

Press Release

ECKART: Gathering Pace in China

Zhuhai, October 28, 2008, ECKART is pleased to announce the completion of its first production facility in Asia, located in Zhuhai, Guangdong, China.

The production site covers 33,000 sqm, which includes manufacturing for metallic printing inks and aluminium pigments for coatings. The facilities will also house laboratories, distribution, shipping warehouses and offices. The investment of around 10 million Euros which includes technology transfer to ensure same quality and environmental standards are upheld. Capacity will be 2,200 metric tons/annum which will be expanded to 5,000 metric tons/annum in the coming years.

Localized production and technical application labs according to ECKART Germany's specification will provide a unique situation. Developing Zhuhai into a fully integrated facility within our production sites around the world will ensure that ECKART will be in a position to provide the same quality and service levels to the China market as it provides globally. This will enable ECKART to co-work on projects with its international and local customers to develop localized solutions including tailor-made products for the Chinese and Asian markets.

Having the same equipment in its production and application labs will facilitate communication, allowing ECKART to utilize additional resources from Germany, further adding to Zhuhai's value added solution providing capabilities. ECKART Zhuhai will be in a position to bring improved solutions to its customers in a more timely and effective way.

ECKART Zhuhai will be ALTANA's 5th production location in China, in addition to its numerous service laboratories and sales offices. The level of participation reflects the rapid growth and importance of China and the Asia region.

About ECKART:

ECKART is a leading global manufacturer of metallic and pearlescent pigment worldwide. Based in Fuerth, Germany, and with approximately 1,800 employees to date worldwide, the company develops, produces and sells metallic and pearlescent pigments in powder, paste and pellet form, as well as concentrates, dispersions and printing inks. ECKART products are used in the graphic arts industry, the coatings and paints industry, the plastics and foam mortar industry and in cosmetics. ECKART is currently represented in over 70 countries. The company is a member of ALTANA AG.

Please find more information on the company and its products on our website www.eckart.net

About ALTANA

ALTANA develops and produces high-quality innovative products in the specialty chemicals business. The ALTANA Group, with headquarters in Wesel/Germany, is a genuine "global player" with 83% of its sales generated by international activities. The ALTANA Group has four divisions: BYK Additives & Instruments, ECKART Effect Pigments, ELANTAS Electrical Insulation, and ACTEGA Coatings & Sealants. All of these divisions occupy a leading position in their target markets with respect to quality, product solution expertise, innovation and service.

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ALTANA offers innovative, environmentally compatible solutions with the matching specialty products for coating manufactures, paint and plastic processors, the printing and cosmetic industries, and the electrical and electronic industry. The product range includes additives, special coatings and adhesives, effect pigments, sealants and compounds, impregnating resins & varnishes, and testing and measuring instruments.

At present, the ALTANA Group has 32 production facilities and 46 service and research laboratories worldwide. Throughout the group about 4,700 people work to ensure the success of ALTANA worldwide. In 2007, ALTANA achieved sales of about 1.4 billion Euros. Its impressive earning power and high growth rate make ALTANA one of the most successful and innovative chemical groups worldwide.

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