

Industry news

Reliance Sibur JV to set up halogenated butyl rubber unit in India

The Indian company **Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)** and Russian gas and petrochemicals company **Sibur** announced that their joint venture **Reliance Sibur Elastomers Private Limited (RSEPL)** will set up India's first halogenated butyl rubber unit at RIL's petrochemical complex in Jamnagar, Gujarat. The unit will annually produce 60,000 t of halogenated butyl rubber. According to RIL, the halogenated butyl rubber

demand is expected to grow at a CAGR of 8–10 % over the next few years. In addition, the JV is currently constructing a 120,000 t/y butyl rubber plant at the same site, which will provide the necessary butyl rubber feed to the halogenation unit. RSEPL was established in 2012 and is owned 74.9 % by RIL and 25.1 % by Sibur.

www.ril.com

www.sibur.com

Hexpol takes over two rubber compounders

Effective from 31 March 2017, **Hexpol** has acquired 100 % of the rubber compounder **Trelleborg Material & Mixing Lesina s.r.o** from the **Trelleborg Group** for approximately EUR 65 million. The compounding unit in Lesina, Czech Republic, achieved a turnover of EUR 40 million in 2016 and has around 125 employees. The main end-user segments are within the automotive industry, general industry, building and construction. The majority of its sales are to external customers and a minor share to a small number of Trelleborg facilities in Europe. The acquisition expands Hexpol Compounding's capabilities and capacities for rubber compounds in the central European market.

Furthermore, Hexpol announced on 10 April 2017 that it has acquired the business of Valley Processing from Ted Ballou and his family for approximately USD 44 million, plus an additional purchase price based on product transfers. With a manufacturing facility in City of Industry, CA, USA, and around 90 employees, the rubber compounder achieved a turnover of USD 34 million in 2016. The company's manufacturing facility in Virginia is not included in the transaction. The acquisition will strengthen Hexpol's compounding business, particularly in the western and south-eastern regions of the USA.

www.hexpol.com

www.trelleborg.com

**Trelleborg acquires seal distributor Carolina Seal**

Trelleborg Sealing Solutions has acquired the privately owned company **Carolina Seal Inc.** with its office and

warehouse in Charlotte, NC, USA. The company specialises in the distribution of polymer seals such as O-rings, hydraulic seals

and speciality kitting, and has annual sales of approximately SEK 50 million (~ EUR 5.2 million). Its largest market segment is in transportation equipment, primarily within the fast grow-

ing sub-segment for transportation of chemicals. Financial terms of the deal have not been disclosed.

www.trelleborg.com

Carlisle buys sealant and adhesive manufacturer Adshead Ratcliffe

As of 31 January 2017, the US group **Carlisle Companies Incorporated** has taken over 100 % of the shares of the British manufacturer **Adshead Ratcliffe** in Belper, Derbyshire, a subsidiary of **Arbo Holdings Limited**. Financial terms of the deal have not been disclosed. The company specialises in the production of construction and industrial sealants. With 75 employees it achieves an annual turnover of approximately GBP 11 million (~ EUR 12.9 million). The prod-

uct range of Adshead Ratcliffe will complement the portfolio of the newly founded "Sealing Solutions" business unit of the European Carlisle Construction Materials Group. According to the EPDM manufacturer, the new business unit for façade and ground construction sealing was established as a counterpart to its Roofing segment. Carlisle said it expects a continuously increasing growth potential in this market.

www.ccm-europe.com

Carlisle CM Europe is a provider for single-ply EPDM sealing products for roof, façade and ground construction. The group was established in 2012 by the merger of the European EPDM manufacturers **Phoenix Dichtungstechnik GmbH**, **Hertalan B.V.** and **Hardcast B.V.** The group employs around 350 staff at seven production and three administrative sites in Europe. Core markets are Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, and UK.

Doublestar plans to take over Kumho Tire

According to the news agency "Bloomberg", on 13 March 2017 the Chinese tyre manufacturer **Qingdao Doublestar Co., Ltd.** has signed an agreement with the **Kumho Tire** creditors to buy a 42 % stake in the South Korean tyre company for approximately KRW 955 billion (~ EUR 800 million). The deal could help turn Doublestar into China's largest tyre-maker if it can fend off a potential counter bid from Kumho Tires' chairman, Park Sam-koo, who has said he wants to put to-

gether a consortium of investors to buy back the stake. **Kumho Asiana Group** put Kumho Tire and **Kumho Industrial Co.** under a debt restructuring plan in December 2009. Creditors including state-owned **Korea Development Bank** and **Woori Bank** reached an agreement to convert debt to equity in 2010 and hold a total of 42 % of shares in Kumho Tire, the report said.

www.doublestar.com.cn

www.kumhotire.co.kr