

Press release

Officially opened: CyPlus Idesa sodium cyanide production in Mexico

- Sodium cyanide production plant inaugurated in Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, Mexico
- 40,000 metric tons annual capacity
- Growth strategy milestone

The new CyPlus Idesa sodium cyanide production plant was officially opened with an inauguration ceremony in Coatzacoalcos (Veracruz, Mexico) in the presence of Dr. Klaus Engel, Chairman of the Executive Board of Evonik Industries and Patricio Gutiérrez Fernandez, Chairman of CyPlus Idesa.

CyPlus Idesa is a joint venture between German Evonik and Mexican Grupo IDESA.

The new sodium cyanide plant has a capacity of 40,000 metric tons and uses state-of-the-art hydrocyanic acid and cyanide technologies. Special attention was dedicated to the compliance of all environmental and safety regulations ensuring that production of sodium cyanide complies with the provisions of the "International Cyanide Management Code" (ICMC).

Mining operations in the gold and silver mining industry use sodium cyanide to extract precious metals from the mineral. Mexico is the number one producer of silver in the world and ranks among the top 15 producers of gold worldwide.

"The new local production facility will make us an even better and more flexible supplier for our customers in the region. The facility represents another important step in the growth strategy of Evonik," said Klaus Engel.

In addition to representatives of both companies' top management, the inauguration ceremony was attended by high-ranking representatives of the Federal government, the state of Veracruz and the city of Coatzacoalcos. Further invitees included customers and suppliers.

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CyPlus Idesa started up production in close and trustful collaboration with the joint venture partner, who already operates chemical plants in Coatzacoalcos. Evonik has brought production technology and process know how to the joint project, while Grupo IDESA made key contributions based on its more than sixty years of experience in the Mexican chemical sector.

Companies' information

CyPlus Idesa S.A.P.I de C.V., Mexico, is a 50:50 joint venture of Grupo Idesa, Mexico and Evonik, Germany, duly incorporated in June 2013.

Evonik, the creative industrial group from Germany, is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. Profitable growth and a sustained increase in the value of the company form the heart of Evonik's corporate strategy. Its activities focus on the key megatrends health, nutrition, resource efficiency and globalization. Evonik benefits specifically from its innovative prowess and integrated technology platforms.

Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In fiscal 2015 more than 33,500 employees generated sales of around €13.5 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of about €2.47 billion.

CyPlus is a globally established company in cyanides. The Evonik subsidiary provides innovative products, technologies and services to customers in the mining, chemical, pharmaceutical, and surface treatment industries. The company meets the extensive and strict requirements of the international mining industry as a supplier of cyanides in accordance with the provisions of the "International Cyanide Management Code" (ICMC). Production sites in Europe as well as sales and distribution offices on all continents provide customers swift and reliable service. CyPlus regards itself as a pacesetter of progress and sustainability.

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