

Press Release

BYK to take over production location in Kempen

Wesel, December 20, 2007 – The BYK-Chemie GmbH, Wesel, will have a new production location in Germany starting January 1, 2008. BYK will be taking over the company grounds, plant, and staff at the Kempen location (Lower Rhine) from the ALTANA subsidiary ELANTAS Beck, Hamburg.

The Kempen location was founded in 1955 under the name “Chemische Fabrik Mühlheim” by Dr. Horst Wiedeking and has been owned since 1988 by the ALTANA group.

Kempen will initially be used for the manufacture of primary and intermediate products required for making additives. “The thinking behind this takeover is to secure long-term availability of several primary products that are crucially important for our own products,” explained Dr. Roland Peter, Division Manager of BYK Additives & Instruments.

BYK plans to expand the location gradually, eventually manufacturing additives as well as preliminary products there.

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About BYK:

BYK is one of the world's leading suppliers of additives used in the coatings, inks, and plastics industry.

Approximately 85 % of our sales are generated by foreign countries. Our major export markets are Europe, the United States and the Far East.

Additives are used by processing industries in the production of coatings, inks, and plastics. In very small quantities, BYK additives simplify manufacturing processes, and significantly improve the quality of finished goods, such as motor vehicles and furniture. BYK is a member of ALTANA AG, Wesel. ALTANA develops and produces high quality, innovative products in the sector of specialty chemicals.

BYK has been producing additives since 1962 in Wesel. Today it employs around 1052 people worldwide, 25 % of whom work in research and development departments or technical laboratories

This press release is also available on the Internet at: www.byk.com/press_releases

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