# CHENICAL MARKET Connecting the Chemical Industry Together !

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- Kanasar Railway Station: 2 km
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- Karni Industrial Area: 13.5 km
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- **14. Diethyl Oxalate**

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- CAS RN. 98-07-7
- CAS RN. 3967-54-2
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- CAS RN. 62-53-3
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C	ON'		
<u>Click on the article title to go to the respective page</u> Purchase Enquiries	17	Paint Market Shake-Up Birla Opus Discounts and a Demand Slowdown	a 53
Editorial Trump's Trade Policies: Implications for the		Midwest Industrial Supply Introduces Spark-Barrier High-Performance Class A Firefighting Foam	<sup>-®</sup> 57
Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industries	13	BASF's OASE® blue supports CCAT in carbon capture and storage project at Taiwan power plant	59
Research Reports JuveXO® Unveils Verified Exosome Images, Settir	ig a	Why the world needs more limestone- but less emissions	71
New Standard in Transparency and Scientific Proo Cosmetics	f in 20	Harnessing Advanced Technologies The Clean Phenol-Acetone Journey of Deepak Nitrite	74
Impact of the UK-India FTA on Indian chemical industry	21	Wanhua Chemical Presented In-Cosmetics Europe Bringing Green Innovation Solutions	, 76
<u>News RoundUp</u>		Cementing Sustainability UCLAs Zerocal Could Sla	ash 77
How India Is Transforming Healthcare Through the Pharmaceutical Industry	22	Evonik launches particle dispersion portfolio to	
Lanka Cosmetic and Healthcare Manufacturers Association LCHMA extends its support to Cosmet	ics	receptive coatings	79
Ingredients Expo	40	List of Events	14
Rare Earth Elements Crisis Understanding Chinas Role and the U S Response	41	Free Service Subscribers - Sub. Today Market Prices	11
Henkel and Synthomer partner to reduce carbon emissions in adhesives	43	Mumbai Market Prices	60 61
Arkema, Akzonobel and Omya Design Lower Carb Footprint Paints for Mass Market Adoption	on 44	Opening Port Prices Producer Prices	66 68
Dixons New Growth Phase Electronics Component Manufacturing under ECMS	ts 45	News Snippets Automobiles	23
Sodium Steps into the Spotlight CATL Begins Mass Production of Naxtra Battery in 2025	s 47	Drug & Pharma News Chemical Technology	27 29
Inside the Auto Tariff Shake-Up Real Stories from F	ord	New Products	31 31
How Kaos Waterless Innovations Are Redefining th	ne.	International News	35

How Kaos Waterless Innovations Are Redefining the **Global Soap Market** 51

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### **EDITORIAL**

# **CHEMICAL MARKET**

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE DYES, CHEMICALS, PHARMACEUTICALS, TRADE & INDUSTRY SINCE 1982

#### **Trump's Trade Policies: Implications for the Chemical and Pharmaceutical** Industries

resident Donald Trump's renewed **P**<sub>trade</sub> agenda is poised to significantly impact the global chemical and pharmaceutical sectors. With a focus on tariffs, reshoring, and supply chain security, these policies are reshaping industry dynamics, influencing everything from raw material sourcing to international collaborations.

#### Chemical Industry: Navigating Tariffs and Supply Chain Disruptions

The chemical industry faces substantial challenges under the new trade policies. The introduction of a 10% baseline tariff on most global imports, coupled with a 25% tariff on goods from Canada and Mexico, has disrupted established supply chains. These tariffs affect a broad spectrum of chemical products, including polyethylene, polypropylene, ethylene glycol, and methanol. U.S. producers, who have historically relied on exporting these surpluses, now confront retaliatory tariffs from key trading partners, threatening their competitiveness in international markets.

Moreover, the U.S. chemical industry depends on imports for certain essential chemicals like benzene, melamine, and methyl ethyl ketone. Tariffs on these imports could lead to increased production costs, affecting downstream industries.

The fluorochemicals sector is particularly vulnerable. With the U.S. relying heavily on Mexico for fluorspar

and hydrofluoric acid-key inputs for refrigerants and fluoropolymers-tariffs on these imports could escalate costs and disrupt production.

#### Pharmaceutical Industry: Confronting Tariffs and Regulatory Challenges

The pharmaceutical sector is equally • impacted by the new trade policies. Proposed tariffs of at least 25% on pharmaceutical products and active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) threaten to increase drug prices and disrupt supply chains. Given that a • significant portion of APIs are sourced from countries like China and India, these tariffs could exacerbate existing drug shortages and elevate healthcare costs.

Furthermore, the U.S. has urged allies, such as the UK, to eliminate Chinesemade ingredients from medicines exported to the U.S., emphasizing national security concerns. This move could compel pharmaceutical companies to overhaul their supply chains. potentially increasing production costs and affecting drug availability.

President Trump's executive order aiming to align U.S. drug prices with those in lower-cost countries introduces additional complexities. While intended to reduce domestic drug prices, this policy could lead pharmaceutical companies to raise prices abroad to offset revenue losses, potentially straining international relations and impacting global drug affordability.

#### Key Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Affected

- Polyethylene and Polypropylene: Tariffs on these widely used plastics could increase costs for packaging and automotive industries.
- Benzene, Melamine, and Methyl Ethyl Ketone: Essential chemicals with limited domestic production, making them susceptible to import tariffs.
- Fluorspar and Hydrofluoric Acid: Critical for producing refrigerants and fluoropolymers; tariffs could disrupt supply chains.
- Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs): Tariffs on APIs, primarily sourced from China and India, could lead to drug shortages and higher healthcare costs.

President Trump's trade policies are ushering in a period of significant transformation for the chemical and pharmaceutical industries. While aimed at bolstering domestic production and national security, ensuring these measures present challenges in terms of increased costs. chain supply disruptions, and regulatory complexities. Industry stakeholders must navigate this evolving landscape by fostering innovation, diversifying supply chains, and engaging in international collaborations to mitigate risks and seize emerging opportunities

-Rajiv Parikh





CphI - Informa Group						
No	Exibitions	Date	Place			
1	CPhI North America	May 20-22, 2025	Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia			
2	CPhI Frankfurt	Oct 28-30, 2025	Messe Frankfurt			
3	CPhI Middle East & Africa	Dec 8-10, 2025	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia			
4	CPhI China- Virtual CPhI	June 24-26, 2025	Shanghai New International Expo Center			
5	CPhI Japan	Apr 21-23, 2026	Tokyo, Japan			
6	CPhI Korea	Aug 26 - 28, 2025	COEX, Seoul, Korea			
7	CPhI India	Nov 25-27, 2025	Noida, India			
	MEC	S (Coating Show)				
1	Asia Pacific Coatings Show	Sept 3-5, 2025	Indonesia			
2	Saudi Arabia Coatings Show	May 13-15, 2025	Dammam Saudi Arabia			
3	Middle East Coatings Show	Apr 14-16, 2026	Dubai World Trade Centre			
4	Coatings For Africa	June 24-26, 2026	Johannesburg, South Africa			
		DYE+CHEM				
1	Dye+Chem Morocco International Expo	Nov 5-7, 2025	Morocco			
2	48th Dye+Chem Sri Lanka International Expo	March 13-15, 2025	Colombo Sri Lanka			
3	Dye+Chem Bangladesh International Expo	Sept 3-6,2025	Bangladesh, Dhaka			
4	50th Dye+Chem Brazil International Expo	Nov 2025	Brazil			
	Rec	Carpet Events				
1	Bangladesh Int'l Dyes, Pigments and Chemicals Expo	Sept 10-13, 2025	Dhaka, Bangladesh			
	Turke	ey (Arkim Group)				
1	InterDye Textile Printing Eurasia	TBD	Istanbul, Turkey			
2	Paint Istanbul TURKCOAT	2026	Istanbul			
3	Paint Expo Eurosia	Oct 01-03, 2025	Istanbul Expo Center / Istanbul Fuar Merkezi			
	Otl	ner Exhibitions				
1	Paint India	Feb 19-21, 2026	Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai			
2	Expo Paint and Coating	TBD	Dhaka, Bangladesh			
3	СІРІ	TBD	Mumbai, India			
4	Chemspec Europe	June 4-5, 2025	Koelnmesse, Germany			
5	ChemUK Expo	May 21-22, 2025	NEC, Birmingham, UK			
6	American Coatings Show	May 5-7, 2026	Indianapolis			
7	China Coat China	Nov 25-27, 2025	China Import & Export Complex, Guangzhou			
8	Interdye China	TBD	Shanghai, China			
9	Paint Expo Germany	Apr 14-17, 2026	Messe Karlsruhe Germany			
10	India Chem	Oct 2026	Mumbai Exibition Centre, India			
11	Water Expo	Apr 24-26 2026	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi			
12	Inacoating	July 29-31, 2025	JIExpo Kemayoran, Jakarta - Indonesia			



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Alum- Ferric	50Kgs	23.00	Nickel Chloride	25Kgs	620.00
Ammonium Bicarbonate	25Kgs	24.00	Phosphoric Acid (85% Tech)	50Kgs	102.00
Ammonium Bi fluoride	50Kgs	178.00	Potassium Carbonate (Powder)	25Kgs	115 .00
[sugar-grade]	50Kgs	178.00	Potassium Carbonate (Granules)	25Kgs	85.00
Ammonium Carbonate	50Kgs	92.00	Potassium Nitrate	50Kgs	115.00
Ammonium Chloride	50Kgs	20.00	Potassium Permanganate [Tech]	50Kgs	174.00
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Ammonium Sulphate	50Kgs	22.00	S.L.E.S	50kgs	72.00
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Bleaching Powder (33% Cl)	25Kgs	14.00	Sodium Bichromate	50Kgs	165.00
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Boric Acid (Tech.)	50Kgs	145.00	Sodium Chlorite 50% (India)	50Kqs	240.00
Calcium Carbonate (Activate)	50Kgs	20.00	Sodium Chlorite 80% (India)	50Kas	280.00
Calcium Carbonate (Precipitated)	50Kgs	19.00	Sodium Cvanide	50Kas	650.00
Calcium Chloride Lump 70%	50Kgs	12.00	Sodium Eluoride	50Kas	150.00
Calcium Chloride-Anhydrous	50Kgs	28.00	Sodium Formate	50Kas	53.00
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Caustic Soda (Flakes)	50Kgs	50.00	Sodium Metabisulphite	50Kgs	35.00
Caustic Soda (Prills)	50Kgs	92.00	Sodium Nitrate	50Kgs	52.00
Chromic Acid Flakes	50Kgs	280.00	Sodium Nitrite (Chine)	50Kgs	52.00 60.00
Chlorinated Xylene	25kgs	85.00	Sodium Nitrite (China)	Neked	29.50
Copper Sulphate	50Kgs	220.00	Sodium Sulphoto (Aphydroup)	FOKao	15.00
Di ammonium Phosphate	50Kgs	34.00	Sodum Suprate (Annydrous)	SUKgs	15.00
Dioctylmalite	180kgs	82.00	Sodium Sulphide 50-52% (Flakes)	SUKGS	58.00
Ferric Chloride (Anhydrous)	50Kgs	38.00	Sodium Sulphide 58-60% (Flakes)	SUKgs	52.00
Ferrous Sulphate – crystals	50Kgs	16.00	Sodium Sulphite 92%	50Kgs	50.00
Hydrochloric Acid	Naked	6.00	Sodium Tri polyphosphate	50Kgs	92.00
Hydrogen Peroxide 50%	50Kgs	33.00	Litanium Dioxide Anatase	25Kgs	208.00
Hyflosupercell	22.7Kgs	138.00	Titanium Dioxide (Rutile - R-902)	25Kgs	275.00
Litharge	50Kgs	220.00	Trisodium Phosphate	50Kgs	28.00
Lithopone B301(China)	25Kgs	124.00	Zinc Chloride Powder (Tech.)	50Kgs	82.00
Magnesium Carbonate (Indian)	50 Kgs	125.00	Zinc Oxide White Seal	50Kgs	230.00

Above prices are given in good faith by : MR. SUBHASH GHORAWAT

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India		
<b>Myristic Acid</b> Details : 99% min	8 Tonnes	Any
		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
India		
<b>Distilled Sunflower Fatty Acid</b> Details : acid value 195 min.	25 Tonnes	Any
		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
India		
<b>3-Chloro-3-methylbut-1-yne</b> Details : we are looking foe 3-Chloro-3-methylbut-1-yne	2 Kg	Any
		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
Hyderabad, India		
<b>3 Methyl Benzyl Chloride</b> Details : 3 Methyl Benzyl Chloride - 400Kg	400 Kg	Industrial
		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
Hyderabad, Telangana, India		
Dyes & Chemical Market   May 2025		17

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Product	Quantity	Grade
Toluene	21000 Kgs	VirginPure
Details : Looking to establish a recurring supply arrangement a quality Toluene in bulk. Quantity: 21,000 kg , For trading purpose	for high- s	
		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
Ankleshwar, Gujarat, India		
Toluene	25 Tonnes	Industrial
Details : 25mt toluene industrial grade,in tanker loadex kandla credit	60 days	
	C	CLICK HERE TO VIEW
Mumbai, India		
Acetone	30 Tonnes	Industrial
Details : 30 mt acetone in tanker load exkandla, 60 days credit , ghaziabad uttar pardesh	delivered	
		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
India		
Lithium Borohydride	500 Grams	Any
Details : Lithium Borohydride CAS No:- 16949-15-8 Qty:- 500 gm location:- Sonipat, Harvana Description/Use/Application:- R&D u	Shipping Ise	
		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
Gaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, India		
XANTHAN GUM FOOD GRADE 80 MESH	40 Tonnes	Not Applicable
Details : Shipping location:- CIF offer to Mombasa Port. Currently	y in need	
of this item to support our operations, and we would like to know company can supply this product. We value quality and require that can provide us with consistent and reliable products that a stringent standards.	w if your suppliers meet our	CLICK HERE TO VIEW
Ellesmere Port, Cheshire West and Chester, UK		
18 Dyes & Chemical Market   May 2025		1

### **BUY INQUIRIES**

Product	Quantity	Grade
Xanthan Gum	200 Kgs	None
Jungbunzlauer CAS No:- 11138-66-2	ent make-	
		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
Ghaziahad Uttar Pradesh India		
Cyanuric Acid CAS#: 108-80-5	1 Tonnes	Industrial
Details : Need it to export to China on a repeat basis.		
		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India		
Enibromobydrin CAS No: 2122 64 7		
Details : Please quote the best CIF Air (Shanghai, China)	orice, with	Industrial
shortest lead time & COA/MSDS		
		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
China		
4-Piperidone Hydrochloride Monohydrate	99% CAS No:- 400	)64-34-4 1 Kgs Industrial
Details : Please share your best offer along with the COA, deli	ivery time,	
packing detail and payment terms.		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India		
Starvis 3003F BASF CONSTRUCTION POL	YMERS GmbH	200 Kgs Chemical
Kelco Crete DG-F of genuince BASF material	and 100 kg	
		CLICK HERE TO VIEW
Melbourne		
	_h	
Dyes & Chemical Market   May 2025		19

# JuveXO<sup>®</sup> Unveils Verified Exosome Images, Setting a New Standard in Transparency and Scientific Proof in Cosmetics

MIAMI, April 22, 2025 / PRNewswire/ -- The scientific 2025 / team at JuveXO<sup>®</sup>, one of the most advanced exosome-based solutions available today, is thrilled to announce the first images of exosomes - an incredible achievement that positions JuveXO<sup>®</sup> at the forefront of biocosmetic discovery. Born from decades of research and innovation by Chief Development & Science Officer (CDSO) Rafael Gonzalez, PhD, a leading figure in cell therapy research, and the scientists behind JuveXO<sup>®</sup> have fully characterized their exosomes and gone above and beyond to show off their superior exosome product. JuveXO boasts billions of exosomes in each of its vials as well as naturally occurring High Molecular Weight Hyaluronic Acid, Collagen I and III, Glutathione, Biotin, Peptides, and Growth Factors. JuveXO is used topically for hair and skin rejuvenation post aesthetic treatments such microneedling, as RF (radiofrequency) laser, CO2 laser, hair restoration procedures, and chemical enhancing recovery and peels, optimizing results. https://juvexo.com/ blogs / articles / breaking - ground juvexos-first-image-of-an-exosome-anew-era-in-scientific-visualization

But first, what are exosomes? Exosomes are small extracellular vesicles that play a pivotal role in intercellular communication, serving as vehicles for the transport of various biomolecules such as proteins, lipids, and nucleic acids between cells. Exosome technology has garnered significant attention in recent years due to their multifaceted functions and profound implications. JuveXO<sup>®</sup> is the first biocosmetic company to image exosomes both in frozen vials and following lyophilization using advanced electron microscopy techniques, the correct approach to visualizing an exosome and demonstrating its presence. The ability to visualize exosomes with such precision gives JuveXO<sup>®</sup> a significant competitive advantage over other players in the biocosmetic sector.

With research on optimal biocosmetic formulations stemming back to 2014, JuveXO<sup>®</sup> stands out as a distinctive scientific leader in the rapidly evolving field of biocosmetics space. JuveXO<sup>®</sup>'s umbilical cord lining stem cells (ULSCs) are superior to a standard MSC, were specifically researched and designed for the biocosmetic space—offering optimal results for the skin.

Chief Development & Science Officer (CDSO) Rafael Gonzalez, PhD of JuveXO<sup>®</sup> says, "It's a groundbreaking time for all of us at JuveXO<sup>®</sup> who have dedicated so much research, time and resources perfecting our product. The ability to visualize exosomes with such precision gives JuveXO<sup>®</sup> a significant competitive advantage over other players in the biocosmetic and aesthetic sectors. The imaging technology that employs represents JuveXO<sup>®</sup> а significant leap forward in the field of aesthetics, enabling practitioners to see that the product truly does contain exosomes. This helps them trust the products they are providing to patients."

While the ability to visualize exosomes decades ago marked a significant breakthrough in biomedical research for scientific new innovations, many exosome-derived products lacked rigorous validation until recently. Adopting advanced imaging methods has allowed researchers at JuveXO<sup>®</sup> to deepen their understanding of the exosome. Today, as numerous brands enter the market with claims of including exosomes in their products, the leaders at Congela Biocosmetics, the distributor of JuveXO, are raising the bar transparency. industry for Bv conclusively proving the presence of exosomes in our products, we invite others to meet this new standard of verification. Our message to the industry is straightforward: "We've shown you ours, now you show us yours."

To prove their presence and integrity in products, JuveXO® has embraced the standards set by the International Society for Extracellular Vesicles (ISEV), which recommends specific techniques for confirming exosome presence, such as nanoparticle tracking analysis, tunable resistive pulse sensing, and electron microscopy amongst other marker expressions that need to be present. Electron microscopy, specifically, allows for the direct observation of exosomes, showcasing their size, shape, and the integrity of their bilipid layers, which are crucial for their functionality.

Utilizing state-of-the-art equipment and methodologies, researchers can





accurately observe exosomes on a nanoscale level, pinpointing their presence and concentration in biological samples that lead to deeper scientific insights. By adhering to these ISEVendorsed techniques and especially employing electron microscopy, JuveXO<sup>®</sup> not only substantiates the presence of genuine exosomes in their products but also ensures they remain intact and functional from production to delivery. This adherence to the highest scientific standards establishes a new benchmark in product transparency and trust, pioneering a standard that should define the future of regenerative medicine and cosmetic industries alike. Read the full report : https://juvexo.com/ blogs/articles/breaking-groundjuvexos-first-image-of-an-exosome-anew-era-in-scientific-visualization

If you want your report abstract to be published please contact info@chemical market.net

# Impact of the UK-India FTA on Indian chemical industry

The recently concluded UK-India Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is expected to significantly benefit India's chemical industry, particularly the organic chemicals sector, by reducing trade barriers and enhancing market access.

#### Key Impacts on India's Chemical Industry

Tariff Elimination and Market Access

The FTA eliminates UK tariffs on 99% of Indian exports, including organic chemicals, which previously faced duties of 0-8%. This covers nearly 100% of trade value, providing duty-free access to the UK market.

Indian exports of organic chemicals to the UK are projected to surge by 130%, from \$420 million to \$966 million by 2027, driven by improved price competitiveness.

Companies like UPL and Tata Chemicals are expected to benefit from enhanced export opportunities due to lower tariffs, with export growth estimated at 8–10%.

#### **Boost to Export-Oriented Industries**

The chemical industry, particularly organic chemicals, is identified as a key beneficiary due to its... Read More: https://www.indianchemicalnews.com/ regulatory/impact-of-the-uk-india-ftaon-indian-chemical-industry-26116

The agreement supports technologydriven industries, which could drive innovation and investment in India's chemical sector, aligning with global supply chain demands.

#### Safeguarding Sensitive Sectors

India has excluded certain sensitive industrial goods, such as plastics, from duty concessions to protect domestic industries. This ensures that the chemical industry's plastic segment remains shielded from excessive import competition.

#### **Economic and Strategic Benefits**

The FTA is expected to double bilateral trade to \$120 billion by 2030, with the chemical industry playing a pivotal role in this growth.

Amid global trade tensions, such as U.S. tariffs under Trump, the FTA positions India as a proactive player in trade liberalization, potentially attracting more foreign investment into the chemical sector.

The agreement sets a template for India's future FTAs (e.g., with the U.S. and EU), which could further integrate the chemical industry into global markets.

#### Challenges and Considerations

The UK's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), set to impose levies on high-carbon imports from 2027, remains a concern. It could increase costs for Indian chemical exports, particularly those with high carbon footprints, unless addressed in ongoing negotiations.

India has proposed a "rebalancing mechanism" to mitigate CBAM's impact,

which could involve compensatory measures for affected industries like chemicals,

The gradual reduction of UK tariffs over a decade (e.g., for some industrial goods) may delay the full realization of benefits for certain chemical subsectors.

