

## **Evonik's Chester Performance Silica Plant Achieves U.S. Milestone** Good Manufacturing Practices Designation Expected To Open Up New Markets

CHESTER, Pa., April 22, 2009 – Evonik Degussa Corporation's precipitated performance silica plant in Chester, Pennsylvania, now meets the standards of the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA)'s Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) food safety regulations.

Silliker Inc. Auditing Services of Homewood, Illinois – a third party auditing firm – last month certified that the Chester facilities meet FDA standards, noting that facility personnel were professional and "the quality programs are well organized and written."

The plant's GMP certification reflects Evonik's continued commitment to ensuring quality and satisfaction to customers, said Jack L. Clem, Senior Vice President, North America for Evonik Industries' Inorganic Materials Business Unit.

"Receiving the GMP designation is an impressive achievement," Clem added. "It is an extraordinary accomplishment by our dedicated employees. It opens up potential new markets for our Chester operation."

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Good Manufacturing Practice regulations require manufacturers, processors, and packagers of drugs, medical devices, and some food to take proactive steps to ensure that their products are safe, pure, and effective.

Evonik spent more than \$500,000 at the site to achieve the GMP food safety designation, said Johnny Covey, Vice President of Production and Technology for Evonik's North America Inorganic Materials business. "We've made a substantial commitment of capital and personnel to become GMP certified," Covey added. "Our emphasis on improving process, quality and performance capabilities not only keeps us ahead of the industry but also enables us to offer the best value possible to our customers."

GMP regulations require a quality approach to manufacturing to minimize or eliminate contamination, mix-ups, and errors. "This helps to protect the consumer from purchasing a product which is not effective or possibly dangerous," Covey said. "GMP status means our products can be safely used in the 'food chain.' Chester may be the first fully compliant precipitated silica plant in the U.S."

Evonik's facility in Chester employs about 50 and manufactures SIPERNAT® precipitated performance silica, a key ingredient in a variety of products. Thanks to SIPERNAT® products, drink mixes dissolve better, seasonings are easier to prepare, and powders flow more smoothly during production and use.

### **Company information**

Evonik Industries is the creative industrial group from Germany which operates in three business areas: Chemicals, Energy and Real Estate. Evonik is a global leader in specialty chemicals, an

expert in power generation from hard coal and renewable energies, and one of the largest private residential real estate companies in Germany. Our strengths are creativity, specialization, continuous self-renewal, and reliability. Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In its fiscal year 2008 about 41,000 employees generated sales of about Euro 15.9 billion and an operating profit (EBITDA) of more than Euro 2.2 billion.

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