

Press Release



Brüggemann Chemical

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Brüggemann Chemical acquires RIM Nylon business from DSM Fibre Intermediates

L. Brüggemann KG / Brüggemann Chemical (Heilbronn, Germany) and DSM Fibre Intermediates B.V. (Sittard, The Netherlands) have reached an agreement on the takeover by Brüggemann Chemical of DSM's RIM Nylon business (Nyrin®) with effect from September 1, 2003. Starting from this date Brüggemann Chemical will produce raw materials and deliver technical support to producers of nylon block copolymer products for special markets produced via Reaction Injection Moulding (RIM) technology.

"RIM Nylon activities fit much better in Brüggemann Chemical's strategy than in that of DSM Fibre Intermediates," says Dick Venderbos, President of DSM Fibre Intermediates. "We are convinced that the future interests of all stakeholders in this business, including of course the customers, are best served by this transaction." The two companies will ensure a complete know-how transfer to Brüggemann Chemical and secure the continuity of business relations through mid-term service agreements in which DSM personnel will be assigned to Brüggemann Chemical.

"The acquisition of the RIM Nylon business constitutes an ideal complement to Brüggemann Chemical's existing range of highly successful additive systems in the field of nylon casting," says Wolfgang Plaschke, Managing Director of L. Brüggemann KG. "It forms a key step in our strategy to set up a worldwide competence center for anionic nylon polymerization. RIM Nylon will be integrated into the Business Division Polymer Additives within Brüggemann Chemical. The established Nyrin® trade name will be retained."

L. Brüggemann KG / Brüggemann Chemical

L. Brüggemann KG is a German company with a history going back to the year 1868. Its chemical business is operated by Brüggemann Chemical. The group includes Brüggemann Alcohol GmbH Co. KG, a joint venture between L. Brüggemann KG and the Dutch company Royal Nedalco B.V.

Brüggemann Chemical develops, produces and sells industrial and specialty chemicals for the paper, rubber and textile industries as well as additives for the polymer industry, especially for polyamides and polyesters. Over the last few decades Brüggemann Chemical has built up a position as a major supplier of catalyst and activator systems for the nylon casting industry.

L. Brüggemann KG's sales activities are supported by a sales office in Philadelphia, USA, and more than 40 agencies around the world. In total, the group has annual sales of about 70 million Euro and employs 170 people. It is L. Brüggemann KG's strategic aim to increase the group's business volume by organic growth and co-operations / acquisitions by 40% until 2007.

DSM Fibre Intermediates B.V.

DSM Fibre Intermediates is the global market and technology leader in caprolactam, the raw material for Nylon-6. This DSM business group produces caprolactam on three continents and supplies customers all over the world. For more information about DSM Fibre Intermediates, see www.dsm.com/dfi.

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DSM Venturing & Business Development

DSM Venturing & Business Development facilitated the transaction for DSM. Part of the core expertise of this business group is reconfiguring and spinning out DSM activities that do not have a perfect strategic fit with DSM's long-term vision. For more information, visit www.dsm.com/dvbd.

DSM

DSM is active worldwide in life science products, performance materials and industrial chemicals. The group had annual sales of close to EUR 5.6 billion in 2002 and employs about 18,500 people at more than 200 sites across the world. DSM ranks among the global leaders in many of its fields. The company's strategic aim is to grow its sales – partly through acquisitions – to a level of approx. EUR 10 billion by 2005. By that time at least 80% of sales should be generated by specialties, i.e. advanced chemical and biotechnological products for the life science industry and performance materials. This strategy represents a continuation of the company's ongoing transformation and concentration on global leadership positions in high-added-value activities characterized by high growth and more stable profit levels. More information about DSM can be found at www.dsm.com.

For more information:

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