Broader Implications

#### Job Creation and Investment

The chemical industry's export growth is expected to create jobs and attract investments, particularly in laborintensive and technology-driven segments.

#### **Global Competitiveness**

By securing preferential access to the UK market, Indian chemical companies gain an edge over competitors from non-FTA countries, enhancing their global market position.

#### Supply Chain Integration

The FTA's rules of origin provisions facilitate the use of global inputs, enabling Indian chemical manufacturers to integrate into complex supply chains while benefiting from lower tariffs. elimination, investment attraction, and strategic trade positioning offers significant opportunities for growth, innovation, and job creation.

Read the full report :https://www. indianchemicalnews.com/regulatory/ impact-of-the-uk-india-fta-on-indianchemical-industry-26116

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### **NEWS ROUND UP**

## How India Is Transforming Healthcare Through the Pharmaceutical Industry

#### Vinodhini Harish

#### Introduction:

India's pharmaceutical sector stands as a global leader in providing affordable yet high-quality healthcare solutions. Do you know that India follows the strategy of regulating of prices of essential medicines, India is striking a balance between patient affordability and industry sustainability. As a result, India is now supplying nearly 60% of global vaccine demand and is considered one of the largest providers of generic drugs across the globe. With the government's proactive support through policies such as the Drug Price Control Order (DPCO) 2013, the Mantri Pradhan Bhartiya JanaushadhiPariyojana, the PLI scheme and the promotion of bulk Drug Parks, the industry is witnessing remarkable growth and thus in this article, we have explored the schemes, and strategies of the country and how it is advancing in pharmaceutical the and medical equipment sector. Let's begin.

#### How 'Make in India' is reshaping India's global pharmaceutical footprint?

The Department of Pharmaceuticals is acting as the driving force:

Indian pharmaceutical sector is witnessing a massive transformation, that is driven by the government's Make in India initiative. At the heart of the evolution, the Department of Pharmaceuticals under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers is playing a significant role in multiple areas. Ensures affordable access to medicines – the role of DPCO 2013, the Drug Price Control Order DPCO 2013, enforced by the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), ensures that essential medicines remain affordable to the public. Under the DPCO 2013, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has the power to determine or change the prices of important medicines that are listed as essential for health.

Price limits: the government decides the highest price that companies can change for these medicines. The price is based on the average cost of similar medicines that are already sold in the market while including at least 1% of the market share.

Making sure companies follow the rules: If a company charges more than the allowed price, then the company must pay back the extra money along with the interest.

### Where is India standing in the medical devices segment?

India stands in 4th place in Asia and comes as one of the top 20 medical device markets across the globe. Therefore India is a key player in making tools and equipment used in hospitals, and clinics.

The PPE kits, ventilators, radio-imaging machines, implants, diagnostic devices, and surgical instruments, are all manufactured in India. Also, these devices are often high-tech and expensive to make. These medical equipment require constant innovation and skilled professionals to keep them up to global standards. During the pandemic time, India ramped up their production of PPE kits and ventilators and became one of the top exporters. This demonstrated how quickly the country was able to meet the global demand under pressure. Likewise, the exports of medical devices stood at \$3.5 billion in 2022-2023 which was a huge jump when compared to the previous years.

Furthermore, initiatives like the PLI scheme for medical devices have attracted massive investment into local manufacturing. Likewise, medical device parks were also developed in the states like Tamil Nadu, Andra Pradesh, and Himachal Pradesh that supported the sector's infrastructure.

## India's pharmaceutical exports are on the rise:

India's pharmaceutical industry has been strengthening its export growth in recent years. It went from INR 1,80,555 crore in 2020 to INR 2,19,439 in 2023-2024. The steady increase in the value showed that Indian pharmaceutical companies are selling more medicines and health products to other countries and this demonstrated the influence of the country in the global pharmaceutical market.

The steady increase in value is due to backed by strong regulatory compliance as the Indian pharma companies have earned approvals from top global agencies like the US FDA, EMA (Europe) and MHRA(UK).

Indian pharmaceutical companies

Continued on Pg 37





### AUTOMOBILES

### AMERICAN BATTERY SOLUTIONS AND SCAG POWER EQUIPMENT PARTNER TO POWER NEXT-GEN COMMERCIAL MOWERS WITH INTELLIGENT LITHIUM-ION TECHNOLOGY

American Battery Solutions (ABS) today announced a strategic partnership SCAG with Power Equipment, a division of Wisconsinbased Metalcraft of Mayville Inc., to provide cutting-edge lithium-ion battery technology to power the all-new Scag<sup>®</sup> RC Extreme Slope<sup>™</sup> Mower. The partnership is set up to run through 2027 with deliveries of Alliance Intelligent Battery Series<sup>™</sup> systems already underway from ABS' Springboro, Ohio manufacturing facility.

"Landscape professionals trust Scag Power Equipment for unmatched durability and reliability in the toughest conditions. That's why Metalcraft of Mayville chose ABS and our Alliance battery systems, which

deliver the same highperformance standards in the low-voltage space," said Subhash Dhar, ABS Founder, Chairman, and **CEO.** "Our Applications Engineering team collaborated closely with Metalcraft to adapt the Alliance I48V-3.0 battery for this application. With industry-leading energy density and a scalable design, the Alliance series is built to withstand the physical demands and thermal challenges of commercial landscaping equipment."

The ABS Alliance batteries will be launched in the Scag<sup>®</sup> RC Extreme Slope<sup>™</sup> Mower where it enables higher power and reduced fuel consumption by empowering series hybrid operation of the mower. The scalability of the Alliance family means the same ABS U.S.-manufactured battery can be used on a variety of different mowers in the fleet.

The world-class engineering know-how and experience at ABS combined with its smart battery technology unlocked the innovative solution for hybrid powered Scag-branded landscape equipment. Integrating the robust, safe and high-performing Alliance lithiumion batteries will deliver more power and control for the Scag<sup>®</sup> RC Extreme Slope<sup>™</sup> Mower.

Source : Automotive Technology

### NEPTUNE ENERGY PRODUCES FIRST BATTERY-GRADE LITHIUM CARBONATE FROM BRINE USING KBR'S PURELI TECHNOLOGY

 $\mathbf{K}_{Neptune}^{BR}$  is proud to partner with Neptune Energy to produce battery-grade lithium carbonate (Li<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) from gas field brine at the Altmark site in Germany, utilizing KBR's proprietary PureLi refining and conversion technology.

Li2CO3 is a key precursor for the production of lithium-ion batteries used in electric vehicles and portable consumer electronics, such as laptops and cell phones.

In November 2024, Neptune Energy, under KBR's guidance, produced its first technical-grade lithium carbonate (Li2CO3) from lithium chloride (LiCl), extracted through Geolith's Direct Lithium Extraction (DLE) Li-Capt technology. Recently, this LiCl has successfully been converted to Li2CO3 of 99.5% purity, meeting stringent industry standards.

This milestone involved key lithium refining and conversion steps offered through KBR's proprietary PureLi





technology such as: Lithium chloride concentration, advanced refining for efficient impurity removal and Lithium carbonate crystallization.

"Congratulations to the entire team on this important milestone! **Strengthening regional** lithium supply chains is critical to ensuring energy security, and KBR is proud to support this project," said Hari Ravindran, Senior Vice President, Technology Solutions. "With our advanced PureLi technology, we are helping secure a reliable supply of high-purity lithium to meet the growing demand for emobility."

Axel Wenke, Director New Energy at Neptune Energy says, "KBR played an important role in our first lithium pilot project in the Altmark region. Thanks to KBR's guidance and experience in the DLE business we were able to produce first lithium carbonate out of Altmark brine in our Lingen based laboratory."

Source : Indian Chemicals

### ARAMCO AND BYD COLLABORATE ON NEW ENERGY VEHICLE

### TECHNOLOGIES

A ramco, one of the world's leading integrated energy and chemicals companies, and BYD, a leading manufacturer of new energy vehicles and power batteries, have agreed to explore closer collaboration in new energy vehicle technologies.

A Joint Development Agreement signed Saudi Aramco Technologies bv Company (SATC), Aramco's whollyowned subsidiary, and BYD aims to foster the development of innovative technologies that enhance efficiency and performance. environmental This collaboration leverages the research and development teams of two leading global companies, with the aim of achieving new energy vehicle breakthroughs.

Ali A. Al-Meshari, Aramco Senior Vice President of Technology Oversight & Coordination, said: "The collaboration between SATC and BYD aims to support energy efficiency improvements, and it builds on Aramco's extensive research and development of new energy solutions. Aramco is exploring a number of ways to potentially optimize transport efficiency, from innovative lower-carbon fuels to advanced powertrain concepts. This

work stems from our belief that multiple approaches are necessary to support a practical energy transition and we are delighted to collaborate with BYD on this journey."

Luo Hongbin, Senior Vice President of BYD, said: "At the crossroads of technological innovation and environmental protection, BYD always believes that true breakthroughs come from openness and collaboration. We expect that SATC and our cutting-edge R&D capabilities in new energy vehicles will break the boundaries of geography and mindset to incubate solutions that combine highly-efficient performance with a lower carbon footprint. We are confident that this will support the world's efforts to address the climate challenge."

Source : Indian Chemical

### KBR AND ISU ADVANCE LITHIUM SULFIDE TECHNOLOGY TO COMMERCIAL SCALE

KBR and ISU Specialty Chemical have advanced their PureLi2SSM lithium sulfide technology to commercial scale, following the successful operation of the Onsan pilot plant in Ulsan, Republic of Korea.

Under the joint development agreement signed in 2023, the companies established a pilot plant, which has successfully produced on-spec lithium sulfide, securing market acceptance. Insights from this phase, combined with







KBR's expertise in process technology scale-up, will be critical in designing the commercial facility to bring this technology to the global market.

KBR's PureLi2S technology is designed to produce battery grade lithium sulfide for All-Solid-State Batteries (ASSBs), which offer higher energy density, enhanced safety, and superior efficiency over conventional liquid electrolytes. The technology enables high purity sulfide production while lithium minimizing off-spec material, a crucial advantage given the process complexity and inherent chemistry. Shifting to a larger continuous process will also improve cost-efficiency and scalability compared to current batch-based processes.

<u>"We are pleased to extend</u> <u>our collaboration with ISU</u> <u>Specialty Chemical,</u> <u>leveraging two years of</u> <u>joint research and</u> <u>development to scale</u> <u>lithium sulfide production,"</u> <u>said Hari Ravindran, Senior</u> <u>Vice President of</u> <u>Technology Solutions, KBR.</u> <u>"With</u> <u>PureLi2S, we</u> <u>are not only</u> <u>supporting</u> <u>higher EV</u> <u>performance</u> <u>and range but</u> <u>also driving the</u> <u>affordability</u>

### needed to accelerate electrification at scale."

"The performance of our Onsan plant has exceeded expectations, consistently producing on-spec lithium sulfide," Seung-Ho Lyu, CEO of ISU Specialty Chemical. "We are very excited to work with KBR to bring this breakthrough technology to market."

Source : Indian Chemical

### LOHUM ANNOUNCES INDIA'S FIRST BATTERY GRADE LITHIUM REFINERY

Lohum, India's largest producer and processor of sustainable critical minerals, announced the expansion of its lithium refining capabilities with a 1000 MT/A battery-

grade Lithium facility.

Lohum currently refines more than 90% of all lithium in India, making it one of the largest lithium refiners in the world outside of China. Lohum's lithium refining operations will shore up India's energy security and make the nation competitive across global critical minerals, EV, and energy transition markets.

Having grown 20x in the last 4 years, Lohum is not only the largest lithium refiner in India but is also setting up production capabilities for value-added products like Cathode Active Materials (CAM) that go directly into Lithium-ion battery gigafactories. This will make Lohum the largest direct consumer of lithium in India by 2030, by when the world is expected to consume almost 1.5 million tons of lithium carbonate annually for 4000 GWh of cell production, with more than half of this demand coming from outside China.

Rajat Verma, Founder & <u>CEO of Lohum</u> <u>Corporation, said, "Lohum's</u> <u>lithium refining leadership,</u> <u>coupled with our growing</u> <u>capabilities in value-added</u> <u>products like Cathode</u> <u>Active Materials, positions</u> <u>us as a key partner in</u> <u>building a Viksit and</u> <u>Atmanirbhar Bharat. We are</u> <u>sustainably producing</u> <u>globally competitive critical</u>



### mineral products at low CapEx and OpEx, thereby reducing India's reliance on Chinese lithium imports."

The company's lithium refining capabilities, with current recovery rates of 90%+ (the industry average is 60-70%) and purity of 99.8%+, slated to reach 99.99% shortly on the back of R&D breakthroughs.

Source : Indian Chemical

### "AI FOR ALL, ALL FOR SAFETY", GEELY AUTO UNVEILS GROUNDBREAKING INNOVATIONS FOR TECH AND SAFETY AT AUTO SHANGHAI 2025

CHANGHAI, April 23, 2025 / **J**PRNewswire/ -- Geely Auto showcased its commitment to safety technological and innovation advancements with a series of new announcements at Auto Shanghai 2025, including the launch of a new self-developed and self-produced battery brand - the Geely Golden Short Blade Battery, and the world's largest standalone safety laboratory the Geely Global Safety Center, as well as the unveiling of its technologyfocused, robust SUV prototype - the Geely Galaxy Cruiser.

The company introduced the Galaxy Cruiser, a tech-focused SUV prototype powered by cutting-edge "full-domain AI" technology. This vehicle can seamlessly switch between pure electric, hybrid, and extendedrange modes, adapting to various terrains and driving conditions in real time. It also features an AI-driven fourwheel-drive system, enabling exceptional performance in both urban and off-road environments.

The Galaxy Cruiser emphasizes safety with five innovative features: no loss of control, no self-ignition, no loss of connectivity, no collisions, and no sinking. It is equipped with a "fullpower" AI digital chassis, allowing unique capabilities

such as crab walking, onthe-spot turning, and even autonomous drifting. The vehicle also features Geely's new Golden Short Blade Battery, which uses patented bulletproof materials to prevent deformation, fire, or explosion. Additionally, the SUV includes advanced satellite connectivity and an industry-first "vehiclemounted sonar and water radar," enabling it to float on water for up to two hours at a speed of over 8.5 km/h.

Geely also announced the establishment of JiYaoTongXing, a new battery industrial group focused on advancing battery safety, energy density, and charging speed under the "Golden Short Blade Battery" brand. Furthermore, the company will open the Geely Global Safety Center, a state-of-the-art facility accessible to the entire automotive industry, to promote collaboration and progress in automotive safety. Geely is also sharing its patent for a battery pack bottom impact testing device to support the adoption of critical EV safety standards.

With these innovations, Geely Auto



reaffirmed its commitment to prioritizing safety, accessibility, and sustainability while advancing intelligent mobility solutions. By integrating AI with cutting-edge safety features, Geely is paving the way for a safer, greener, and smarter future in the automotive industry.

Source : Geely Auto





### **DRUG & PHARMA**

### JOHNSON & JOHNSON'S TAR-200 MONOTHERAPY ACHIEVES HIGH DISEASE-FREE SURVIVAL OF MORE THAN 80 PERCENT IN BCG-UNRESPONSIVE, HIGH-RISK PAPILLARY NMIBC

LAS VEGAS, April 26, 2025 / PRNewswire/ -- Johnson & Johnson (NYSE: INI) today announced first results from Cohort 4 of the Phase 2b SunRISe-1 study evaluating TAR-200an intravesical gemcitabine releasing system-for patients with certain types of bladder cancer. These first results show the promise of TAR-200 in this patient population with more than an 80 percent disease-free survival (DFS) rate without the need for reinduction and 94 percent of patients able to preserve their bladder. The high DFS and bladder preservation rate combined with the well-tolerated safety profile in these patients with Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG)-unresponsive, high-risk nonmuscle-invasive bladder cancer (HR-NMIBC) with papillary-only disease (high-grade Ta or T1) show the potential of TAR-200 as a meaningful alternative to surgery. These results were featured in Paradigm-Shifting, Practicethe Changing Clinical Trials in Urology plenary session at the 2025 American Urological Association (AUA) Annual Meeting.1

"The majority of patients remained free of cancer recurrence during this critical early study period, highlighting the potential of TAR-200 as a highly effective treatment for these patients who may have limited options beyond bladder removal," said Félix Guerrero-Ramos\*, M.D., PhD, FEBU, Head of Uro-Oncology at Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre, Madrid, Spain and presenting author. "As we continue monitoring patients through the 12month mark and beyond, our focus remains on assessing TAR-200's longterm efficacy in maintaining disease-free survival and improving outcomes for this high-risk patient population."

"Surgical removal of the bladder has long been the standard of care for suffering patients from BCGunresponsive HR-NMIBC with papillary-only disease, a life-altering procedure that drastically impacts a patient's quality of life," said Christopher Cutie, M.D., Vice President, Disease Area Leader, Bladder Cancer, Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine. "These results demonstrate that TAR-200 can be a meaningful alternative to surgery that is both effective and well-tolerated while preserving the bladder."

First results of this interim analysis from Cohort 4 of the SunRISe-1 study demonstrated 85.3 percent and 81.1 percent DFS rates at six and nine months, respectively, in patients with BCG-unresponsive, HR-NMIBC with papillary-only disease treated with TAR-200 monotherapy. These high DFS rates are particularly encouraging given the significant risk of recurrence in this population.2 Among patients with highgrade Ta and T1 disease, DFS rates remained consistently strong-85.7 percent and 84.7 percent at six months, and 82.1 percent and 79.4 percent at nine months, respectively. The strong DFS across both subtypes—despite their differing depths of invasionunderscores the potential of TAR-200 to

deliver sustained tissue penetration. Notably, 94.2 percent of patients avoided radical cystectomy at median follow-up of 12.8 months. The early progressionfree and overall survival rates of 95.6 percent and 98 percent at nine months, respectively, are reassuring as disease progression or death were highly uncommon among patients treated with TAR-200.1 While 12-month DFS data is not yet mature, these preliminary findings show that TAR-200's sustained intravesical gemcitabine delivery may potentially offer durable disease control while minimizing the need for invasive procedures. These results support continued evaluation in the ongoing Phase SunRISe-5 3 study (NCT06211764), comparing TAR-200 to chemotherapy in patients with BCGpretreated, papillary-only HR-NMIBC.

Among the 52 patients enrolled, the safety profile of TAR-200 monotherapy was consistent with prior studies, with no new safety signals observed. Most treatment-related adverse events (TRAEs) were low grade and resolved quickly, with a median duration of 3.7 weeks. Common TRAEs included dysuria (40.4 percent), pollakiuria (30.8 percent), and urgency (26.9 percent). Grade ≥3 TRAEs occurred in 13.5 percent of patients, most frequently bladder pain (3.8 percent). Three patients (5.8 percent) experienced serious TRAEs, and only four (7.7 percent) discontinued treatment due to TRAEs. No treatment-related deaths were reported.1

Bladder cancer ranks among the top ten most common cancers worldwide, affecting nearly a million people each year.3 Despite advancements, the standard of care has remained largely unchanged for over 40 years, leaving patients with limited treatment options if initial BCG therapy does not work.4 TAR-200 delivers sustained medication



directly into the bladder, offering a fresh approach to treat early-stage bladder cancer.

TAR-200 is inserted directly into the bladder by a healthcare professional in a brief outpatient procedure, without the need for anesthesia. Designed to remain in the bladder, it does not interfere with daily activities and provides sustained release of treatment throughout the day. To date, TAR-200 has been placed more than 10,000 times as part of the SunRISe clinical program.

Source : Johnson & Johnson

### SARIDON CREATES PRESTIGIOUS GUINNESS WORLD RECORD AIMED AT BUILDING AWARENESS ON PERIOD PAIN

- 81%–93% of women experience severe menstrual discomfort, including spasms
- 63% of young women report social withdrawal due to period pain
- The record reaffirms Bayer's commitment to enhancing women's health with innovative solutions

National, 09th April 2025: Saridon Woman, has set a Guinness World Record for the largest participation in a national gesture aimed at raising awareness about menstrual pain in India. The campaign, titled 'No Pain, Period', brought together over 5,000 participants from across the country, each joining in an iconic crossed-arms gesture in solidarity for women, as they experience period pain. The campaign aims to raise awareness about accessible solutions for menstrual pain, encourage open discussions on women's health, and eliminate pain, ensuring that no one has to endure it—reflecting Saridon's core mission.

Saridon Woman is an innovative firstof-its-kind period pain solution to provide holistic relief from abdominal cramps, backaches and headaches under Bayer's Consumer Health Division. This for period unique solution pain combines the effectiveness of with Paracetamol Hvoscine Butylbromide, a plant-based molecule, providing quick relief from abdominal cramps, body aches, and headaches associated with menstruation.

The campaign offers a groundbreaking moment, celebrating the power of and sparking community vital managing conversations about menstrual pain that affects millions of women every month. The crossed-arms gesture has become a symbol of support, urging individuals to stand united in the fight to deal with issues around menstrual pain and to embrace the mantra: No Pain, Period.

"We are incredibly proud of this achievement," said Sandeep Verma, Country Head of India, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka at Bayer's Consumer Health Division. "This Guinness World Record underscores the collective strength of Indians in recognizing the importance of addressing menstrual pain. The conversation around women's contribution to the economy whether it is from home or the workplace, is rightfully gaining momentum. However, we also need to talk about the challenges they face every month

while still doting on their families or acing it at their places of work. This added layer of conversation around menstrual challenges, will help us all approach woman with a greater understanding and empathy."

Ritu Mittal, Marketing Head of Bayer Consumer Health Division, added, "At Bayer, we remain deeply committed to empowering women by providing effective solutions for menstrual pain relief. The 'No Pain, Period' campaign and this Guinness World Record mark a significant step forward in breaking taboos and fostering open conversations about period pain. Together, we are paving the way for a future where women can take charge of their wellpain-free live being, and with confidence."

