----

Japan Mitsubishi Chemicals Permanently Closed its one BDO Facility in Yokkaichi

Mar. 30, 2012-Sources from foreign media, Japan Mitsubishi said that it would permanently close its



30,000 tons/year BDO facility in Yokkaichi in late March so as to strengthen its strong competition in butane industry.

Meanwhile, the company will only operate its 60,000 tons/year BDO facility in Yokkaichi site to improve the profits in BDO.

PUdaily news link: <http://www.pudaily.com/News/NewsView.aspx?nid=29804>

TO BE CONTINUED