



Press release

AkzoNobel
Tomorrow's Answers Today

August 18, 2008

AkzoNobel opens new protective coatings site in China

AkzoNobel has expanded its presence in China with the opening of a new site for the manufacture and sales of protective coatings in Suzhou, China, about 80 kilometers west of Shanghai.

At opening ceremonies on August 18, Leif Darner, the AkzoNobel Board of Management member responsible for Performance Coatings, noted that AkzoNobel has had a strong presence in China since the late 1980s and continues to expand its operations there. "China is clearly fundamental to our global strategic vision and we are committed to expanding our activities in what is one of the world's most important markets," said Darner. "Last year we outlined our new ambition to achieve revenues in China totaling USD 2 billion by 2012 and this investment will contribute in reaching this goal."

Marine & Protective Coatings General Manager Bill McPherson also spoke at the opening ceremonies. He pointed to the €23 million investment in the new facility as a clear sign of their commitment to China. "We have developed a business plan that will allow us to increase the capacity in steps over the next ten years and eventually reach an output of 50 million liters." He also stressed the importance of investing in laboratory facilities. "We see this step as an important one to support the growth of the business and meet customer requirements," he added.

Headquartered in London, UK, Marine & Protective Coatings is a global leader for marine paints and antifouling coatings used in shipbuilding and by yacht owners. Through the International® brand name, we manufacture fire retardant products as well as protective coatings for structures such as bridges and we have supplied a range of protective coatings products for some of the stadia for the Beijing Olympics.



AkzoNobel
Tomorrow's Answers Today

Note to editors

AkzoNobel is proud to be one of the world's leading industrial companies. Based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, we make and supply a wide range of paints, coatings and specialty chemicals - pro forma 2007 revenue totaled €14.4 billion. In fact, we are the largest global paints and coatings company. As a major producer of specialty chemicals we supply industries worldwide with quality ingredients for life's essentials. We think about the future, but act in the present. We're passionate about introducing new ideas and developing sustainable answers for our customers. That's why our 60,000 employees - who are based in more than 80 countries - are committed to excellence and delivering Tomorrow's Answers Today™.

Not for publication – for more information

Akzo Nobel nv
Corporate Media Relations, tel. +31 20 502 7833
Contact: Heleen van de Lustgraaf

Corporate Investor Relations, tel. +31 20 502 7856
Contact: Dick Luijckx

Safe Harbor Statement

This press release contains statements which address such key issues as AkzoNobel's growth strategy, future financial results, market positions, product development, products in the pipeline, and product approvals. Such statements should be carefully considered, and it should be understood that many factors could cause forecasted and actual results to differ from these statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, price fluctuations, currency fluctuations, changes in the final purchase price allocation for ICI, developments in raw material and personnel costs, pensions, physical and environmental risks, legal issues, and legislative, fiscal, and other regulatory measures. Stated competitive positions are based on management estimates supported by information provided by specialized external agencies. For a more comprehensive discussion of the risk factors affecting our business please see our latest Annual Report, a copy of which can be found on the company's corporate website www.akzonobel.com.