Ameer Ismail, President, Lintas Live, commented, "We are proud to have played a role in the 'No Pain, Period' campaign by Saridon Woman, and to h a v e brought this innovative initiative to life. Saridon Woman is a category-first brand that is reshaping the conversation around menstrual health. We recognised the need for a powerful move to help create meaningful discussions about menstrual pain. Through this strategic collaboration with Guinness World Record we have bevond gone raising awareness, challenging outdated norms, eliminating stigma, and creating lasting change in how menstrual health is understood."

The success of the 'No Pain, Period' campaign marks a significant milestone in Bayer's commitment to women's health, emphasizing the importance of accessible solutions and helping women live pain-free during their cycles.

Source : Bayer



### **CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY**

### CLARIANT & MIDREX FORTIFY PARTNERSHIP IN DRI, HELPING TO DECARBONIZE THE STEEL INDUSTRY

- MIDREX<sup>®</sup> DRI technology enables direct reduction of iron ore without melting, and emits considerably less CO2 than coal-based steel production
- Process uses MIDREX stoichiometric reformers with Clariant - manufactured REFORMEX<sup>®</sup> Catalysts
- MIDREX DRI technology avoids the emission of around one ton of CO2 per ton of crude steel

UNICH, April 22, 2025 - Clariant, **W**a sustainability-focused specialty chemical company, today announced that it has renewed its successful cooperation with Midrex and will intensify collaboration in direct reduced iron (DRI) technology for steel production. A low-carbon alternative to conventional coal-based ironmaking, natural gas-based DRI converts natural gas with recycled CO2 and H2O to generate reducing gas for the production process. The technology combines MIDREX® Reformers with Clariantmanufactured REFORMEX® Catalysts, which offer superior activity and stability to increase productivity, reduce energy consumption, and minimize carbon emissions. MIDREX DRI technology avoids around one ton of CO2 per ton of crude steel.

Georg Anfang, Vice President Syngas & Fuels at Clariant Catalysts, commented,

"Together with Midrex, we have agreed to intensify our focus on natural gasbased DRI, as it is a critical bridge technology that will greatly support the transition of the steel industry toward

net-zero production. While we collaborate on expanding and enhancing our current solution, we are also preparing and innovating for the future."

Sean Boyle, VP-Commercial at Midrex, stated, "The MIDREX Process is one of the most widely used technologies for producing all forms of DRI products, and it is wellknown for its reliability and continuous operation. Clariant's catalysts are tailor-made for our process to offer optimized and consistent performance. Our joint solution ensures the lowest CO2 emissions of any steelmaking route today."

Based in Charlotte, North Carolina, USA, Midrex is one of the world leaders in direct reduction ironmaking technology and aftermarket solutions. Midrex has designed, built, and serviced direct reduced iron (DRI) plants for 50plus years. Plants based on MIDREX Process technology produce a



process a wide range of iron oxide pellets and lump ores.

substantial part of the world's low CO2

DRI. MIDREX Plants can be configured to operate on natural gas with hydrogen

addition (MIDREX Flex®), and 100%

hydrogen (MIDREX H2<sup>™</sup>) and can

Clariant manufactured REFORMEX Catalysts, which have been used successfully for the MIDREX Process since the 1980s, demonstrating their exceptional performance and longevity. Due to the catalysts' outstanding activity and superior heat transfer properties, they enable highly productive and costefficient syngas production. Furthermore, their extreme mechanical stability and excellent coking resistance ensure a long production lifetime. **REFORMEX** Catalysts are successfully operated at around 50 maior commercial steel production plants around the globe.

Source : Press Release

BASF COATINGS SETS NEW STANDARD IN END-TO-END DIGITAL COLOR SOLUTIONS FOR BODY SHOPS WITH REFINITY®

• New ImagePLUS color feature offers highest-precision and high-speed





color identification process

- Next generation ScanR spectrophotometer offers fastest and most accurate color match
- Seamless integration with 100% automated mixing for highest efficiency

n its cloud-based platform Refinity, BASF Coatings consolidates a comprehensive suite of digital business solutions for the automotive refinish industry, ensuring body shops worldwide can embrace sustainable digitalization with confidence. With the latest launch of a new color innovation and additional features, automotive refinish customers get access to the most advanced digital color experience, as well as business and training solutions seamlessly.

Refinity leverages next-generation color technology with its scanning latest spectrophotometer ScanR. The device is the fastest and most accurate color matching solution for flawless results, ensuring precision and reliability in color measurement. ScanR takes five precise measurements in just 30 seconds and includes automatic Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) and license plate recognition, minimizing errors and saving time. It also features scratch detection and grants access to the industry's largest color database for precise color identification and perfect matching.

The newly designed ImagePLUS feature is also fully compatible with previous-generation spectrophotometers, providing body shops with maximum flexibility. It helps body shop managers and painters to speed up the color identification process with an increased intuitive high-quality visualization and accuracy. With on-screen visualized color retrieval, complex data interpretation is eliminated, while real-time comparisons reduce spray-outs and boost efficiency. Enhanced by spectral curve analysis and precise detection of effect particles and coarseness, it refines results even further, ensuring the perfect color match with minimal material waste.

### <u>"Thanks to our expertise in</u> <u>color technology and</u>

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sustainability, and developments with our OEM partners and customers, Refinity is set to enhance body shop performance in all areas. We are now able to offer a state-of-the-art cloud solution providing customers worldwide with a seamless digital color experience," says Chris Titmarsh, Senior Vice President Automotive Refinish **Coatings at BASF.** 

Driven by science and color expertise, Coatings empowers BASF manufacturers and designers to address consumer preferences with precision. Connected with the fully automated mixing machine Alfa CR4/6, the digital color process delivers unparalleled speed and precision, capable of completing up to six mixes simultaneously. This efficiency not only optimizes the workflow of the body shop, but also minimizes waste, reinforcing BASF's commitment to helping its customers reach their individual sustainability goals.

Source : BASF

### PLEXAR PX3990: A NEW HIGH-

### PERFORMANCE LLDPE TIE-LAYER

LyondellBasell (LYB), a global leader in the chemical industry, is excited to announce the addition of a new highperformance LLDPE tie-layer to the Plexar portfolio, Plexar PX3990, that excels in film orientation applications. This innovative tie-layer represents an additional high-performance solution in the LYB comprehensive tie-layer product line.

Plexar PX3990 exhibits outstanding processability and adhesion after machine direction orientation (MDO) and further promotes the sustainability of MDO film by allowing downgauging compared to non-orientated films. While excelling in shrink film, Plexar PX3990 can also be a viable solution for many demanding applications in the oxygen barrier co-extrusion film market.

"Plexar PX3990 exemplifies the leadership of LYB in the tie-layer market by creating a product with improved performance to provide solutions to meet customers' needs," said Natalie Nichols, senior director of specialties and performance products at LYB.

Developed in cooperation with MSI Technology, Plexar PX3990 has the support of leading experts in coextrusion who have a deep understanding of the applications and markets. Utilizing our shared resources and experience, LYB and MSI Technology are able to meet the everchanging demands and opportunities of the co-extrusion markets.

This product is currently available globally in a variety of packaging types. To learn more about this new highperformance product, please reach out to MSI Technology via their contact information below.

Source : LyondellBasell





### DUPONT JOINS INTERNATIONAL SIGNAGE ASSOCIATION AND FEATURES OVERLAMINATE INNOVATIONS AT ISA EXPO IN LAS VEGAS

WILMINGTON, Del., April 21, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- DuPont will showcase its Tedlar® film solutions at the International Signage Association (ISA) Expo in Las Vegas from April 23 to 25. As part of its ongoing commitment to advancing more durable and sustainable solutions for the graphics and signage industry, DuPont<sup>™</sup> Tedlar<sup>®</sup> officially joined the International Signage Association in 2025. Visit Booth #1813, where DuPont will feature a range of protective overlaminate films designed to safeguard graphics against fading, graffiti, harsh cleaners, dirt and grime build-up, and mold and mildew growth.

Tedlar<sup>®</sup> has served the graphics industry for decades, offering a range of clear film solutions that are compatible with a wide range of adhesives, inks, and laminate materials. DuPont<sup>™</sup> Tedlar<sup>®</sup> will feature multiple film types that offer a range of extended lifespans in even the most demanding outdoor environments, from 12 to more than 20 years, depending on the requirements of the application. Additionally, Tedlar<sup>®</sup> PVF films can offer high levels of conformability for use in vehicle wraps, embossed products, and more. Ideal for both indoor and outdoor graphic applications, Tedlar<sup>®</sup>:

• Can easily be cleaned of graffiti and

### **NEW PRODUCTS**

staining, and stands up to any harsh cleaner without damaging the graphic print beneath the film, ensuring branding looks brand new for its entire lifetime

- Resists fading from UV light, is dirtshedding and resists mold and mildew growth: maintaining a fresh look without effort, wherever it is used
- Is a non-PFAS material, and is safe and easy to use with a wide range of substrates and adhesive systems

DuPont<sup>™</sup> Tedlar<sup>®</sup> will be collaborating with long-time customer General Formulations (Booth #1937) at the ISA Expo, featuring jointly developed innovative anti-graffiti products as well as engaging challenges and prizewinning games between the two booth locations.

"The DuPont team is excited to be at the ISA Expo as a new member and to take this opportunity to better connect with the signage industry," said Corynn Sheridan, Global Marketing Director, DuPont<sup>™</sup> Tedlar<sup>®</sup>. "Tedlar<sup>®</sup> brings such a great sustainability story to the market by truly offering lifetime protection for graphics from damage even when there is pollution, graffiti, and other

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### challenges, reducing waste and need for replacements."

"With the exceptional long-term UV durability of Tedlar<sup>®</sup>, our GF 108 antigraffiti laminate stands out as a topperforming solution in our product line," said Matt Edwards, VP of Product Management at General Formulations. "This partnership with DuPont allows us to continue to bring durable and highperforming solutions to the market to meet a range of customer needs."

Visitors to the ISA Expo 2025 will have the opportunity to witness the impressive stain-resistant performance of Tedlar<sup>®</sup> film versus alternative laminates in action and can try tagging and cleaning the film for themselves at Booth #1813. With decades of proven performance in signage, aerospace, building & construction, automotive, and other applications, Tedlar<sup>®</sup> remains committed to bringing best-in-class protective solutions to the market.

Source : DuPont

AKZONOBEL LAUNCHES HYPERDURABLE STONE EFFECT D3000 POWDER COATINGS TO WITHSTAND THE MOST CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENTS FOR LONGER

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 17, 2025 / PRNewswire/ -- The successful launch of the superdurable Interpon D2000 Stone Effect powder coating for architects and designers in the North American market has been followed by the announcement of a new, hyperdurable D3000 variant to withstand the most challenging of all climates and applications over the longer term.

The Interpon D3000 Stone Effect collection gives aluminum surfaces the beautiful natural look and texture of stone without any of the inconvenience or cost associated with using the actual material. With stone effect finishes remaining much in demand in North America, architects are constantly striving to find ways of achieving the look and quality of stone but in a more sustainable and cost-effective way and without any of the issues related to sourcing, transporting, installing and maintaining the real thing.

Using an Interpon D Stone Effect powder coating removes all of these challenges and brings a number of further benefits. Natural stone erodes over time and needs constant repair; an Interpon powder coating protects aluminum surfaces over the long term.

The newly launched Interpon D3000 Stone Effect range also meets the stringent performance requirements of AAMA 2605, offering a 30-year integrity and 20-year decorative warranty on the coating performance when applied by an Interpon Approved Applicator.

Baron Schreuder, Regional Commercial Director for Powder Coatings North America at AkzoNobel, is excited to give customers in the region even greater choice of Stone Effect powder coatings with a new hyperdurable variant: "Our locally manufactured powder coatings offer a reliable and in many cases better alternative to traditional liquid finishes, helping tackle both costs and safety concerns for high-rise metal components while achieving the rich look of natural stone.

"This hyperdurable version of the Interpon D Stone Effect gives designers the opportunity to move beyond the status quo, creating buildings with surfaces that are protected for longer, are more sustainable, and meet the AAMA 2605 specifications."

As a powder coating, Interpon D3000 Stone Effect is free of any Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and any overspray can be captured and reused, thus helping to support a company's sustainability agenda. It is also backed by an Environmental Product Declaration (EPD), which means the raw materials, manufacture and transportation associated with creating the product have been assessed by an independent third-party for transparent sustainability credentials.

Source : AkzoNobel Coatings, Inc.

### TRINSEO LAUNCHES HIGH PERFORMANCE SOLUTION FOR FLEXIBLE FLOORING

### ADHESIVES

Trinseo, a specialty materials L solutions provider, announced the launch of LIGOS A 9210, an all-acrylic latex binder for flexible flooring adhesives. This latest addition to Trinseo's expansive portfolio of coatings, adhesives, sealants, and elastomers (CASE) solutions reinforces the company's commitment to delivering high-performance materials that meet evolving industry demands.

LIGOS A 9210 is engineered for demanding flooring applications. It offers excellent 90° peel strength at room temperature, maintaining performance even after long-term aging at 50°C, thanks to its strong resistance to plasticizer migration. It also minimizes dimensional changes within flooring layers, enhancing long-term durability. With rapid adhesion build-up, it allows flooring installations to be ready for use more quickly, especially Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT) systems.

"With LIGOS A 9210, we're delivering a high-performance binder designed to meet the needs of the flooring industry," said Giona Kilcher, CASE Global Business Director, Latex Binders at Trinseo. "It superior adhesion, plasticizer migration resistance and dimensional stability provide manufacturers with a durable and reliable solution for modern flooring applications, helping to enhance both performance and efficiency."

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Source : Indian Chemical

### **MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS**

### DUNN-EDWARDS COLLABORATES WITH CELANESE TO BRING CARBON CAPTURE AND UTILIZATION-BASED PAINT TO THE U.S.

OS ANGELES, April 22, 2025 / PRNewswire/ -- Today, Dunn-Edwards Corporation has announced a cooperation with Celanese Corporation (NYSE: CE), a global chemical and specialty company, materials to minimize impacts on greenhouse emissions through the implementation of Carbon Capture and Utilization (CCU) technology. New to the U.S. market, this process carves a pathway for sustainable architectural coatings by producing architectural paints with ingredients manufactured from carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions captured from industrial processes using CCU technology.

### "Carbon Capture and Utilization can improve the sustainability of a range of essential chemistries by reducing the carbon footprint of the binder and creating circular options for waste CO2," said Kevin Norfleet, Global Sustainability Director at Celanese. "Working with

### Dunn-Edwards to launch CCU in architectural coatings brings an improved choice for U.S. consumers."

Celanese uses CCU technology at its Clear Lake, Texas facility to capture industrial CO2 emissions and create a chemical building block that makes up a key part of vinyl acetate-based emulsions – an integral component in the production of architectural paints. The resulting paint products offer a lower carbon footprint and contribute to a more sustainable building envelope. CCU and fossil-fuel based feedstocks are commingled but accurately tracked through mass-balance accounting.

Using CCU resin technology in Dunn-Edwards manufactured paints is projected to utilize over 2 million pounds of captured CO2 annually. According to the U.S. EPA Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator, this is approximately equivalent to what over 800 acres of forest can consume in CO2 in a year.

"Now more than ever, we're committed providing professionals to and consumers with products that excel in both performance and sustainability, and this collaboration is an exciting step in furthering that priority," said Tim Bosveld, VP of Product Management at Dunn-Edwards. "We're honored to be architectural coatings the first manufacturer in the U.S. to implement Celanese's innovations and see it as a significant step forward in the pursuit of a more sustainable industry."

By embracing innovative technologies, Dunn-Edwards is working to provide professionals and consumers with products that utilize CCU technology, which aligns with the company's greener by design<sup>®</sup> commitment of minimizing adverse impacts on material resources and environmental quality while maintaining the same levels of performance and quality customers expect in coatings.

To learn more about Dunn-Edwards greener by design commitment and advancements, including the implementation of CCU technologies from Celanese, please visit dunnedwards.com/environment.

Source : Dunn-Edwards Corporation

### AMBERCYCLE AND HIGHSUN FORM STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP TO ADVANCE CIRCULAR SOLUTIONS FOR SYNTHETIC MATERIALS

LOS ANGELES and FUZHOU, China, April 23, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- Ambercycle, a leader in circular materials, and Highsun Holding Group (HSCC), a global manufacturing leader, announced that they have entered into a strategic cooperation agreement. The collaboration will focus on scaling textile-to-textile (T2T) closed-loop recycling establishing systems, innovative solutions across the entire industry value chain, and jointly promoting the transformation and upgrading of the global textile value chain



As core strategic partners, Ambercycle and HSCC will accelerate the industry's transition to a circular economy through ioint recvcling fiber market development, end-of-life textile feedstock sourcing, joint engineering collaboration, new material production and the promotion of quality and standards industry for circular materials.

"At HSCC, we are committed to leading the future of sustainable materials by incorporating cuttingedge recycling technologies into our production processes," said Mei Zhen, vice president of HSCC. "Through this partnership with Ambercycle, we are accelerating the adoption of recycled materials, helping to reduce dependency on virgin resources and drive meaningful change in the industry."

HSCC, recognized as a leader in the polymer and yarn production space, has an advanced technology R&D center in the Netherlands and scales globally from its base in China. By replacing virgin polyester and nylon with textile-totextile recycled materials, this collaboration aims to redefine how synthetics are produced—minimizing waste, reducing carbon emissions, and creating a more decarbonized supply chain.

"We are glad to announce our partnership with HSCC, as it represents the new era for circularity," said Shay Sethi, Co-founder and CEO of Ambercycle. "Scaling textile-to-textile solutions requires deep partnerships, innovation, and development of the global apparel value chain to work in harmony with the planet. By partnering with HSCC, we're establishing a foundational partnership for circular systems to work at scale. This is how we turn circularity from an industry-wide ambition into a global reality." With HSCC's resource advantages in the global industry chain and Ambercycle's professional experience in the field of recycled materials, the two companies aim to establish industry-wide standards for circularity, ensuring that regenerated synthetics are traceable. highperformance, and scalable. Bv leveraging economies of scale and shared innovation, the partnership will promote the production of textile recycled materials to realize a truly closed loop, and help build a more sustainable future for the global textile and apparel industry.

Source : Ambercycle

### SIMOLDES PLASTICS AND ELIX POLYMERS COOPERATING TO USE RECYCLED MATERIALS FOR INTERIOR APPLICATIONS OF PREMIUM VEHICLES

Tarragona, April 29, 2025 - Simoldes Plastics, a leading Tier 1 supplier in the Automotive Industry and ELIX Polymers are working together to get more sustainable recycled materials into new, high demanding interior applications of premium vehicles.

Both companies have set ambitious sustainability targets and are actively working in several circular economy projects. The goal of Simoldes BOOST project during pre-development phase is to increase the usage of renewable materials by 40% during the development phase of their products, focusing on materials with mechanical

recycled content and encouraging all suppliers to participate and develop their sustainability programs. This is where ELIX Polymers high quality Eproducts with mechanical LOOP recycled content are a perfect match, and a technical validation process has been done with the materials PC/ABS E-LOOP 5120MR, which has 30% postconsumer recyclate originated from water bottles waste. The technical mechanical, validation included thermal, processability, odour and emission performance against the stringent requirements for automotive interior non-visible safety product. Cooperation brought the new mindset avoiding over-engineered materials into the real application. The product has shown equivalent properties compared to the traditional prime materials, but the material carbon footprint can be reduced up to a 40%. High demanding upper interior pillars (case study at "A") with airbag have been injected in a unique lower injection process supported by high quality injection molds from Simoldes Tools to produce textile covered parts and all component requirements have been fulfilled. Also, visible decorative parts for door panels with class A surfaces have been part of the evaluation program. The parts have shown during Plastic been in Automotive Engineering (Mannheim) conference in March 2025 and also presented to premium Automotive OEMs where high interest have been generated. Mold-flow is available for material and also completes tests results according to pre-development product validation plan.

ELIX Polymers more sustainable E-LOOP product portfolio includes ABS and PC/ABS blends with mechanical recycled content and products with certified raw materials which have circular and biobased feedstocks certified with ISCC+ using mass balance model.



Source : Press Releae

### **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### B.I.G. YARNS STRENGTHENS EUROPEAN MARKET POSITION WITH MAJOR INVESTMENT IN STATE-OF-THE-ART YARN PRODUCTION

Waregem, Belgium – April 28, 2025 – B.I.G. Yarns, a leading designer and manufacturer of polyamide (PA), polypropylene (PP), and polyester (PET) yarns for commercial, carpet automotive, residential, and technical applications, is proud to announce a significant investment of €25 million in its French yarn production site. This investment reinforces its commitment to innovation, sustainability, and European manufacturing. It includes the installation of cutting-edge BCF lines, enhancing B.I.G. Yarns' leadership in one-step 3-ply yarns and further solidifying its position as a key player in the global market.

B.I.G. Yarns focuses on the development and production of 1-step 3-ply yarns using the latest technology to meet the need for flexibility and broader design possibilities in the carpet tile segment. The newly developed machine park represents a crucial step in B.I.G. Yarns' growth strategy, ensuring a more energy-efficient, faster, and more flexible production system. By enabling smaller batch sizes and more adaptable production runs, B.I.G. Yarns will provide its contract customers with a highly competitive and sustainable product offering.

B.I.G. Yarns' advanced yarn technology increases design, contrast, and color freedom for carpet tile manufacturers while improving flexibility and service level. "At B.I.G. Yarns, we believe in the power of innovation and operation expertise to offer our customers best in solutions," class said Emmanuel Colchen, General Manager at B.I.G. Yarns. "This investment underscores our long-term commitment to the European market and our ability to deliver superior and sustainable yarn solutions that meet the evolving needs of our customers."

By continuing to also invest in Europe, B.I.G. Yarns is making a strong statement about its dedication to local entrenchment in a highly competitive industry. While market pressure continues to grow from manufacturers in the Middle East and Asia, B.I.G. Yarns leverages its strategic location in Europe—within 500 km of its most important customers—to ensure faster delivery, closer collaboration, and an unparalleled service level.

This bold step not only strengthens B.I.G. Yarns' market leadership in 1-step 3-ply yarns but also highlights its vision for a more sustainable and innovative future in yarn production.

## An invitation to discover the endless possibilities of our sustainable yarns

The B.I.G. Yarns team is looking forward to meeting you at the upcoming Clerkenwell Design Week 2025 from May 20 to 22 in London and discovering the endless possibilities of our sustainable yarns firsthand. Discover our latest innovations in design, color and contrast, and see how our advanced 1-step 3-layer yarns can enhance your carpet tile creations.

Join us and show your commitment to flexibility, sustainability and advanced technology - let's shape the future of carpet design together.

Source : Press Release

### WACKER SHOWCASES BINDER TECHNOLOGY FOR NONWOVEN PRODUCTS AND SOLUTIONS AT IDEA2025

ANN ARBOR, Mich., April 28, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- Wacker Chemical Corporation presents binder technology for feminine hygiene, wipes, tabletop, and filtration at the IDEA 2025 tradeshow in Miami Beach, Florida, from April 29 to May 1, 2025.

"IDEA25 is an exciting venue to showcase our proactive approach in adapting to changing markets and transforming ideas into innovations. We aim to deliver a threefold advantage to our customers: expert people, unique products, and global technical centers," said Diane Merzbach, marketing manager for WACKER POLYMERS. "We look forward to highlighting products that support hygiene and filtration applications with high absorbency, breathability, and strength for rigorous use."

## Feminine hygiene: Improving comfort and effectiveness

Feminine hygiene nonwovens are specially designed materials for personal



care, enhancing comfort and functionality. Wacker's VINNAPAS<sup>®</sup> binders provide excellent adhesion to cellulosic fibers and durability even in moist conditions. With a soft hand feel, they ensure superior comfort, are gentle on the skin, and minimize irritation risks. These features make VINNAPAS<sup>®</sup> binders essential for high-quality personal care products.

## Versatile wipes: benefits of dry, wet, and industrial wipes

Wipes, both dry and wet, are vital in personal and professional settings. Wacker's VINNAPAS<sup>®</sup> binder solutions ensure a soft hand feel for comfort and ease of use. Their ability to absorb lotions makes them ideal for skincare in personal wipes, while safety for skin contact ensures they are suitable for sensitive skin. Wacker's VINNAPAS<sup>®</sup> binders offer reliable, versatile solutions for any wipe application, emphasizing comfort and safety.

### Multifaceted tabletop nonwovens enhance the dining experience

Tabletop nonwovens are innovative materials for dining and hospitality, providing functional and aesthetic benefits. Wacker's VINNAPAS\* dispersions mimic cotton's comfort, enhancing dining experiences and offering excellent printability for vibrant branding. The binders can be hydrophilic or hydrophobic, ensuring moisture management and compliance with food-contact safety regulations. VINNAPAS<sup>®</sup> binders also provide water resistance and elegant drapability, maintaining a neat appearance on tables.

Advanced nonwoven solutions: Enhancing filtration efficiency with VINNAPAS<sup>®</sup> and VINNOL<sup>®</sup> dispersions

Nonwovens are ideal for filtration due to their engineering for specific porosity and flow rates. VINNAPAS<sup>®</sup> and VINNOL<sup>®</sup> dispersions improve performance in filter media. VINNAPAS® VAE dispersions enhance fiber bonding for advanced paper and engineered fabric media, while VINNOL<sup>®</sup> dispersions improve heat and welding capabilities, sealing broadening applicability in filtration This engineering solutions. and advanced binding position nonwoven effectively for the filtration market demands. WACKER's technical team offers industry-leading support and regulatory/application assistance.

Source : Wacker Chemical Corporation

### AESON POWER SHOWCASES INNOVATIVE SODIUM BATTERY TECHNOLOGY AT EES EUROPE 2025

May 7, UNICH, 2025 MPRNewswire/ -- At EES Europe 2025, one of the leading events for the energy storage industry, Aeson Power debuted its sodium products including the SIBPOM-4850 for telecommunications, the SIBPOM-12100 for UPS, the SIBPOM-125kWh energy storage cabinet for C&I-scale, and the NaForce and NaPulse for passenger cars.

Aeson Power's sodium products utilize NFPP polyanionic technology battery cells. The products feature intrinsic safety (capacity can be fully restored after discharging to zero volts), excellent high-temperature resistance (cells operate normally at 60 C), superior rate performance, high charge-discharge efficiency (RTE easily exceeds 95%), and long life (over 15,000 cycles).

For the C&I energy storage, Aeson Power launched sodium product SIBPOM-125kWh energy storage cabinet with safety, intelligence, wide temperature range, and high energy density, and has passed strict third-party tests based on lithium battery standards such as IEC 62619 and IEC 62933.

For the vehicle, Aeson Power introduced two series of sodium-ion batteries — the NaForce following European standards (EU) and NaPulse following Japanese standards (JIS) — each of which includes both a start-stop option and a starting option and provides instant starting at extreme temperatures, fast charging, light weight design and long service life, especially the start-stop batteries, which have a deep cycle capacity of 180,000. They are suitable for passenger cars and the best alternative to AGM and MF batteries.

Along with the sodium product, Aeson Power also displayed the lithium battery energy storage products - a 261kWh C&I energy storage cabinet and a 5MWh containerized energy storage system certified to IEC standards by TÜV SÜD and French BV and the bipolar lead-acid battery - TRE, TUS, TSS, THS series with excellent PSoC cycling, better cranking performance, and high power output.

Aeson Power's general manager Shirley Zhang stated, "Our bipolar lead-acid batteries are globally unique in low temperature of -40C performance, with wide market adoption. Now, our sodium-ion batteries will also achieve breakthroughs. The safety of sodium battery technology is a critical foundation for future applications. Aeson Power will keep focusing R&D resources on sodium technology."

Source : Aeson Power


## **NEWS ROUND UP**

#### Continued from Pg 22

follow strict rules and quality standards set by top health authorities like the US FDA(USA), EMA (Europe), and MHRA(UK). These approvals ensure that Indian medicines are safe, effective and reliable. Due to this, Indian companies are now able to sell their medicines to international markets and this helps them to grow in their exports.

India now has the largest number of medicine factories that are approved by the US FDA outside the USA.

India is now called the "Pharmacy of the World" because the country is now equipped with manufacturing abilities to make high-quality medicines at much lower prices than other countries. This means that countries across the globe especially the poorer ones and developing ones can also afford to buy essential medicines from India. Even the rich countries import from India because it saves them money.

India has created a diverse product basket and the exports include generic drugs, vaccines, biosimilars and active pharmaceutical ingredients (API)

India is now supplying over 50% of Africa's generic drug needs and 40% of generic demand in the US!

Notable schemes that are backing India's vision:

#### PLI scheme for bulk drugs:

The PLI scheme is a government initiative and this is encouraging companies to produce key drug ingredients instead of importing them from other countries. The government also provides financial rewards to the companies based on how much the companies produce medicines on this basis. PLI scheme has achieved success beyond expectation and is progressing with great strength. The a government originally expected companies to invest only INR 3,938.57 crore under the scheme, however by December 2024. companies invested more! - a total of INR 4253.92 crore. Therefore the scheme is attracting more business interests than expected.

## Bulk drug Parks scheme:

The promotion of the Bulk Drug Parks scheme started in March 2020 and is a government plan to help India make its raw materials for medicines. Instead of relying on imports, especially from China, the idea is to build special parks or zones with world-class infrastructure that includes water treatment, power, testing labs, storage, safety systems and much more all in one place and help the companies set up their factories effortlessly while cutting down the costs, and focus on making high-quality products.

The government will give up to INR 1000 crore per park which is about 70% of the cost as a financial help. For the northeast and hilly states, the government is expected to cover up to 90% of the cost and the total budget for the scheme is INR 3000 crore.

The scheme is closely linked to India's goal to become self-reliant – Atmanirbhar Bhart in the Pharma sector. Less dependence on imports, especially imports of many key ingredients from China, with these





Supports pharma manufacturing- which reduces raw material costs, and final medicines become much cheaper. This also boosts exports due to better cost control and quality. Overall India can export more medicines globally.

#### Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya JanaushadhiPariyojana (PMBJP):

The Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya JanaushadhiPariyojana is a government initiative that aims to provide highquality, generic medicines at affordable prices to people across India. The idea is to ensure that no resident of India has been denied treatment just because they can't afford costly branded medicines. One of the major aspects of the program is spreading awareness about generic drugs. This aspect breaks the myth of people about expensive drugs, that only the expensive and branded medicines are more effective. The PMBJP helps the public by educating them about the generic drugs are equally effective yet much more affordable. This also works





with doctors, especially in government hospitals, thereby encouraging them to prescribe these cost-effective alternatives to patients.

The scheme also focuses on making medicines easily available, even in remote and underserved areas.

The scheme has significantly helped in reducing out-of-pocket healthcare expenses for low-income and middleincome families, thereby making healthcare more equitable and accessible. It also supports the larger mission of universal health coverage.

Strengthening of pharmaceuticals industry: SPI scheme:

The SPI scheme is a central government scheme that has been launched to improve the overall capacity and competitiveness of the Indian pharma sector. The scheme runs from 2021-2022 to 2025-2026 with a budget of INR 500 crore. This SPI scheme focuses on upgrading infrastructure, providing financial support smaller to manufacturers, and improving quality control systems. This is crucial because the Indian pharmaceutical industry plays a significant role in domestic and global medicine supply.

#### Take away:

Indian pharmaceutical and medical device sectors are transforming rapidly

and they are driven by strong policy framework, innovation, and government's commitment to health equity. Initiatives like PMBJP have made affordable medicines a reality for common people and residents of India. On the other hand, schemes like PLI, and Bulk Drug Parks are reducing the import dependencies too, which are also enhancing manufacturing capacity. India continues to scale up its capabilities and exports, it not only serves domestic health needs but also strengthens its position as a trusted global supplier of medicines and medical technologies. The journey ahead is promising and expected to have greater access, affordability, and global impact.

## Clariant's new Aristoflex™ SUN for elevated suncare formulations

- New advanced rheology modifier stabilizes UV filters for long-lasting formulation integrity
- Aristoflex SUN enhances SPF performance for optimized sun care formulations
- Delivers luxurious textures with elegant skin feel

MUTTENZ, April 23, 2025 - Global specialty chemicals company, Clariant, has unveiled its new, advanced rheology modifier that tackles sunscreen formulation challenges by combining superior stability, SPF performance and luxurious sensory appeal.

The launch aligns with the growing "Skinification of sun care" (or daily sun care) trend, where SPF is increasingly integrated into daily cosmetic products, reflecting consumer demand for multifunctional skincare solutions that combine UV protection with diverse skin care benefits. Designed for sun protection products and daily UV protection, Aristoflex SUN (INCI: Ammonium Acryloyldimethyltaurate/Beheneth-25 Methacrylate Crosspolymer (and) Sodium Polyacryloyldimethyl Taurate) stabilizes UV filters while enabling light, fresh textures. This new rheology modifier addresses the rising demand for lightweight textures in daily SPF products.

"With the growing trend toward multi-functional skincare products, Aristoflex SUN helps formulators elevate sun care solutions with superior stability, SPF performance and sensory appeal," said Sophia Kim, Global



Marketing Manager Skin Care at Clariant. "As experts in rheology modifier technology, we deliver





solutions that meet the market's need for highperformance, protective

#### products."

The cold-processable Aristoflex SUN offers formulators the convenience of a

pre-neutralized polymer that excels in thickening and texturizing while ensuring optimal UV filter stability. Source : Clariant

## Archroma presents low impact, durable, and longlasting garment solutions at China Interdye 2025

Pratteln, Switzerland, April 14, 2025 -Archroma, a global leader in specialty chemicals towards sustainable solutions. will highlight its groundbreaking solutions for textile and fashion brands at this year's China Interdye. Archroma's showcase will emphasize its High IQ® Lasting Color assurance program and the PHOBOTEX<sup>®</sup> range of durable waterrepellent finishes, underscoring the company's dedication to providing low impact, durable, and long-lasting garment solutions.

As the largest specialized exhibition for textile dyes and chemicals, China Interdye 2025 offers a key platform for Archroma to present its latest advancements. This year's focus is on innovative solutions that help brands achieve not only their sustainability goals but also meet the demand increasing for high-performance, longlasting products in the textile and fashion industries.

<u>"China continues to play a</u> <u>pivotal role in global textile</u> <u>production, with increasing</u> <u>demand for lower impact</u> <u>and high performance</u> <u>solutions," said Christine</u> <u>Cai, Vice President of North</u> <u>Asia, Archroma Textile</u> Effects. "We are excited to bring our High IQ® Lasting Color and PHOBOTEX® solutions to China Interdye, enabling brands to deliver garments that combine outstanding functionality, durability, and sustainability."



#### colors and long-lasting garments

Archroma is evolving its wellestablished High IQ® performance assurance program to include its most innovative and sustainable intelligent textile effects. The updated program, which features refreshed hangtags and labels, will help mills and brands deliver performance, protection and comfort meeting rigorous while industry standards.



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As the first High IQ<sup>®</sup> program to be reintroduced, High IQ® Lasting Color Archroma's incorporates most innovative color-retention technologies to ensure that garments stay looking new for longer-with bright shades that retain their intensity and dark shades that stay dark. Powered by specially **AVITERA®** selected SE and NOVACRON<sup>®</sup> dyes, High IQ<sup>®</sup> Lasting Color also helps mills and brands reduce their environmental footprint by using up to 50% less water and energy in processing.

#### PHOBOTEX<sup>®</sup> Range: Durable Water Repellency

Another highlight of Archroma's showcase at China Interdye will be the PHOBOTEX<sup>®</sup> range of durable waterrepellent (DWR) finishes. With over a decade of innovation in fluorine-free "C0" technologies, PHOBOTEX<sup>®</sup> is at the forefront of the shift toward non-PFC DWR solutions. These advanced technologies provide long-lasting

protection and comfort, incorporating renewable raw materials for a more sustainable approach.

Designed to meet current and future industry standards, the PHOBOTEX<sup>®</sup> range includes fluorine-free hydro polymers and bio-based options. It is easy to apply to any substrate, offering solutions for a variety of end uses. From everyday stain protection without compromising fabric feel, to extreme environment defenses, PHOBOTEX<sup>®</sup> ensures versatility. Additionally, it enhances mill productivity with excellent runnability, enabling faster, trouble-free production and consistent results.

Archroma's Commitment to Sustainability

Archroma continues to lead the way by offering solutions that tackle the

industry's most pressing challenges. From conversing energy and water savings to reducing harmful chemicals and advancing circularity, Archroma's innovations help brands achieve both their economic and environmental objectives.

"With the growing consumer demand for sustainable, long-lasting products, it's critical for textile manufacturers to prioritize solutions that deliver high performance while supporting a healthier planet," Christine said. "Archroma is proud to be part of this transformation by providing products that keep textiles vibrant, durable, and sustainable throughout their life cycle."

Source : Press Release

## Lanka Cosmetic and Healthcare Manufacturers Association LCHMA extends its support to Cosmetics Ingredients Expo

hennai, 24April 2025:Cosmetics Ingredients Expo, organized by Future Market Events, will take place on August 1–2 at Chennai Trade Centre, Tamil Nadu, marking a milestone for South Asia's beauty and personal care industry. This year's expo is poised to be even bigger and better than the previous edition, building on the remarkable success of last year's event. It's an essential opportunity for professionals in Cosmetics, Beauty, Ayurveda, NutraceuticalsandHomecare industries bringing manufacturers, suppliers, or developers-to discover new opportunities, innovations, and trends.

In а significant step towards international collaboration, the expo has garnered official support from Lanka Cosmetic & Healthcare Manufacturers' Association. Sri Lanka's leading cosmetics industry body. Mr. Pradeep Mapalagama, President of LCHMA, along with senior members of the association, will attend both days of the highlighting the growing event, partnership between the Indian and Sri Lankan cosmetics sectors. Additionally, the expo is co-located with the Homecare Ingredients &Cospack International Expo, providing a unique platform that connects the beauty and homecare supply chains under one roof.



The show is expected to attract over 5500 buyers from India and international markets, including formulators, R&D professionals, product developers, brand owners—from startups to renowned brands—regulatory experts, sourcing heads, and other related sectors.

Mr. Anuj Mathur, Managing Director of Future Market Events, expressed enthusiasm about the partnership, stating: "We're honored to welcome Mr. Pradeep and Lanka <u>Cosmetic & Healthcare</u> <u>Manufacturers'</u> <u>Association to our show.Sri</u> <u>Lanka's beauty market is</u> growing rapidly, and we see immense potential for our exhibitors to tap into this space and build longlasting trade relationships." <u>He also emphasized the</u>





strategic importance of the location: "Chennai is not only logistically convenient for Sri Lanka and other neighboring countries, but also shares deep cultural and commercial ties, making it an ideal hub for regional industry convergence."

One event many highlights

First and foremost, the conference will bring together leading experts, formulators, and sourcing professionals for a comprehensive program of keynote presentations, panel discussions, and technical seminars on emerging trends and best practices in cosmetics development. In addition to the rich educational agenda:

**Innovation Zone:** A dedicated, highvisibility area designed for companies to showcase their latest product launches, ingredient innovations, and R&D breakthroughs. This feature attracts serious buyers actively seeking cuttingedge technologies and novel formulations. **Cosmetics Ingredients Awards 2025:** The prestigious awards aim to recognize and celebrate excellence and innovation in the industry. Winners and finalists will gain industry-wide recognition, extensive media coverage, and enhanced credibility among top formulators and sourcing leads.

With the support of Lanka Cosmetic & Healthcare Manufacturers' Association(LCHMA), innovative features like the Innovation Zone and Cosmetics Ingredients Awards 2025, and a strong regional focus, Cosmetics Ingredients Expo 2025 is set to be South Asia's premier platform for ingredient innovation, sourcing, and networking.

Source : Press Release

## Rare Earth Elements Crisis Understanding Chinas Role and the U S Response

Vinodhini Harish

Introduction:

R are earth elements are indispensable to the modern world despite being

used in small quantities in advanced technologies. They are powering everything from electric vehicles and smartphones to advanced military systems. China has recently decided to limit their export of these critical minerals which seems to be the direct response to U.S tariffs. These China restrictions have sent shockwaves through global China's markets, move threatens to disrupt the supply chains, inflate prices

and challenge the strategic planning of industries across the globe. In this article, we have explored the news and its implications—covered statements from US companies and how they are affected. Let's begin! What rare earth export restrictions has China put in place?

China has recently imposed export restrictions on several rare earth elements in response to tariffs enacted



by President Donald Trump. The limits are creating an impact on the industries that rely on these materials, such as the automotive, and defense sectors. Especially these restrictions are disrupting supply chains and raising concerns over the availability of critical components.

On April 4, 2025, China announced export restrictions on several critical rare earth elements like Samarium,

> Gadolinium. terbium. dysprosium, lutetium, scandium and yttrium. This act is named as "Precision strike" which is set against US supply chains and was introduced as countermeasure to President Donald Trump's tariff policy. require These measures exporters to obtain special licenses and this process takes several weeks or even months, effectively stalling shipments.

The export restrictions have caused a significant decrease in rare earth exports in the US and reports showed that there was a 52% drop year-over-year in the first quarter of 2025. The decline highlights the immediate impact of the





restrictions on the global supply chain. China also put pressure on allied nations like South Korea, not to export products containing Chinese rare earth minerals to US defense firms. This move indicates China's efforts to extend its influence over the global supply chain of these critical materials.

#### How big is the news?

The news is creating shock waves through global markets due to China's dominant position in the industry. The country is responsible for about 70% of global rare earth mining and has control over 85% of processing capacity. Considering this level of dominance in the market, any slight disruption from China can significant impact on the global supply chain, which causes uncertainty and potential shortages for the industries that heavily rely on these critical materials.

Furthermore, the timing of the restrictions is more concerning. The US Department of Energy has identified rare earth elements are playing a significant role in their national security, energy independence, environmental future and economic growth, therefore the demand for these critical minerals across varied industries is growing immensely. These rare earth elements possess unique properties such as magnetism, luminescence, and strength that make them indispensable in many applications, especially in defence applications such as laser detection systems, satellite communications, missile control systems, and advanced jet aircraft engines using yttrium thermal coatings.

Mark A. Smith is the CEO and Executive Chairman of NioCorp Developments Ltd., a U.S.-based company focused on developing critical minerals, including niobium, scandium, titanium, and rare earth elements. Commented on China's powerful move. He stated that this is not just a trade issue but a national security threat and he also highlighted that China's move is not random, but it targets a critical vulnerability in US defense logistics. He also highlighted the fact that rare earth elements are "Bottleneck elements" – the materials don't have easy or quick substitutes. Therefore their scarcity and limited global sources make choke points in supply chains, especially in defense applications.

Consider the impact on the US companies:

Tariffs are certainly making rare earth minerals more expensive and harder to get. For instance, MP Materials is the only company in the US that mines rare earth they own a Mountain Pass mine in California and they send the raw minerals to China for processing. However now, because China has • imposed stringent exports and added very high tariffs (125%) on US imports, MP Materials said it will not send ore to China anymore. They have decided to process about half of what it mines at its site in California and store the rest until it can build more of its processing facilities. MP materials believe there is • no point and it doesn't make sense to sell minerals under such high tariffs and doing so goes against America's economic and national interest.

China has most of the world's supply and processing of rare earths, in that situation when it restricts exports and adds big tariffs, the global buyers are left with fewer options. This has reduced the supply and driving up the prices. For instance, The price of Terbium which is utilized in high-heat magnets went up by 24% in just one month. Therefore companies are facing restrictions and tension, as they must either pay more or delay production if they can't get the minerals they need.

What about the current stockpiles? Right now the companies have enough rare earths stored and they are keeping

up the ongoing operations. Currently, they are not stopping their operations, but the stockpiles are limited and they will eventually run out unless they come up with new supply lines and secure them.

Companies like MP Materials are trying to process rare earths inside the US, instead of relying on China. Governments are also investing in new mining projects.

However, there are potential risks:

- If the trade restrictions persist and the country is not able to construct new facilities, then some factories could face delays or shutdowns. This will greatly impact the EVs makes, defense contractors.
- If the manufacturers are pushed to pay more for the raw materials, they have no choice but to increase the costs of the end products and this could mean more expensive EVs, electronics, and renewable energy equipment.
- These materials are critical for defense systems and if the country can secure a stable supply then it risks losing technological superiority in key areas.

#### What do we learn?

The shockwaves created by the news prompt other nations to draw critical lessons about the fragility of their supply chains. One of the most important takeaways is the need for diversification. Many countries have realized that they are overly dependent on a single supplier, especially one as geopolitically influential as China. This poses a significant strategic risk. To mitigate this, the nations should start to explore alternative sources such as Australia, Canada, and Vietnam, some of the countries have already started the exploration. The countries should also





consider recycling rare earth materials as a viable supplementary approach. Another critical lesson is that considering the value of Strategic stockpiling. Since the initial buffer has provided the countries and their industries to continue their operations, highlights the importance of maintaining national reserves of critical minerals. These reserves serve as a safety net during supply chain disruptions.

## Henkel and Synthomer partner to reduce carbon emissions in adhesives

ÜSSELDORF, Germany , April 29, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- Henkel, a global leader in adhesives, sealants and functional coatings, and Synthomer, a leading global supplier of highly specialized, high-performance polymers and ingredients, today announced a strategic alliance and supply agreement focused on carbon emission reductions across Henkel's TECHNOMELT® hot melt adhesives portfolio for the markets in Europe, India , the Middle East and Africa. This collaboration highlights the leadership of both companies in developing sustainable adhesives through innovative collaborations along the value chain.

This collaboration follows Synthomer's recent launch of CLIMA-branded Products with products. this designation, such as its REGALITE™ line, offer at least a 20% reduction in the product's carbon footprint from start to finish, thanks to the use of renewable energy in the production process. Henkel and Synthomer have jointly developed a framework that links the use of renewable energy directly to specific adhesive products, enabling measurable carbon emission reductions.

The collaboration between Henkel and Synthomer is based on a mutual commitment to sustainability. Henkel aims to reduce absolute Scope 3 GHG emissions by 30 percent by 2030 (base year 2021), with the goal of reaching netzero emissions by 2045. To this end, it is incorporating raw materials with a reduced process emissions footprint into adhesive formulations, which contributes to reducing Scope 3 emissions while maintaining high quality performance. Synthomer is contributing to reducing emissions from its manufacturing operations, with the goal of reducing absolute Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 47 percent by 2030, using 2019 as the base year, in line with its science-based targets. "As leaders in the adhesives industry, we share the responsibility to drive meaningful change," said Pernille Lind Olsen, Corporate Senior Vice President, Adhesive Technologies, Henkel. "By partnering with suppliers like Synthomer, who are equally committed to transparency, innovation, and verifiable climate action, we are not only



Synthomer's improved manufacturing approach leverages renewable electricity, biogas, and process optimization, significantly reducing the carbon footprint of its products. These carbon reductions are measured through Product Carbon Footprint (PCF) reporting, which complies with ISO 14067 standards and Together for Sustainability (TfS) guidelines. The PCF methodology used in this collaboration is being externally validated by TÜV SÜD, providing a robust level of verification and credibility.

reducing emissions, but redefining leadership in our industry."

"We are proud to support Henkel and its customers with innovative adhesive solutions based on a significantly reduced carbon footprint. Our capabilities are built on our broad





portfolio of highperformance adhesive ingredients, a global production and development network, and a relentless passion for innovation and sustainability. We continue to collaborate with our partners to create sustainable value chains and reduce carbon emissions for our planet," said Stephan Lynen , President of Adhesive Solutions at Synthomer.

Hot-melt adhesives are used in a variety of industries and applications, from packaging and consumer goods to electronics and automotive. The integration of Synthomer's CLIMA resins into Henkel's TECHNOMELT<sup>®</sup> hot-melt adhesive portfolio will reduce environmental impact while maintaining the same high-quality solutions the market has come to expect from Henkel. TECHNOMELT<sup>®</sup> adhesives are trusted for their reliability, quality, and proven results in a variety of applications.

The shared focus on sustainable product development and carbon footprint transparency highlights how strategic partnerships can drive progress and set industry standards.

Source : Henkel

## Arkema, Akzonobel and Omya Design Lower Carbon Footprint Paints for Mass Market Adoption

PARIS, April 29, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- Arkema, AkzoNobel and Omya have collaborated to develop a range of low-carbon options for more sustainable decorative paints with a 30% or more reduced carbon footprint <sup>(1)</sup> for mass market adoption while maintaining equivalent performance. This project aimed to expand experiments and achieve up to 50% carbon reduction of decorative paints.

"As the industry is actively working on decarbonizing its value chain, we wanted to collectively accelerate the development of next generation paints, to meet increasing industry and demand. Deal consumer Green regulations green building and certifications." said Julie Haevermans, Chief Marketing Officer, Arkema Coating Solutions. "Our efforts have been driven by the common objective to make lower carbon footprint solutions the mainstream."

The new formulations leverage innovation from these three global industry leaders to incorporate raw materials with up to 40% circular

sources. Specific contributions include:

- Arkema bio-based and bioattributed binders and additives
- Omya CaCO<sub>3</sub>-minerals for opacity boosting and recycled content contribution
- AkzoNobel's advanced formulation expertise, leading to optimization and reduction of high-carbon materials such as TiO<sub>2</sub>

Additionally, the three companies leveraged modern, high throughput lab automation processes, including advanced AI-tools, to accelerate development.

"Thanks to advanced lab automation and AI-driven experimental design, commercially relevant paint formulations with considerably reduced carbon footprint were achieved within a short time – with clear indications that even further reductions are possible going forward," said Philipp Mueller, Vice President Construction at Omya. "Key to success is the willingness of



companies along the value chain to work together in an open and collaborative way!".

"This work demonstrates the potential to develop lower carbon footprint paints whilst maintaining performance in brightness, yellowing resistance, and wet scrub resistance," said David Williams, Chief Innovation Officer at AkzoNobel. "These advances are another step in paving





<u>the way for widespread</u> <u>adoption and external</u> <u>recognition, which will help</u> <u>shape the future of lower</u>

## carbon footprint paints and coatings."

The parties plan more collaboration across the value chain and welcome a

broader network of partners to accelerate the paint industry transformation towards a lower carbon future.

Source : Arkema

## Dixons New Growth Phase Electronics Components Manufacturing under ECMS

#### Vinodhini Harish

#### Introduction:

**¬**an India truly become a global hub for electronics manufacturing? Certainly with the help of schemes like ECMS! The Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) is a scheme approved by the government of India to provide long-term economic benefits to companies involved in electronic component manufacturing and beyond. Experts consider this is the best way to drive rapid industrial growth and we have explored how in this article. Companies like Dixon Technologies, Tata Electronics, and others are actively participating, using the hybrid incentive structure (turnover- and capex-linked) to scale up operations. The initiative is seen as a cornerstone for building a selfglobally competitive reliant and electronics ecosystem. Let's begin!

Dixon to manufacture electronic components, Tata Electronics may invest Rs. 2000 crore under ECMS.

Dixon technologies is set to venture into electronics components manufacturing, initially for internal use before expanding to exports. Tata electronics is expected to invest significantly in this sector under the government's incentive scheme. Dixon aims to produce display modules, and lithium-ion batteries, contributing to the global value chain.

Dixon Technologies is a major player in

electronics manufacturing services and plans to enter the electronics components manufacturing business. Initially, the company will produce the components for their local need and they have planned to explore the export opportunities. Meanwhile, Tata Electronics is also preparing for a major investment, around INR 2000 crore for manufacturing of electronic components. The investment is expected to happen under the government's INR 23,000 crore incentive scheme and designed to boost the local manufacturing.

Tata Electronics wanted to remain silent regarding their plans, however speaking about the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), Dixon Technologies CEO Atul Lal declared that making electronic components is the company's next big growth opportunity. However, he admitted to their ongoing project. Presently, they have started working on their display parts and they are also expecting to work on camera parts, outer covers, batteries, and they are thinking about their options more seriously and they are also planning to take a big part in the government's new scheme ECMS.

Dixon is planning to utilize the parts for themselves and they will venture into selling these parts to other companies or export them. Dixon Technologies makes smartphones for several brands including Motorola and Xiaomi, they have also signed an agreement with Vivo to expand its phone manufacturing. Apart from smartphones, they are involved in manufacturing laptops for HP too.

Recently the government has approved a new scheme named, the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) to support the making of passive or non-semiconductor electronic components, with a budget of INR 22,919 crore. The scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet of India, Chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 28, 2025. The scheme was officially notified by the Ministry of **Electronics and Information Technology** on April 8, 2025. The scheme is aimed at enhancing India's self-reliance in the electronics supply chain and it is now focusing on domestic manufacturing of passive non-semiconductor or electronic components, such as resistors, capacitors, inductors and subassemblies.

With the help of the scheme, Dixon Technologies is planning to expand in this area, making electronic components, which is not iust assembling the finished products like smartphones, and laptops. Since the government's scheme offers financial support and incentives to companies making electronic components, yet requires companies to have design houses and follow Six Sigma quality processes, Dixon is preparing to set up design teams, meet the Six Sigma quality standards and apply for benefits under





the scheme. Overall, Dixon's new • business strategy fits perfectly with the government's scheme and the scheme will help the company grow faster in the manufacturing of the components by giving them financial incentives and market advantages.

## How Dixon is working the schemes for their benefit?

Dixon has been working actively on projects to manufacture display modules and extend their manufacturing across several brands.

Nevertheless, the company is planning to expand their portfolio, and explore the production of camera modules, mechanical enclosures, and lithium-ion batteries, and these components are integral for several industries such as consumer electronics, automotive, telecommunications and so on. The scheme's incentives like Turnover-linked and capex-linked rewards will help the company to meet rising demand, improve infrastructure and then enhance production capacity.

By meeting the Six Sigma quality standards, Dixon ensures its products will meet the highest industry standards for reliability and performance. This will be a significant competitive advantage as Dixon aims to cater to both domestic and international markets.

## ECMS is a holistic approach to component manufacturing:

ECMS is not only for the electronics sector, but it is also expected to impact several key industries including automotive and power. Overall the focus of the scheme is to extend beyond the electronic components and subassemblies, thereby forming an integrated manufacturing ecosystem. The scheme involves a hybrid incentive structure, and combines two types of rewards:

- Turn-over linked incentives which are based on sales or revenue.
- Capex-linked incentives are based on capital expenditure or investment in infrastructure.

The scheme also focuses on creating job opportunities, which will be based on how the companies will perform, which

means, that if the company performs well, they will receive bigger rewards.

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw emphasized that the approach supports the country's long-term goal of becoming a global leader in electronics manufacturing. He believes that the scheme will bring in more economic benefits thereby making the country a key player in the global electronics supply chain.

## Cascading effect on small suppliers and vendors:

The active participation of Dixon in the ECMS schemes is expected to have a cascading effect on smaller suppliers and vendors in the electronics component supply chain. As a large company, they have the potential to help small MSMEs in India become a part of its supply chain. This aspect is expected to create growth opportunities for smaller players.

Through Dixon's expertise and infrastructure, smaller enterprises can enjoy access to necessary resources to scale their operations, improve quality and integrate into the broader



ELECTRONICS COMOPONT/IMANFAUUTART3IRG SCHEME

electronics manufacturing ecosystem.

ECMS is designed to offer long-term growth to these companies, and Dixon is expected to get continuous support for their innovation and investments to build advanced technologies and expand themselves into international markets. These advancements and examples will encourage other companies as well to utilize the scheme well.

#### Take away:

Dixon Technologies is a prominent player in the electronic manufacturing sector, which has been actively embracing the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme. Since the company has recently entered to manufacture products like smartphones, laptops and display modules, they are aligning their business plans with the government's vision and working on boosting local domestic manufacturing and creating a self-reliant supply chain. Utilizing the benefits of the schemes, the company is positioning itself as a pioneer in the electronics components manufacturing space.





## Sodium Steps into the Spotlight CATL Begins Mass Production of Naxtra Battery in 2025

Vinodhini Harish

Introduction:

**TAT**hat if the future of electric mobility didn't rely on lithium at all? What if the batteries powering your car, home and entire cities could be made of materials that are cheap, abundant and locally sourced? Sodiumion batteries have long been confined to research labs due to limitations in energy density, cycle life and scalability. They were promising in theory but plagued by real-world challenges like energy density, poor performance in cold climates and scalability issues. At Super Tech Day 2025, CATL unveiled a game-changing innovation - the Naxtra Battery platform, it is the world's first sodium-ion battery technology that is ready for mass production and the company came up with two versions. In this article, we have explored this news and covered the reasons why we are celebrating it. Let's dive in!

## Although not an entirely new invention, it is a breakthrough!

Sodium-ion batteries have been studied for decades and stayed in research labs for a long time. Now it has been made commercially viable for real-world applications. CATL- Contemporary Amperex Technology Co. Limited is a global leader in lithium-ion and advanced battery technologies headquartered in China. They are recognized as the world's largest EV battery manufacturer and they are famed for their batteries utilized in automobiles like Tesla, BMW, Hyundai, and others.

CATL made a new type of battery called Naxtra, which they unveiled at Super



Tech Day 2025. CATL came with two versions of the battery, where one is dedicated to electric cars that can go up to 500 kilometres and the battery is expected to perform well even in cold weather. The other version is for big trucks, the version of the batteries is expected to start the engine and run the truck's electronics by replacing the older lead-acid batteries.

The name "Naxtra" combines the "Na" symbol of sodium and "Extra" to demonstrate that the battery gives extra performance, and easier to make and • works in different conditions, unlike the existing batteries.

This sodium battery is considered a

breakthrough since the early sodiumion batteries struggled with low energy density, short cycle life and poor coldweather performance. There were challenges in scalability too. For instance, CATL solved some of these challenges outstandingly! Consider how it dealt with some of the challenges:

- It can retain 90% of its capacity even at -40°C. This ability of cold weather performance is crucial for regions with harsh winter climates.
- The energy density of Naxtra battery, is 175 Wh/Kg. The sodiumion batteries have struggled with energy density compared to the lithium-ion batteries thereby



making Naxtra a viable option for electric vehicles and other high demand applications.

• CATL has ensured that Naxtra batteries are not simply a scientific concept, but they are ready for industrial-scale manufacturing.

The production is expected to begin in June 2025 and CATL revealed that the technology is all set to be massproduced and this is a significant step towards advancing sustainable and costeffective energy solutions.

## Extra battery platform is a game changer:

#### All set for a lithium-free future:

The battery industry is relying on lithium and that has led to several concerns over resource scarcity, price volatility, and geopolitical risks. Lithium is heavily concentrated in a few countries, and sodium, by contrast, is abundant, cheap and widely available. Therefore sodium-ion batteries are a more secure, and equitable solution. There were studies done to lay the foundation for sodium-ion battery development and these studies focused on alternative electrode materials and electrolyte formulations to address sodium's larger ionic size and sluggish kinetics. These batteries were very unstable and inefficient. However, CATL's Naxtra is the first full-scale and industrial breakthrough, as the scale of development has never been achieved before in the sodium-ion space and this achievement is expected to push the global automakers, energy companies and governments to reconsider sodiumion as a serious alternative to lithiumbased systems.

#### Cost advantage:

Sodium is significantly affordable and easier to source than lithium, therefore

sodium-ion batteries could offer cheaper alternatives for energy storage, especially in cost-sensitive markets like two-wheelers, entry-level EVs and grid storage.

#### Cold climate compatibility:

With the low-temperature performance, Naxtra opens up possibilities for electric mobility in colder climates like Canada, Russia and mountainous regions in Asia. The struggle is real, with lithium-ion batteries, as they require expensive heating systems.

## Paves the way for a new chemical supply chain:

Naxtra; 's commercial rollout has paved the way for a new chemical supply chain. Chemicals like Prussian white-cathode material, hard carbon–anode material, sodium salts and compatible electrolytes are set to grow in demand thereby signalling opportunities for chemical producers and material science companies to innovate and scale new products.

## What can the global chemical industry expect?

CATL's achievement has rekindled the demand for sodium salts such as sodium carbonate, sodium sulphate, and sodium hexafluorophosphate, they are the key materials in battery electrolytes.

Opportunities are emerging in the development of new binders, solvents, and conductive additives compatible with sodium-based chemistries. The companies that supply or refine these inputs will find themselves at the heart of a growing value chain.

## How can governments come forward and support?

Governments of densely populated countries like India, Indonesia, Brazil and many African countries are still struggling with the manufacturing of electric mobility accessible to the masses. Therefore government can come forward and offer subsidies, and incentives for EVs powered by sodiumion batteries, they can encourage local assembly or manufacturing of sodiumion EVs to drive adoption in rural and urban areas.

Since sodium is widely available in countries like India, China, and the U.S., Governments should arrange or build local supply chains and reduce dependence on imported raw materials.

Sodium-ion batteries are especially suitable for stationary storage due to their thermal stability and low cost, therefore governments are rapidly adding solar and wind power. Governments can arrange funding or mandates to install sodium-ion batteries in solar parks, microgrids, and villagelevel energy banks.

When the governments support sodium-ion battery technology now, they can help it to become commercially viable and position their countries as leaders in the next generation of battery technology.

#### Take away:

CATL's NAXTRA platform has introduced a new battery and not just that, it has redefined what's possible in energy storage. The innovation is celebrated as it offers a safer, more abundant, and environmentally sound alternative to lithium-ion technology with ripple effects across transportation, grid storage and chemical manufacturing. As the technology has now entered the mainstream, it could reshape the global battery ecosystem, and usher in a new era of cleaner, more accessible energy. Now, it is up to the chemical industry, they shift in raw material focus and a wave of innovation opportunities that could reshape the sector for decades to come.





## Inside the Auto Tariff Shake-Up Real Stories from Ford Covestro and U S Suppliers

#### Vinodhini Harish

#### Introduction:

rday's global economy is all about L trading, which may not be fair sometimes. One controversial practice that caught the attention of the U.S. government is called "dumping". This occurs when foreign companies backed by state support, now export goods at prices lower than what it costs to make them. Countries like China have been accused of using dumping to flood U.S. markets with ultra-cheap products, especially steel, chemicals and automotive parts. U.S. government understood that this might benefit the consumers in the short term, but would hurt the manufacturing sector in the U.S., driving local businesses out of competition. In this article, we have explored the tariffs imposed by the U.S. on Chinese products and explored the implications as well. Let's dive in!

#### The US tariff landscape and its impact:

Under President Donald Trump's administration, the U.S. imposed high tariffs on many products, including steel, aluminum, and car parts. This was done as a part of a broader effort to bring more manufacturing jobs back to the U.S. and cut down the trade deficit. The idea behind the tariffs was to make foreign products expensive and encourage companies to buy goods made in the U.S. instead. Modern cars are made with a mix of parts from all over the world and the high tariffs have raised the cost of manufacturing vehicles in the U.S. For instance, if an automaker wants to import car seats from Europe or computer chips from Asia, then those parts would face significant costs.

The primary goal of the president is to

protect American workers ensure that and compete manufacturers better across the globe. In the case of cars, he was particularly concerned about the imports from China as it was considered to be unfairly benefiting global from the trade system.

The U.S. realized that some countries like China are selling the products to the US at prices lower than what it costs to manufacture them, this practice is called "dumping". This happens

when companies in one country export their goods to another country at very low prices, often below the cost of production or market value. The idea behind the dumping is to make products cheaper for consumers, but it potentially harms the local industries in the importing country by making it difficult for domestic manufacturers to compete.

For instance, Steel from countries like China could be sold at a very low price in the US making it harder for US steel manufacturers to sell their products at competitive prices, even if their costs are higher.

Likewise, in the auto industry, foreign car manufacturers could sell the cars or car parts to the U.S. at lower prices than the U.S. companies can offer. This causes disadvantages for U.S. automakers.

Overall the idea behind the tariffs is to protect the American workers. If the car companies were pushed to pay extra for the parts imported from other countries then they would more likely produce parts within the U.S. creating more



American jobs.

#### Why the impact was so intense?

The tariffs were imposed when the trade tensions were rising between the U.S. and several other countries. A trade war with China was one of the most highprofile conflicts in the world and when Mr. Trump imposed tariffs on a wide range of Chinese goods, such as electronics, machinery and auto parts, then this will hurt the local companies.

On the other hand, the U.S. has been renegotiating the trade deals with Canada, and Mexico, which has led to the USMCA- United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. This deal has updated the old NAFTA - North American Free Trade Agreement. This has required that a larger percentage of car parts be made in North America for automakers to avoid tariffs.

U.S car makers get a break from the tariffs- New plan to help American Car manufacturers:





American car manufacturers like Ford, General Motors, and Stellantis were struggling with the high taxes, thus these manufacturers raised their concerns to the government and asked for help. Now, under Trump's new plan, the U.S. automakers can enjoy some relief from the tariffs.

For example, if a U.S. car manufacturing company and the car is assembled in the U.S., then the company can import a limited amount of foreign parts without paying tariffs. The benefit is only temporary and this will phase out over three years.

If the carmaker builds a car that sells for \$40,000, then in the first year, they can import \$1500 foreign parts per car without paying any import tax and that is 3.75 of the car's value.

In the second year, this limit will drop to \$1000 per car and it is 2.5% of the car's value.

And then the benefit disappears entirely from the third year onwards. They have to pay full tariffs on any imported parts. This plan gives the automakers time to shift their supply chains back to the U.S., helping them to create domestic jobs and reducing the reliance on foreign parts.

Nevertheless, if the car companies are willing to import parts from North America, then the rules of the U.S-Mexico-Canada Agreement apply and they can import parts duty-free and with no changes there. If a company uses foreign steel or aluminum, they only have to pay either the vehicle tariff or the metals tariff, whichever is higher. This prevents double taxation.

## How this will impact the chemical industry?

BASF supplies OEM coatings and engineered plastics for automakers like Ford, and GM. If these automakers increase U.S. production, BASF could see a surge in the demand for U.S.-made paints and lightweight plastics. For instance, in 2023, BASF expanded its coatings site in Michigan anticipating auto growth in North America.

## Consider the partnership between Covestro and Ford.

Covestro supplies polyurethane foams for the car interiors, in 2021, they partnered with Ford to provide sustainable foams made from CO2based feedstocks.

Covestro a global leader in polymer materials has developed an innovative polyurethane foam using carbon dioxide (CO2) as a raw material, branded as Cardyon. This sustainable approach replaces up to 20% of the traditional fossil-based feedstocks with CO2, thereby contributing to a circular economy by utilizing waste gases in product manufacturing.

In 2021, Covestro partnered with Adient, a global leader in automotive seating systems, they incorporate Cardyon into car seat cushions. Adient is striving to integrate these CO2-based polyols into their production processes, thereby making a significant step towards more sustainable automotive manufacturing.

Covestro's Baytown, Texas facility plays a crucial role in the initiative. The site produces kev components like methylene diphenyl diisocyanate (MDI) toluene diisocyanate and (TDI), essential for manufacturing polyurethane foams used in automotive applications.

The developments and innovation align with the broader industry trends and policy incentives aiming to promote domestic manufacturing and reduce the reliance on imported materials.

Under the new plan, Automakers can

potentially shift their auto parts sourcing to U.S.-based suppliers. Covestro's Baytown, Texas plant produces polyurethane feedstocks and sustainable CO2-based foams. Ford being already a partner with Covestro on sustainable interiors, would highly benefit by sourcing these materials domestically without the tariffs.

The policy helps companies like Covestro to collaborate with car makers like Ford and get more business from local car companies. Companies like Covetro can grow as they are based in the U.S. and offer a steady and reliable supply to car makers.

Another important part of the policy is to focus on clean and strong supply chains. Covestro fits into this because it makes special foams using carbon dioxide instead of fossil fuels. This makes the products more environmentally friendly. Ford has a vision of utilizing more sustainable, ecofriendly materials and can source their raw materials from such companies.

## Why do Tariffs squeeze U.S. chemical companies?

Many U.S. chemical manufacturers rely on China and other countries for essential raw materials like rare earth elements, specialty polymers, catalysts, and pharmaceutical intermediates. On the other hand, there are limited or no local suppliers for some specialty chemicals due to stringent environmental regulations, lack of expertise technical and cost disadvantages.

One of the major U.S suppliers of lithium compounds used in Electric Vehicle batteries, Albemarle Corporation is prompted to invest in domestic extraction sites in North Carolina and secure alternative supplies from Australia. Likewise, PPG industries, known for superior coatings and paints are now reformulating their





coatings due to tariff pressure on Chinese imports.

Celanese Corporation is known for its acetyl chain chemicals has turned to European suppliers and expanded its manufacturing presence in Mexico and Texas to reduce the exposure to future tariff shocks. Eastman Chemical produces BPA- free plastics is now investing in sustainable alternatives, they have partnered with local innovators and developing bio-based feedstocks. These case studies highlight a broader trend, which is accelerating reshoring, innovation and diversification.

#### Take away:

With the U.S. imposing high tariffs on Chinese goods, they are actively seeking alternative sourcing destinations. India with its massive manufacturing base should utilize the opportunity and promote "Make in India" for their export markets, they must offer stable trade policies to attract and retain U.S. and European companies and develop Special Economic Zones specifically for Auto components, specialty chemicals and electronics. Indian companies can form joint ventures or make direct contracts with U.S. companies since U.S. automakers are under pressure to localize their parts supply. Overall, Indian companies should work on developing their trade strategies, and target their investments in chemicals, auto components, and sustainable materials with the backing of trade diplomacy. This can position India at the forefront of the next global supply chain realignment.

## How Kaos Waterless Innovations Are Redefining the Global Soap Market

#### Vinodhini Harish

#### Introduction:

 $S_{market \ and \ every \ product.}^{ustainability \ is \ the \ goal \ in \ every \ product.}$ Consumers are choosing wisely, and the world is increasingly aware of protecting the planet in every possible way. Therefore, industry players develop ideas and products that speak to sustainability. In that order, Kao Corporation has brought waterless shampoo, and its implications on the global soap industry are creating a stir. In this article, we have delved into broader market trends, compelling statistics and more about Kao waterless Corporation's shampoo innovation. This leading Japanese personal care and cosmetics giant believes that this is the time to redefine how we think about personal hygiene, and thus amazes consumers with their innovation and products. Let's begin.

## Soap without water? Kao's bold leap into the future of hygiene:

Kao Corporation's 3d space shampoo sheet is specifically developed for astronauts aboard the International Space Station (ISS), therefore utilizes "Fine Fibre Polymer Mesh" to cleanse the scalp and hair without water. This product utilizes the sheet that features "Fine Fibre Polymer Mesh," therefore the sheet effectively removes dirt and sebum from the scalp and hair roots while providing a massaging action.

This innovative product addresses the challenges of maintaining hygiene in zero-gravity environments where water is scarce and traditional hair-washing methods are impractical. These sheets are infused with a gentle, alcohol-free formula and thus cleanse without the need for water and making them suitable for sensitive environments like space. They are individually packed, and thus these sheets are easy to use and ideal for situations where water access is limited. They are extremely beneficial in situations like during travel, disaster zones, and in hospitals.

They are originally designed for space missions, and have still found applications on Earth.

What are the basic ingredients behind

#### waterless soaps?

Waterless soaps are typically embedded in non-woven sheets, they come as gels or foams that evaporate or are wiped off. There is a list of ingredients used in these soaps to make them more effective:

Ethanol, utilized as an antiseptic, kills bacteria and viruses quickly.

Isopropyl alcohol – used as a solvent and disinfectant

Glycerin – used as a skin moisturizer and prevent dryness

Cocamidopropyl betaine – used as a surfactant and lifts oils and dirt.

Now how Cocamidopropyl betaine is generally considered non-allergenic, the impurities in the manufacturing process can cause allergies, and some of the symptoms, on eyelid, facial, scalp, and neck dermatitis, may occur. High concentration of Cocamidopropyl Betaine might increase the potential of irritation, especially in sensitive individuals. Likewise, other ingredients in the product, such as fragrances and



preservatives, might interact and irritate. Polyaminopropyl biguanide (PAPB) is used as a Broad-spectrum antimicrobial agent.

Caprylyl glycol is used as an Emollient and preservative booster.

Decyl glucoside is utilized to act as a Gentle cleanser derived from sugar.

Essential oils (e.g., tea tree, eucalyptus), Antibacterial, fragrance

Let's get deeper into the technologies adopted by Kao Corporation:

Fine Fibre Polymer Mesh Technology:

Fine Fibre Mesh is a non-woven fabric structure and is composed of ultra-fine polymer fibres. They are extremely thin strands, often nanometres to a few micrometres wide. The strands are engineered into a soft yet structured mesh. It serves as both a delivery system for cleansing agents and a mechanical cleaning aid.

The Fine Fibre Mesh fabric is composed of polymers like Polyethylene(PE), Polypropylene (PP), or Polyurethane (PU). These polymers are used depending on the desired softness, durability and interaction with the skin. The sheet is designed with 3d raised patterns or bumps so that it provides gentle exfoliation and massaging action when rubbed against skin or scalp.

Due to the polymers used in the right proportion and structure, the fabric effectively absorbs sebum and dirt, while releasing surfactants and cleansers without needing water. The fabric is engineered in a way that it is soft enough for sensitive skin and scalp.

## Effective ingredients, sourced strategically:

Kao Corporation has used preembedded surfactants like Decyl

Glucoside or Cocamidopropyl Betaine so that it cleanses and deodorizes properly.

Although they were created to serve in space, they are used in hospitals, elderly care, military operations, disaster zones, refugee camps and travel and remote exploration.

Could countries facing drought crises integrate this into their public health systems?

#### Well, certainly!

It is manufactured with a minimal environmental footprint, and thus they are generated impressive value ever since it hit the market.

Kao Corporation sources the key raw materials such as polyethylene (PE), Polypropylene (PP) and Polyurethane (PU) from established petrochemical suppliers. Kao is vertically integrated to an extent, meaning they develop their formulations in-house, but doesn't manufacture base polymers like PE or PP itself. Some of the reputable producers in Japan and abroad, such as Mitsui Chemicals, Sumitomo Chemical, and Mitsubishi Chemical (Japan) and BASF, LyondellBasell, SABIC and Dow Chemical are supplying the base raw materials required for the production.

Kao Corporation utilizes techniques like melt-blown spinning, electrospinning or solution spinning methods to form the ultra-fine polymer fibres.

These fibres are then assembled into non-woven fabric sheets with a 3d surface structure, raised bumps or textured ridges to aid in mechanical cleaning.

The company also relies on a Sustainability-driven procurement strategy and combines in-house innovation, strategic supplier partnerships to source the surfactants and deodorizers. Kao works with global agrochemical supplies to procure natural feedstocks to produce green surfactants like Decyl glucoside, which is made from plant-based glucose – corn, coconut and fatty alcohols.

The company also owns patented surfactant technologies used in cosmetics and cleansers under their "Amino acid Surfactant" portfolio, like AKYPO and LEVENOL.

#### Mild preservatives – Phenoxyethanol, Ethylhexylglycerin, Caprylyl glycol, Potassium sorbate

Kao prioritizes preservatives with a very good safety profile and keeps the composition with low allergenic potential. They source the preservatives from EU REACH-compliant and ECOCERT-certified suppliers. Nevertheless, the company wants to reduce the preservative load by using air-tight, single-use packaging, especially in space or disaster care products.

## Kao keeps integrity and safety at the top of the priority list:

Kao uses long-term contracts with vetted suppliers that ensure price stability and supply chain reliability. Therefore, the ingredients are dualsourced from multiple regions to reduce the geopolitical risks. Kao can incorporate custom-blending surfactants and fragrances to meet exacting safety and performance criteria, and take the help of Wakayama Research Laboratories in Japan and Kao USA Research Centre.

Kao follows strict rules on the raw material purchasing guidelines in areas like palm oil traceability, carbon footprint, and non-toxicity compliance. Therefore, all the sourced ingredients undergo rigorous dermatological and toxicological testing and are compliant with Japan's MHLW, EU cosmetic regulations and US FDA guidelines.



## How can the soap industry's strategies help to understand the trends?

The global soap market value stands at USD 48.05 billion and is expected to grow to USD 76.45 billion with a CAGR of 6.05%, and the Asia Pacific market share in 2024 stood at 38.88%. Bath and body soaps hold the leading position amongst the other segments, and factors like cultural inclination towards herbal and natural ingredients, rising disposable income increased and awareness in choosing chemical-free products are driving the market.

Companies can stand out from the crowd when they design products for zero-gravity environments, waterless applications and products that are ecofriendly and sustainable. There are several other potential applications, such as regions with water scarcity, disaster relief scenarios and travel and military usage.

The companies can bring up products in all key segments such as bath, kitchen and laundry soaps. They can also work on their collaborations, acquire regional brands in emerging markets to accelerate their footprints. They can also bring in tailored product formulations and marketing to local

preferences and skin types, while cutting down costs and speeding up delivery with localized supply

chains. They can accelerate go-tomarket through regional partnerships.

It is observed that in Asia-Pacific, about 37.6% of the market in 2023 was organic, and consumers were shifting to chemical-free products, therefore, companies can strategize through their labels by mentioning "paraben-free", "Natural", and "Organic". They must also work in acquiring eco-labels like Ecocert, USDA Organic and Ayush Certified to gain trust. They can also build their formulations with locally trusted herbs like neem, turmeric, aloe



vera sandalwood.

and

#### Takeaway:

The global soap industry is entering transformation а driven era bv sustainability, innovation and shifting consumer preferences. Kao Corporation's pioneering waterless personal

products setting new care are benchmarks, especially in eco-conscious innovation. The companies are embracing trends such as natural formulations, localized manufacturing and multifunctional soaps, which can unlock growth in high-potential regions like Asia Pacific. Therefore, by aligning their strategies with the data-backed market trends and future-ready product development, businesses in the soaps and personal care sector can position themselves as global leaders in both performance and responsibility.

## Paint Market Shake-Up Birla Opus Discounts and a Demand Slowdown

Vinodhini Harish

#### Introduction:

The Indian paint industry is undergoing a massive industry shake-up and no one is speaking about it. Indian paints industry was once dominated by a few major players with well-established brands and strong dealer networks. The landscape is quickly shifting and is valued at INR 70,000 crore therefore the industry is expecting unexpected developments, such as a surprising slowdown in the festive season sales, deepening discount strategies and a noticeable shift in consumer preferences. Nevertheless, the entry of big brands into the market has created a stir. We have discussed them all in this short read and let's explore the trends in the Indian paints industry!

The Indian paint industry is changing fast, at present it is worth INR 70,000 crores. Asian paints have been the clear leader with nearly 60% of the market and now, with Birla Opus entering the market is shaking things up. Certain unexpected things are happening in the industry, although unusual it reveals the facts about economic uncertainties and changing consumer spending patterns. Some of the market trends are:

## Decorative paint segment is facing slow demand:

India's decorative paint segment generally faces a spike during the festive season and is now witnessing sluggish growth in this financial year. The festival season traditionally drives up home renovation and repainting activities, but in the financial year 2025, it has failed to





## **EVENTS AND CONFERENCES**

## CHEMSPEC EUROPE

Date : June, 4-5, 2025

City: Koelnmesse, Germany

Country : Germany

#### Website : https://www.chemspeceurope.com/#/

**Description :** Chemspec Europe is a key event for the fine and speciality chemicals industry. With a highly specialised profile, the exhibition is the place to be for purchasers and agents to meet with manufacturers, suppliers and distributors of fine and speciality chemicals to source specific solutions and bespoke products.

The event appeals to an international audience and Chemspec Europe is therefore a powerful gateway to global business and industry knowledge. The exhibition features the full spectrum of fine and speciality chemicals for various applications and industries.

In addition, a wide range of free conferences provides excellent opportunities to network with industry colleagues and exchange competencies on the latest market trends, technical innovations, business opportunities, and regulatory issues in an evolving market.

## CPHI CHINA - VIRTUAL CPHI

Date : June.24-26, 2025

City : China, Shanghai, Shanghai New International Expo Center

Country: China

Website : https://expopromoter.com/events/178656/?gad\_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjwvr--BhB5EiwAd5YbXlB7ITtJ2HBvoF-

#### c7ujkv4toLhw0UJZlF66U7JkDTkobhU10ZdHmpBoCbn4QAvD\_BwE

**Description :** CPHI & PMEC China 2025 is Asia's premier pharmaceutical event for sourcing, networking, learning and innovation with over 20 years' experience of bringing together Chinese and global pharma professionals. In 2025, CPHI & PMEC China will be held in 24-26 June 2025 at SNIEC (Shanghai New International Expo Centre), Shanghai, China. CPHI & PMEC China 2025 will cover more than 230,000 square meters of exhibition area, attract over 90,000 global attendees and 3,500 exhibitors, and hold more than 100 conferences during the exhibition. CPHI & PMEC China 2025 showcases a wide range of pharmaceutical products and services, including: active pharmaceutical ingredients, Intermediates & fine chemicals, excipients, finished dosage formulation, biopharmaceuticals, natural extracts, CMO & CRO, machinery & equipment, packaging & drug delivery, laboratory equipment, cleanroom & pollution control and etc. The event brings together prominent domestic and international suppliers, international companies include: Biocon, Datwyler, Dishman Carbogen, EUROAPI, IFF, Merck Chemicals, OLON SPA, SHL Medical, Stevanato Group, Terumo, TEVA API, United States Pharmacopeia; Leading domestic pharmaceutical companies include: Acebright, FOSUN PHARMA, Huahai, Jiangsu Hengrui, North China Pharmaceutical, QILU PHARMACEUTICAL, Shanghai Pharmaceuticals Holding, SINOPHARM, Yangtze River Pharmaceutical, ZHEJIANG HISUN; as well as machinery companies such as Bio-Link, Canaan, Hanbon Sci.&Tech., HIGHFINE ENGINEERING, Pharma



### **INACOATING 2025**

Date : July, 29-31, 2025 City : JIExpo Kemayoran, Jakarta Country : Indonesia Website : https://www.inacoating-exhibition.net/

**Description :** INACOATING 2025 is the specialized event for coating & paint industry, including paint products, raw materials, resin, composite, manufacturing equipment, environment protection, technology and services, etc. This B2B event offers a comprehensive showcase of the latest paint and coating technologies for the region environmental manufacturing and industrial needs. This annual event presents a prime opportunity to network and form new global partnerships with local and international professional buyers. The 13th edition of INACOATING will be held on 29 – 31 July 2025 and co-located with Chemical Indonesia 2025, Inamarine 2025, and RailwayTech Indonesia 2025 at Jakarta International Expo (JIExpo), Kemayoran, Jakarta-Indonesia. INACOATING 2025 will serve as Indonesia's most prospective one-stop coating and painting exhibition for maritime, eco-building, industrial, automotive, furniture, and related paints & coating industries.

### SAUDI ARABIA COATING SHOW

Date : Aug 26-28, 2025

City: COEX, Seoul

Country: Korea

#### Website : https://www.cphi.com/korea/en/home.html

**Description :** CPHI Korea is a dynamic meeting place where pharmaceutical suppliers, purchasers and decision makers get together for three days of uninterrupted business. Exhibiting companies showcase products from across the entire pharma supply chain: from ingredients and contract services, through to machinery and biopharmaceuticals.

### **CPHI NORTH AMERICA**

Date : May 20-22, 2025

City: Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia

Country : North America

Website : https://www.cphi.com/americas/en/home.html

**Description :** Whether you want to exhibit or visit, our post-show report will help you discover our show's key figures, gain insight into our audience and learn what they look for when doing business at our event.



stimulate significant demand. The slowdown reflects the economic uncertainties and changing consumer behaviour. Urban markets are showing tepid interest, with the inflation that is growing and reduced discretionary spending might affect middle and upper-class households spending on decorative paints.

## Companies are under constant pressure:

Due to the demand slump, most of the large paint manufacturers have reported a decline in sales or marginal year-onyear growth during the third quarter of FY25 and this poor performance is concerning given that Q3 was one of the strongest quarters due to festive buying. The slowdown has not just impacted also disrupted revenue but has production planning and inventory management. When the sales stop growing in a business that already needs a lot of money to run, like the paint industry, it becomes hard for the company to stay profitable. This problem springs up in their quarterly results.

#### Heavy discounts:

Emerging market players are threatening the existing players, therefore to protect their market share or to stop the new players like Birla Opus from taking their customers, and boost sales during the slow times, existing companies are offering bigger discounts and special deals. This helps them sell more for now and cuts into their profits. The paints industry is used to make good money by selling high-priced, well-known brands but now they are offering discounts and selling paints with lower prices and profits are shrinking.

#### Birla opus makes a splash:

The paints industry is one of the toughest industries when new brands enter, however, Birla Opus has made a



big impact in the paints industry within a year, launched in February 2024 by the Aditya Birla Group, the company has already grabbed a small but important share in the market. This impressive stand of Birla Opus demonstrates the strength of the brand and the money they have to invest. Their growth also demonstrated how fast they have to build their dealer network and they are advancing.

They have already built four modern factories and are working on two more. They have already spent INR 9000 crore and now is planning to spend INR 1000 crore. They are aiming to connect with 50,000 dealers by March 2025 and are expected to make INR 2500 crore in sales that year. This could make them a serious rival to top players like Asian paints, Berger.

Now the existing players have to compete with a powerful new player,

who is ready to spend big on advertising, discounts and spreading its reach. This pushes them to move faster and think smarter to stay ahead of the curve.

## What is changing and shocking in the paint industry now?

Consumers are moving away from highend premium paints and more affordable options such as wall putty, basic emulsions and textured coatings. In recent times, the paint industry has been facing inflationary pressures and muted housing demand and buyers are prioritizing cost over brand loyalty or aesthetics. This shift is adding pressure on big players and pushing them to diversify into lower-margin segments to protect the volumes.

Consumers are also interested in investing in companies that prioritize health, indoor air quality and sustainability. Therefore products with





eco-friendly, non-toxic and low VOC paints are gaining demand. Companies like Asian Paints and Berger Paints have eco-certification-compliant launched product lines in recent times to adjust to these strategies. For instance, the green building trend especially in urban and tier-1 cities is pushing this segment forward.

Raising DIY culture is also benefiting companies that bring in easy application products and cost-saving motivations. Several companies, including big market players, have come up with solutions to cater the demand for this sect of consumers.

To fight margin pressures, companies are new market dynamics are unfolding, the investing in their own resin, pigment and companies are being forced to evolve, additive manufacturing. Due to volatility whether slashing prices, diversifying in crude oil and raw material prices post- product portfolios or investing in pandemic, this trend is observed amongst sustainability and backward integration. companies. For example, Asian Paints has What was once a high-margin, and expanded itself into manufacturing key brand-driven space is now becoming raw materials in-house.

#### Key takeaways:

The blueprint or methodologies of the adapt and hold on to market share in an Indian paint industry have changed and increasingly complex environment, but vet not stabilized. Economic uncertainty, the paint industry is getting redefined inflation, changing consumer behaviours, before our eyes. and the bold entry of Birla Opus have shaken the sector's foundation. Since the

more volume-driven and competitive. This change has brought customers more choices and better prices. Overall for customers, it is a race to innovate,

## Midwest Industrial Supply Introduces Spark-Barrier<sup>®</sup> High-Performance Class A Firefighting Foam

ANTON, Ohio, May 6, 2025 / PRNewswire/ -- Midwest Industrial Supply, a leader in Earth-conscious chemical manufacturing, today announced its latest innovation -SparkBarrier®, a Class A firefighting foam approved by the U.S. Forest Service.

SparkBarrier is a highly concentrated foaming agent that gives fire departments a tactical advantage in attacking, containing, and extinguishing fires quickly.

In addition to improving firefighting efficiency, SparkBarrier helps reduce firefighters' exposure to airborne toxins and hazardous conditions. Its thorough coverage prevents rekindling, limiting fire spread and the need for excessive water use, which can contribute to property damage.

### "Firefighters need a foam they can trust to work quickly and

effectively in critical situations," said Steven Vitale, president of Midwest Industrial Supply. "SparkBarrier was designed to outperform low-cost alternatives while offering a better price point than other premium foams. We're proud to provide a reliable, high-performance solution backed by decades of proven expertise."

SparkBarrier works by clinging to surfaces and seeping deep into burning materials, reaching stubborn hot spots more effectively than water alone. The bubbles increase heat absorption, cooling surfaces faster, while the foam blanket traps vapors, preventing smoke and the risk of reignition. By reflecting radiant heat, the product also helps protect nearby structures and areas at risk.

Biodegradable and free from harmful PFOS/PFOA chemicals, SparkBarrier meets the requirements for the U.S. Forest Service's Qualified Products List. The new product's ability to maximize water efficiency makes it especially valuable in wildfires and rural areas with limited water resources.

SparkBarrier works with standard water delivery systems and can be injected directly into the water stream with proper proportioning equipment. The product is now available for municipal fire departments, wildfire response and industrial firefighting teams, applications.

SparkBarrier is five times more effective at extinguishing fires than water alone. Water treated by the product wets combustibles up to 20 times faster. SparkBarrier reduces exposure to airborne toxins by up to 90%.

Source : Midwest Industrial Supply



## Green Science Alliance Developed Water based Natural Biomass type Base Coat, Nail Polish with Nail Repairing, Nail Strengthening Ingredients

KAWANISHI CITY, Japan, May 7, 2025 /PRNewswire/ --Environmental problems caused by population explosion such as climate global warming, change, natural resource depletion, deforestation, water shortage and plastic pollution are getting severe in the world. Regarding plastic pollution, micro-plastics, nano-plastics are already in our human body and damaging our health. Therefore, plastic recycling, reduction of plastic usage biodegradable itself. and plastic development, are intensively carrying out. On the other hand, one of the reasons for global warming is said to be increase CO2 emission in the



atmosphere. In this respect, compared to petroleum and fossil fuel derived chemical products, plant biomass derived chemical products can be considered as carbon neutral because plants absorb CO2 during their growth and total CO2 emission will be zero after they degrade after usage. Therefore, developing plant biomass derived biodegradable plastic or ink is one way to reduce plastic and resin pollution and CO2 emission.

The challenge for Green Science

Alliance is to replace all the petrochemical derived materials and products with plant, nature biomass derived one and this concept is described in one British chemical article, which is written by company CEO Dr. Ryohei Mori.

https://pubs.rsc.org/en/ content/articlelanding/2023/ su/d2su00014h

Based on this concept, Dr. Ryohei Mori and his company have been developing plant, nature biomass based

biodegradable resin, plastic, coating, glue, adhesive, plasticizer, lubricant, color ink, paint, etc., virtually trying to make every material and product from plant biomass and not from fossil fuel, petroleum.

In addition, Green Science Alliance has been developing various type of nail cosmetic products such as plant based biodegradable nail tips, plant

based gel nail, 100 % plant based nail polish remover and thinner etc... They have also created plant based nail polish bottle lid, gel nail container. These products are sold on their company Ecommerce site.

https://en.nano-sakura-shop.com/shop

And this time, Dr. Ryohei Mori has developed water based natural biomass type nail polish and base coat with nail repairing, nail strengthening



ingredients. There are some nail care products with nail repairing ingredients although one would not see similar types of nail polish or base coat kind. This type of nail strengthening nail polish, base coat products could be world's first. Color is inorganic pigments or biochar which are also not derived from petroleum. The main component are natural biomass based raw materials and biodegradable so that they are harmless to human body and nails. In general, nail polish are composed of petroleum based organic solvent. However, developed products are water based and therefore, nail strengthening ingredients such as keratin can be dissolved into products easier compared to organic solvent based nail polish. It should be mentioned that actual nail repairing and strengthening effect have not been confirmed yet and the company is going to examine the detail effect of nail repairing effect.

The company will strengthen their sales promotion activity of this base coat, nail polish products with nail repairing ingredients, to Japanese and world market.

Source : Green Science Alliance Co., Ltd.





## BASF's OASE<sup>®</sup> blue supports CCAT in carbon capture and storage project at Taiwan power plant

- Initial plan to capture 2,000 tons of CO2 annually at the pilot plant located at Taipower's Taichung Power Plant Carbon Reduction Technology Park
- OASE<sup>®</sup> blue features high capture rates of 90% and more, cost efficiency due to low energy and amine consumption, and is easily scalable
- Helps meet growing global demand for CCS, thereby contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the transition to a more sustainable energy industry

**B**ASF has signed a license agreement with Carbon Cap Applications Technology Co. (CCAT) to provide its OASE<sup>®</sup> blue gas treatment technology for a carbon capture and storage (CCS) project at the Taichung Power Plant Carbon Reduction Technology Park, operated by Taiwan Power Company (Taipower), Taiwan's largest electricity provider.

This collaboration combines CCAT's advanced technology and engineering solutions with BASF's proven OASE® blue carbon capture technology. The project, which was awarded and started up at the end of 2023, is expected to capture 2,000 tons of CO2 annually, according to Taipower's design and planning requirements. If successful, Taipower will assess the feasibility of developing a new demonstration plant for commercial operation, with the next phase aiming to capture one million tons of CO2 per year. The CO2 captured in the current phase will be sequestered at the Taichung Power Plant, while the possibility of sequestration in Taiwan's offshore strata will be evaluated in the next phase.



OASE® blue is BASF's gas treatment technology designed for flue gas carbon capture from sources such as fossil power generation plants, steam reformers, waste incinerators, the cement industry, and the maritime sector. It has demonstrated high capture rates of 90% and more, and cost efficiency due to its low energy and amine consumption shown in tests. It also features a flexible operating range that is easily scalable and modularized. Moreover, it can be engineered to achieve high CO2 purity suitable for food-grade applications.

Daniel Yao, Managing Director, CCAT, said, "In the context of the current environmental and energy transition, CCAT deeply understands the importance of promoting sustainable development and reducing carbon emissions. We are honored to undertake Taiwan's first carbon capture commercial demonstration project and collaborate with BASF, utilizing its advanced OASE<sup>®</sup> blue technology. This partnership aims to enhance the technical level and outcomes of environmental protection projects. It will further drive the development of both parties in the green energy sector, while also providing Taipower with more efficient solutions to promote clean emissions in the energy production process."

"This project will serve as another exciting reference plant for us, showcasing how BASF's OASE<sup>®</sup> blue carbon capture technology enables our customers, such as Taipower, to achieve their CCS targets, which will in turn accelerate the transition to a more sustainable energy industry," added Lawrence Loe, Director, OASE<sup>®</sup> Gas Treating Excellence, Intermediates Asia Pacific, BASF.

The Carbon Reduction Technology Park is located at Taipower's Taichung Power Plant. The power plant is commencing the construction of gas-fired units to continue driving the transition from coal to gas, while introducing CCS demonstration technology to further reduce air pollution emissions.

Source : BASF





## Mumbai Market Price as on 12/05/2025

Name of Chemical	Current Price	Location
Acetic Acid-Imported Repack	42	Mumbai
Acetic Acid-Domestic Intact	58	Mumbai
Acetic Acid-Domestic Repack	45	Mumbai
Acetone-Imported Repack	84	Mumbai
Acetone-Domestic Intact	95	Mumbai
Acetone-Domestic Intact	84	Mumbai
Acetonitrile-Imported Intact	140	Mumbai
Acetonitrile-Domestic Intact	155	Mumbai
Acetonitrile-Domestic Repack	130	Mumbai
Acrylonitrile-Imported Intact	158	Mumbai
Acrylonitrile-Imported Repack	169	Mumbai
Aniline-Imported Intact	148	Mumbai
Aniline-Domestic Intact	148	Mumbai
Benzene-Domestic Repack	77	Mumbai
Cyclohexane-Imported Intact	98	Mumbai
Cyclohexane-Domestic Intact	100	Mumbai
Cyclohexane-Domestic Repack	95	Mumbai
Cyclohexanone-Imported Intact	130	Mumbai
Cyclohexanone-Imported Repack	118	Mumbai
Cyclohexanone-Domestic Intact	150	Mumbai
Cyclohexanone-Domestic Repack	137	Mumbai
C9 Solvent (99.99% purity)-Imported Repack	105	Mumbai
C9 Solvent (Arham Petrochem)-Imported Repack	104.75	Mumbai
Dibutyl Phthalate-Domestic Intact	120	Mumbai
Dioctyl Phthalate-Domestic Intact	124	Mumbai
Ethyl Acetate-Domestic Intact	79	Mumbai
Ethyl Acetate-Domestic Repack	75	Mumbai
Formaldehyde(37%)-Domestic Repack	18.5	Mumbai
Methanol-Imported Repack	34	Mumbai
Methyl Ethyl Ketone-Imported Intact	117	Mumbai
Methyl Ethyl Ketone-Imported Repack	103	Mumbai
Methyl Isobutyl Ketone-Imported Intact	140	Mumbai
Methyl Isobutyl Ketone-Imported Repack	126	Mumbai







Methyl Methacrylate-Imported Intact	139	Mumbai
Mixed Xylene-Imported Repack	73	Mumbai
Mixed Xylene-Domestic Repack	73	Mumbai
Monoethylene Glycol-Imported Repack	56	Mumbai
Monoethylene Glycol-Domestic Intact	60	Mumbai
Monoethylene Glycol-Domestic Repack	56	Mumbai
Iso propyl Alcohol-Imported Repack	98.5	Mumbai
Iso propyl Alcohol-Domestic Intact	112	Mumbai
Iso propyl Alcohol-Domestic Repack	98	Mumbai
nButanol-Imported Repack	88	Mumbai
nButanol-Domestic Intact	99	Mumbai
nButanol-Domestic Repack	88	Mumbai
Ortho Xylene-Imported Repack	105	Mumbai
Phenol-Imported Repack	98	Mumbai
Phenol-Domestic Intact	108	Mumbai
Phenol-Domestic Repack	99	Mumbai
Phthalic Anhydride-Imported Intact	98	Mumbai
Phthalic Anhydride-Domestic Intact	98	Mumbai
Styrene Monomer-Imported Repack	95	Mumbai
Toluene-Imported Repack	72	Mumbai
Toluene-Domestic Repack	72	Mumbai
Vinyl Acetate Monomer-Imported Repack	81	Mumbai

Note-Above prices have been collected from experts and experienced outsources of the industry. Kindly verify from your end as well.

## International market prices as on 12/05/2025

Product	Regions	Current prices
Feedstock Prices \$/unit		
Crude Oil (\$/barrel)	WTI CRUDE	61.59
	BRENT CRUDE	64.43
	MARS US	72.57
	OPEC BASKET	62.87
Natural Gas	New York	3.74
Gasoline	RBOB	2.13
Heating Oil	US	2.08

Ethanol	US	1.72
Naphtha	FOB Singapore	655
	European	545
	CFR Far East Asia	571
Propane	New York	0.73
Aromatics prices \$/MT		
Benzene	FOB Korea	680
	CFR Japan	695
Styrene	CFR Japan	855
	CFR South East Asia	880
	CFR China	855
	FOB Korea	845
Toluene	CFR China	650
	CFR South East Asia	710
	FOB Korea	640
	CFR Japan	650
Iso-Mix Xylene	CFR South East Asia	690
	CFR Taiwan	690
	FOB Korea	670
MEG	CFR China	495
	CFR South East Asia	500
Methanol	CFR China	256
	CFR Korea	337
	CFR South East Asia	340
	CFR Taiwan	324
Solvent-MX	CFR South East Asia	675
	FOB Korea	610
	CFR China	640
Ortho Xylene	CFR South East Asia	880
	FOB Korea	940
	CFR China	870
Para Xylene	CFR South East Asia	780
	FOB Korea	760
	CFR Taiwan	780
Propylene	FOB Japan	770







	FOB Korea	775
	CFR China	800
	CFR South East Asia	815
Propylene Glycol	FOB Korea	820
	CFR China	850
Ethylene	CFR North East Asia	785
	CFR South East Asia	865
	FOB Japan	730
	FOB Korea	735
EDC	CFR Far East Asia	155
	CFR South East Asia	160
Butadiene	CFR China	1000
	CFR South East Asia	935
	FOB Korea	975
Benzene	FOB Rotterdam	660
Methanol	FOB Rotterdam	240
Ortho Xylene	FOB Rotterdam	1125
Para Xylene	FOB Rotterdam	785
Solvent-MX	FOB Rotterdam	750
Styrene	FOB Rotterdam	1280
Toluene	FOB Rotterdam	830
Benzene C/G	FOB US Gulf	244
Toluene C/G	FOB US Gulf	271
Styrene C/LB	FOB US Gulf	44
Para Xylene \$/MT	FOB US Gulf	835
Mix Xylene C/G	FOB US Gulf	274
Methanol C/G	FOB US Gulf	87
Intermediates prices \$/MT		
Acrylonitrile	CFR Far East Asia	1175
	CFR South East Asia	1175
	CFR South Asia	1170
VCM	CFR Far East Asia	530
	CFR South East Asia	560
МТВЕ	FOB Singapore	670
	FOB US Gulf	720

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Phenol	CFR China	800
	CFR South East Asia	875
	FOB US Gulf	1146
	FOB Rotterdam	705
Acetone	CFR China	780
	CFR South East Asia	720
	CFR Far East Asia	680
	FOB US Gulf	1047
	FOB Rotterdam	735
Caprolactum	CFR Far East Asia	1270
	CFR South East Asia	1405
Caustic Soda	FOB North East Asia	395
	CFR South East Asia	455
Ethyl Acetate	FOB US Gulf	1543
	FOB Rotterdam	1094
	FD North West Europe(Euro/mt)	1060
Butyl Acetate	FOB US Gulf	1738
	FOB Rotterdam	1265
	FD North West Europe(Euro/mt)	1210
MEK	FOB Rotterdam	1391
	FD North West Europe(Euro/mt)	1320
IPA	FOB US Gulf	1300
	FOB Rotterdam	1151
	FD North West Europe(Euro/mt)	1110
NBA	CFR China	930
	CFR South East Asia	915
	CFR Far East Asia	910
Octanol	CFR China	970
	CFR South East Asia	1015
	CFR Far East Asia	960
DOP	CFR China	1130
	CFR South East Asia	1135
	CFR Far East Asia	1125
Phthalic Anhydride	CFR China	970
	CFR South East Asia	955





	CFR Far East Asia	945
РТА	CFR Far East Asia	600
	CFR South East Asia	620
Acetic Acid	CFR Far East Asia	395
	CFR South East Asia	400
	CFR South Asia	377
	FOB China	320
VAM	CFR China	845
	CFR South East Asia	785
	CFR South Asia	854

Shippi	ng term	Description
FOB	Free on Board	The seller quotes a price including the cost of delivering goods to the nearest port. The buyer bears all the shipping expenses and is responsible to get the products from that port to its final destination. In simple terms, FOB price means the buyer has to bear the shipping costs completely. This is one of the most used shipping terms by international buyers and sellers.
EXW	Ex-Works	The seller has no involvement with the transportation costs and risks. The buyer has to collect the goods from the seller's site and get them to the final destination. All the costs and risks are borne by the buyer. It is advisable that the buyer purchases insurance since the goods can get damaged in transit. EXW is ideal when the buyer and seller are in the same country or region
CFR	Cost and Freight	The seller pays the loading and freight costs from his premises up to the destination port. Then, the buyer has to arrange for the goods to be transported from the port to his premises. The seller is only responsible for the cost of shipping the products to the destination port. CFR is used for products transported by sea or inland waterways only. The seller does not bear the risk of loss or damage during transit.
CIF	Cost, Insurance, and Freight	If the buyer opts for CIF price, the seller pays for the loading and freight costs right from his premises up to the destination port as well as insurance. In the case of damage or loss, the seller bears the risk completely. The buyer has to arrange for transportation of the goods from the port to his premises. CIF is a safer option than CFR since the goods are insured by the seller up to their arrival at the destination port.
DAP	Delivered at Place	It was previously known as DDU, Delivery Duty Unpaid. In this case, the seller is responsible for getting the goods from his own factory up to the premises of the buyer. He also bears the risk in the case of loss or damage of the goods right until the products are delivered to the buyer. The buyer only has to pay the import duties or custom clearance charges.
DDP	Delivery Duty Paid	The seller is responsible for shipping the goods from his factory to the destination address provided by the buyer, usually his factory or warehouse and is also liable for any damage or loss of goods during transit. The seller also takes care of the customs, VAT, or import duties levied on the products. The buyer only has to receive the products at the destination. In most cases, most sellers only offer DDP for small shipments.



FD North	Free Delivered Southeast Asia is	Free Delivered North West Europe	Free Delivered North West Furope	Free Delivered North West Europe
West Europe Countries Groups	composed of eleven countries: Brunei, Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, Timor- Leste, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.	Far East Asia:The following countries are considered to be located in the Far East: China, Hong Kong, Macau, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Mongolia, Siberia, Taiwan, Brunei, Cambodia, East Timor, Malaysia, Laos, Indonesia, Myanmar, Singapore, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.	South Asia: The region consists of the countries of Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, the Maldives, and Sri Lanka	Northwestern Europe usually consists of the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Northern France, Northern Germany, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Iceland.

## Opening Ports Price (Rs/kg) of Chemicals as on 12/05/2025 USD Exchange Rate: 86.04 INR

Producers	Current Prices (INR/kg)	Prices in USD/mt Equivalent to INR/kg	Location
Acetic Acid	38	448.59	Ex-Kandla
Acetic Acid	37.5	442.69	Ex-Mumbai
Acetonitrile-imported int	act 140	1652.70	Ex-Bhiwandi
Acetone	78	920.79	Ex-Mumbai
Acrylic Acid	86.5	1021.13	Ex-Mumbai
Acrylonitrile	103	1215.91	Ex-Kandla
Adipic Acid	99	1168.69	Ex-Bhiwandi
Aniline Oil	120	1416.60	Ex-Kandla
Benzene	68	802.74	Ex-Vizaz
Butyl Acetate	80.5	950.30	Ex-Kandla
Butyl Acrylate Monomer	111	1310.35	Ex-Kandla
Butyl Glycol	100	1180.50	Ex-Kandla
C10	90	1062.45	Ex-Kandla
С9	77	908.98	Ex-Kandla
Carbon Black-regular grad	de 60	708.30	Ex-Mumbai
Caustic Soda Lye	40	472.20	Ex-Dahej
Chloroform	12	141.66	Ex-Dahej
Citric Acid-ANHYD	75	885.37	Ex-Bhiwandi
Citric Acid-Mono	66	779.13	Ex-Bhiwandi
Cyclohexane	87.5	1032.94	Ex-Hazira





Cyclohexanone	104	1227.72	Ex-Kandla
DMF Drum	70	826.35	Ex-Bhiwandi
DEG	72	849.96	Ex-Hazira
EDC	19.5	230.20	Ex-Kandla
Epoxy Resin	189	2231.14	Ex-Nhava Sheva
Ethyl Acrylate	131	1546.45	Ex-Kandla
Formic Acid	65	767.32	Ex-Bhiwandi
Glycerine	106	1251.33	CIF Nhava Sheva
N-Heptane	205	2420.02	Ex-Bhiwandi
Hexane	74.5	879.47	Ex-Kandla
Hydrogen Peroxide-50%	27	318.73	Ex-Bhiwandi
Isobutanol	78.5	926.69	Ex-Kandla
IPA	86	1015.23	Ex-Kandla
IPA	87	1027.03	Ex-Mumbai
LAB	130	1534.65	Imported
Maleic Anhydride-Drum	88	1038.84	Ex-Mumbai
MDC	24	283.32	Ex-Dahej
MEG	50.5	596.15	Ex-Mumbai
MEK	91	1074.25	Ex-Kandla
Melamine	74	873.57	Imported
Methanol	27.5	324.64	Ex-Kandla
Methanol	27.5	324.64	Ex-Mumbai
MIBK	111	1310.35	Ex-Hazira
Mix Xylene-Solvent Grade	65	767.32	Ex-Kandla
Mix Xylene-Solvent Grade	66.5	785.03	Ex-Mumbai
MMA	130	1534.65	Ex-Hazira
N-Butanol	78	920.79	Ex-Kandla
N-Propanol	92	1086.06	Ex-Kandla
NPAC	85	1003.42	Ex-Kandla
Octanol	100	1180.50	Ex-Kandla
Ortho Xylene	88.5	1044.74	Ex-Kandla
Phenol	88.5	1044.74	Ex-Kandla
Phenolic Resin	165	1947.82	Ex-Indore
Phthalic Anhydride	97	1145.08	Ex-Mumbai
Propylene Glycol	84	991.62	Ex-Kandla





Sodium Nitrate (50Kg Bag)	61	720.10	Ex-Make-Lasons
Soda Ash Light	35	413.17	Ex-Bhiwandi
Styrene Monomer	85	1003.42	Ex-Kandla
Styrene Monomer	86	1015.23	Ex-Mumbai
Sulphuric Acid	14	165.27	Ex-Vapi
Tio2 (Anatase Grade)	190	2242.95	Ex-Bhiwandi
Tio2 (Rutile Grade)	212	2502.66	Ex-Bhiwandi
Toluene	65	767.32	Ex-Kandla
Toluene	66	779.13	Ex-Mumbai
VAM	73.5	867.67	Ex-Kandla
VAM	75	885.37	Ex-Hazira

## Producer Prices (Rs/kg) of Chemicals as on 12/05/2025

Producers	Current Price	Import parity	Location
	(Rs/kg)	Price in USD/MT	
Accord-Ethyl Acetate	64.5	749.65	Ex-Maharashtra
Accord-Ethyl Acetate	67	790.93	Ex-Maharashtra
Arham Petrochem-C9	76.75	906.03	Ex-Kandla
Arham Petrochem-C9	77.75	917.84	Ex-Ahmedabad
Arham Petrochem-C10	89.5	1056.55	Ex-Kandla
Arham Petrochem-C10	89	1050.64	Ex-Ahmedabad
Arham Petrochem-C10 (Imported Repack)	95.75	1130.33	Ex-Bhiwandi
Arham Petrochem-MTO/White Spirit (KL)	59.65	704.17	Ex-Kandla
Arham Petrochem-MTO/White Spirit (KL)	60.65	715.97	Ex-Ahmedabad
Arham Petrochem-De-Aromatised D40	130	1534.65	Ex-Kandla
Arham Petrochem-De-Aromatised D40	131	1546.45	Ex-Ahmedabad
Arham Petrochem-De-Aromatised D60	139	1640.89	Ex-Kandla
Arham Petrochem-De-Aromatised D60	140	1652.70	Ex-Ahmedabad
Andhra Petrochemicals-Iso-Butanol	85	1003.42	Ex-Vishakhapatnam
Andhra Petrochemicals-N-Butanol	73.5	867.67	Ex-Vishakhapatnam
Andhra Petrochemicals-Octanol	96	1133.28	Ex-Vishakhapatnam
BASF-Adipic Acid	134	1581.87	Imported
BPCL-2-Ethyl Hexanol (B)	94.5	1115.57	Ex-Kochi
BPCL-2-Ethyl Hexanol (P)	105.83	1249.32	Ex-Kochi







BPCL-2-Ethyl Hexyl Acrylate (B)	116	1369.38	Ex-Kochi
BPCL-2-Ethyl Hexyl Acrylate (P)	126	1487.43	Ex-Kochi
BPCL-Acrylic Acid (B)	87	1027.03	Ex-Kochi
BPCL-Acrylic Acid (P)	96	1133.28	Ex-Kochi
BPCL-Benzene	67.8	800.38	Ex-Mumbai
BPCL-Butyl Acrylate (B)	106	1251.33	Ex-Kochi
BPCL-Butyl Acrylate (B)	114.25	1348.72	Ex-Kandla
BPCL-Butyl Acrylate (P)	116	1369.38	Ex-Kochi
BPCL-Hexane (KL)	74.75	882.42	Ex-Mumbai
BPCL-Hexane (MT)	112.58	1329.00	Ex-Mumbai
BPCL-Iso-Butanol (B)	74.48	879.24	Ex-Kochi
BPCL-Iso-Butanol (P)	85.48	1009.09	Ex-Kochi
BPCL-MTO (KL)	78.15	922.56	Ex-Mumbai
BPCL-N-Butanol (B)	75.48	891.04	Ex-Kochi
BPCL-N-Butanol (B)	77.98	920.55	Ex-Kandla
BPCL-N-Butanol (P)	86.48	1020.89	Ex-Kochi
BPCL-Paraffin Wax	105	1239.52	Ex-Delhi
BPCL-Sulphur (Molten)	30.12	355.57	Ex-Mumbai
BPCL-Toluene	65	767.32	Ex-Mumbai
Deepak Phenolics-Acetone	76.5	903.08	Ex-Dahej Gujarat
Deepak Phenolics-IPA	85.25	1006.37	Ex-Dahej Gujarat
Deepak Phenolics-Phenol	84	991.62	Ex-Dahej Gujarat
GACL-Caustic Soda Lye	37.75	445.64	Ex-Dahej Gujarat
GACL-MDC	29	342.34	Ex-Bharuch Gujarat
GNFC-Acetic Acid	39.5	466.30	Ex-Bharuch Gujarat
GNFC-Aniline Oil	123.5	1457.92	Ex-Bharuch Gujarat
GNFC-Ethyl Acetate	67	790.93	Ex-Bharuch Gujarat
GNFC-TDI Drum	195	2301.97	Ex-Bharuch Gujarat
Grasim-MDC	29	342.34	Ex-Gujarat
GSFC-Cyclohexane	79.5	938.50	Ex-Gujarat
HOCL-Acetone	95.5	1127.38	Ex-Kochi
HOCL-Phenol	103.5	1221.82	Ex-Kochi
IOCL-Banzene	75	885.37	Ex-Vadodara Gujarat
IOCL-DEG	58.9	695.31	Ex-Odisha(Paradip)
IOCL-DEG	58.9	695.31	Ex-Panipat



IOCL-LAB	160	1888.80	Ex-Gujarat
IOCL-MEG	53.1	626.84	Ex-Odisha(Paradip)
IOCL-MEG	54.6	644.55	Ex-Panipat
IOCL-Paraffin Wax	105	1239.52	Ex-Delhi
Jubilant-Ethyl Acetate	68.5	808.64	Ex-Maharashtra
Laxmi-Ethyl Acetate	66	779.13	Ex-Maharashtra
Meghmani-Caustic Soda Lye	39.5	466.30	Ex-Bharuch Gujarat
Meghmani-MDC	29	342.34	Ex-Ankleshwar Gujarat
NIRMA-LAB	150	1770.75	Ex-Vadodra
Reliance-Caustic Soda Lye	37.5	442.69	Ex-Gujarat
Reliance-DEG	NA	Not Available	Ex-Jamnagar
Reliance-LAB	160	1888.80	Ex-Vadodra
Reliance-MEG	NA	Not Available	Ex-Jamnagar
Reliance-Mix Xylene	64.75	764.37	Ex-Jamnagar
Reliance-PTA	67.4	795.66	Ex-Dahej Gujarat
Reliance-Toluene	64	755.52	Ex-Jamnagar
SI GROUP-Phthalic Anhydride	94.5	1115.57	Ex-Navi Mumbai
TATA Chemicals-Soda Ash light	34	401.37	Ex-Bhiwandi

All of the above prices are provided by chemical supdates.com. If you wish to subscribe to the pricing module, please send us an email at info@chemicalmarket.net or call us on +91-877-9830-330



# BASF partners with Plug Power to deploy purification solutions in their advanced hydrogen liquefaction plants



- Cooperation Agreement to incorporate BASF's Purivate<sup>™</sup> Pd15 DeOxo catalysts into Plug Power's hydrogen liquefaction plants
- BASF to provide key materials for efficient hydrogen purification, including oxygen and water removal solutions
- Parties are dedicated to delivering enhance economic viability of liquid hydrogen plants

Ba Cooperation Agreement with Plug Power (NASDAQ: PLUG), a global leader in comprehensive solutions for the green hydrogen economy, positioning BASF's advanced DeOxo catalysts as an offer within Plug Power's hydrogen liquefaction plants globally to enhance their market offerings, improving reliability and cost efficiency.

BASF's DeOxo catalysts, including the innovative Purivate<sup>™</sup> Pd15 product, offer exceptional catalyst performance at low temperatures, reducing the need for expensive precious metals. These materials have been fully qualified for use in Plug Power's hydrogen liquefaction plants, establishing BASF as a preferred and specified product provider. In addition to the DeOxo catalysts for the efficient removal of oxygen, Plug Power has also qualified adsorbents like Sorbead® Air for use in their hydrogen plants. Sorbead Air, a specialty aluminosilicate gel, offers energy-efficient dehydration of electrolyzed hydrogen. The primary focus of this collaboration is on hydrogen liquefaction plants with capacities of 30, 60, and 90 tons per day. BASF has successfully passed a rigorous qualification technical process, supported by an extensive operating reference list, demonstrating its capability and reliability in this sector.

"BASF has a rich history in hydrogen purification and has built a robust portfolio that features large-scale hydrogen purification units in our own facilities. We are proud to have also earned the approval of other leading players in the green hydrogen sector", said Detlef Ruff, Senior Vice President, Chemical Catalysts and Adsorbents at BASF.

"Plug Power has confidence in BASF's extensive experience and expertise in hydrogen purification. We believe this collaboration will provide our clients with proven and reliable end-to-end solutions that enhance the economic viability of liquid hydrogen plants", said Daniel Kennedy, Vice President, Process Technology Plug Power.

Source : BASF

## Why the world needs more limestone- but less emissions

#### Vinodhini Harish

#### Introduction:

Limestone is rising as a predominant material in sustainable industrial development. Limestone's versatility and impressive economic benefits are accelerating its demand. Countries like India, Brazil and China are ramping up their construction activities, and there is a huge demand for agricultural activities too. Therefore, there is a global appetite for limestone, and it is soaring like never before. Hence, in this article, we have explored an innovative initiative called Project Butterfly, as it offers groundbreaking solutions to the





environmental challenges that are associated with limestone production. Can the lime industry truly become carbon-neutral? And how near are we to achieving this goal? Please find out the answer in the article, and let's begin!

#### Why demand for limestone rising?

The environmental benefits of limestone are tremendous, and the awareness of the subject is increasing. For instance, limestone has the amazing capability of neutralizing acidic soils and enhancing water filtration. High calcium content and durability make it an ideal choice for a wide range of applications such as road construction, landscaping and soil stabilization.

Several industries are exploring innovative uses of limestone, such as including it in the production of bioplastics and carbon capture technologies. Limestone is widely utilized in the construction industry and considered one of the most valuable resources found on Earth.

Limestone is utilized in several ways in the construction industry, like limestone walls, facades and foundations in residential, commercial and institutional buildings. Limestones are used in cement production, columns, cornices, sculptures, facades other and applications. Increasing demand for new buildings, infrastructure and commercial buildings in countries like China, Brazil and India is stimulating demand for limestone.

On the other hand, limestone is immensely utilized in the agriculture industry, as it effectively neutralizes soil acidity, improves the structure of the soil and provides essential nutrients to the crops.

Furthermore, limestone is a non-toxic



and non-hazardous material that doesn't pose any environmental risks. Therefore, they are increasingly utilized in the production of cement, lime and glass. The limestone production companies are expanding and investing in new technologies to meet the growing demand for limestone.

## What are the key challenges India faces in Limestone production?

India stands in 3rd place in the global limestone production market, generated a revenue of USD 428,490.0 million in 2024 and is expected to surpass USD 631,706.0 million by 2030. Indian companies are focusing on infrastructure development, and therefore, the land left for cultivation is shrinking. This factor has pushed the country to cultivate more agricultural products with the limited cultivable

land. Therefore, the demand for agrochemicals and fertilizers is growing tremendously. This has raised the consumption of limestone and thereby affects limestone production positively.

With this size of demand, India has to face several challenges in limestone production. Some of the common processing challenges include: varying limestone chemical composition, especially when it differs from source to source, or even when acquired from the same deposit. The mineral generally accompanies impurities like Sio2, Al2o3, and Mgco3. This varying composition affects the properties of limestone such as moisture content, grain size, density and much more.

The presence of high silica content in limestone causes abrasion on critical processing equipment such as dryers,




mixers and granulators. Therefore, manufacturers utilize abrasion-resistant steel and protective coatings in highwear zones like mixer pins, drum walls and so on.

Other than these processing technical challenges, India faces broader structural and political challenges due to uneven limestone quality across its logistical geography. There are challenges regional supply and imbalances, as limestones should be transported from states like Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.

There is a need to adopt innovative technologies overcome these to challenges. This would require significant investment in R&D and supportive policies to facilitate the transition to more sustainable production methods.

### Project Butterfly Initiative: Aiming to decarbonize lime production.

Carmeuse, a renowned company, is one of the world's leading producers and traders of lime and limestone products. They have collaborated with the CRM group that provides R&D and technology solutions in limestone production. These major market players joined hands and are working on an initiative named "Project Butterfly".

In existing methods, lime stone production emits a lot of carbon dioxide, which contributes to climate change. However, this new method, "Project Butterfly," is a new way of producing lime that helps in reducing carbon dioxide.

Project Butterfly involves a new type of kiln, which produces gas with almost 100% CO<sub>2</sub>., since the existing methods release hot gases that contain about 20% CO<sub>2</sub>. It is hard to capture it or stop it from releasing into the atmosphere. Nevertheless, the new method releases

100% of  $CO_2$ ., and this makes it easier to capture and store it. The project is designed to capture the release of carbon dioxide, both during the combustion process and process-related  $CO_2$ , 70%. The process thus aims to capture highly concentrated  $CO_2$  and capture it all, because capturing just a portion means the rest will still contribute to global warming. Through this process, all of the  $CO_2$  released is captured, stored and reused.

The technology uses a novel kiln configuration that integrates oxy-fuel combustion technology, and pure oxygen is utilized instead of air for combustion. Therefore, the flue gas is primarily composed of highly concentrated  $CO_2$  and water.

Overall, Carmeuse demonstrated that sustainable and carbon-neutral lime production is achievable through technological innovation and collaboration.

### Bigger picture of the impacts:

The Project Butterfly has conducted the real-world testing with its pilot kiln in Seilles, Belgium, and the company has begun their trials in 2024. The initiative is a major step towards reducing the carbon footprint, and it aims to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 30% across Europe by 2030. They have established a new standard for sustainable industrial materials. Furthermore, the environmental concerns are growing, which has made ESG (environmental, Social, governance) criteria a significant factor, which has made industries, public utilities experience pressure to adopt greener practices. Therefore, the production methods like carbon-neutral lime are warmly invited and celebrated in the industry.

With the project butterfly's technology, the manufacturers can carry out efficient operations like carbon capture, utilization, and storage. The captured carbon is generally stored in geological formations, and they are reused in a variety of sustainable applications like curing green concrete, carbonating beverages, producing synthetic fuels and even enriching greenhouses to boost plant growth.

Overall, the project butterfly facilitates efficiency in the highest possible ways, and it begins with the replacement of traditional air-based combustion with oxyfuel combustion. The combustion with pure oxygen results in concentrated  $CO_2$ , with low separation cost. Also, the carbon capture percentage is above 90% while keeping the entire process highly thermally efficient.

### What lies ahead?

The global infrastructure and agricultural demands are surging, and the importance of limestone is neverending. With the number of applications and eco-friendly properties, it is high time that countries invest in the process of innovating and developing limestone production. India, despite being a top limestone producer, is facing hurdles in the processing complexities, quality variations and logistics. Therefore, innovative projects like Project Butterfly are celebrated and are paving the way for cleaner and more efficient lime production. The next phase of the project is going to be bringing the focus on scaling the technology across the globe and encouraging European countries to adopt oxy-fuel kiln systems as regulations get tighter and ESG pressure increases. Furthermore, there are other steps included after the success this initiative, which include of integration with circular economy models, which is captured CO<sub>2</sub> from lime production can feed into circular carbon economies, being reused in green concrete curing. Carbonated beverages, greenhouse enrichment and so on.





## Harnessing Advanced Technologies The Clean Phenol-Acetone Journey of Deepak Nitrite

### Vinodhini Harish

### Introduction:

eepak Nitrite is one of the D<sub>prominent</sub> Indian specialty chemical manufacturers that has made significant strides in sustainable practices and innovations. They have brought advanced up chemical technologies into the sector. They have made it into the headlines for introducing advanced phenol-acetone manufacturing technology in November 2018 by commissioning a large-scale energy-efficient plant at Dahej, Gujarat. They have consistently demonstrated their commitment to innovation and sustainability. They have also integrated advanced technologies into their operations and always strive to stand out in the market. In this article, we have discussed some of their accomplishments and strategies that have made them achieve what they have. This real story is interesting and offers a lot to learn. Let's begin!

Launching Clean phenol-acetone manufacturing process- less energy and less waste:

Deepak Nitrite, a leading Indian specialty chemical manufacturer, is making significant strides in sustainable innovation and advanced chemical technologies. The company has recently made headlines for launching a clean phenol-acetone manufacturing process that uses less energy and generates less waste—an important step toward greener and more efficient chemical production.

This efficient manufacturing process is based on the globally recognized cumene process that simultaneously yields phenol and acetone from benzene

and propylene through a multi-step chemical reaction. The first step is the alkylation process, where benzene reacts with propylene to form cumene(isopropylbenzene). Traditionally, the reaction utilizes liquid acid catalysts and generates significant acidic waste. However, Deepak Nitrite uses advanced solid acid catalysts like zeolites, which are not only more selective but they are also reusable. The usage of reusable catalysts and reducing hazardous by-products reduces the operational risks and makes the overall process more efficient.

Since the efficiency of the raw materials is also increased, while keeping up the efficiency higher, it is well appreciated in the industry.

Then the second phase is oxidation, in this phase the cumene is converted into cumene hydroperoxide by reacting with oxygen under controlled temperature and pressure. Deepak's process uses clean oxidation techniques and systems that continuously flow with improved safety and reduced energy consumption. Overall, the system efficiently manages oxygen levels and reaction conditions. The company also minimizes side reactions and ensures a high yield of the desired intermediate.

The conclusive stage is cleavage, in this phase, the cumene hydroperoxide is split into phenol and acetone. The step utilizes sulfuric acid, which imposes safety and environmental hazards. Deepak Nitrite employs solid acid catalysts in this step as well. This results in cleaner and more efficient reactions. The use of solid catalysts eradicates the generation of corrosive waste and extends the catalyst's life, and achieves high selectivity. Precisely, fewer unwanted by-products like alpha-

methylstyrene are generated.

There were several operational advantages, and they were carried out in multiple stages of the operation. The company has integrated heat recovery systems to capture and reuse thermal energy from exothermic reactions. They have optimized the reactor design and automated the process controls that minimize the heat loss while ensuring consistent quality. The substitution of liquid acid catalysts with solid ones eliminates the acid waste generation.

They have also carried out high atom economy and by-product suppression through precise control over reaction parameters. They have used closed-loop systems for solvent recovery and safer handling due to the elimination of corrosive materials. The optimization helps in continuous flow operations and thereby reduces the risks associated with batch inconsistencies.

India was heavily dependent on phenol imports for chemical manufacturing, and Deepak Nitrite has reversed that to a massive extent. Now, India is witnessing good economic resilience. Along with these, factors like fewer effluents, lower carbon emissions, and reduced energy usage align with global ESG goals.

This innovation helps in reducing the dependence on imports for phenolacetone, whereas previously, there was a major the domestic gap in supply chain. petrochemical The advanced process at a world-scale facility, the company has not only strengthened its market position but also demonstrated its potential for greener manufacturing in the Indian chemical industry.







## Advancing fine chemicals for Next-gen technologies:

Beyond its strides in sustainable bulk chemical manufacturing, Deepak Nitrite is strategically expanding its footprint in the realm of fine and performance chemicals. They have positioned themselves at the forefront of nextgeneration technologies. The company is transitioning from a commodity chemical manufacturer to a strategic player in high-purity and value-added specialty chemicals, They have developed a clear focus on developing the electronics and energy storage sectors. Consider some of their initiatives:

• Deepak Chem Tech Limited (DCTL): A new Step forward:

In 2023, Deepak Nitrite set up a new company called Deepak Chem Tech Limited that focuses on producing

advanced and specialized chemicals. The company operates with an investment of around INR5000 crore, and the goal of DCTL is to manufacture chemicals in India instead of importing them from China. The company also focuses on developing pure chemical formulations that have higher demand in manufacturing semiconductors, medicines, and modern electronics. They also build expertise in specialty chemical processes like fluorination and manufacture materials that are used in batteries and display screens. Furthermore, to meet the rising demands, DCTL will be starting new projects such as brownfield projects, which are upgrading the existing plants and Greenfield projects, which are building brand-new factories, especially for polycarbonate compounding.

• R&D infrastructure investment: Vadodara R&D centre:

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Deepak Nitrite had projected a facility, a state-of-the-art Research & Development Center at Savli, Vadodara, to be fully functional by now; however, the construction is nearing completion, and the centre represents a significant investment of around INR 115 crore and designed to feature advanced is laboratories and pilot plants. The primary focus of the centre is to foster research. innovation in chemical especially sustainable and in environmentally friendly processes.

The primary goal of the facility is to build cutting-edge laboratories and pilot plants. This facility focuses on enhancing the company's R&D strength in high-purity and high-performance chemicals. It will also emphasize sustainable processes and import substitution technologies.

### • Entering the OLED display market:

Deepak Nitrite has begun to make specialty chemicals that are utilized in OLED displays. OLED stands for Organic Light Emitting Diode, which is a technology used in TV screens, smartphones and car displays. These screens are known for their bright colours and sharp images. Therefore, the demand for these screens is rising. To build these OLED screens. the manufacturers need chemicals that are highly stable and possess the highest purity. Since even the slightest impurity can destroy the quality, Deepak Nitrite is very focused on making these pure chemicals, especially certain fine aromatic compounds and photoresist materials that are used in making the display panels.

With their expertise, the company is also exploring special materials and is looking into advanced materials like Fluorene and carbazole compounds. They are used in the light-emitting layer of OLEDS, which is the part that actually glows to form the images. These materials must be carefully designed to give the right colour, brightness and long life to the display.

Through their developments, Deepak Nitrite is aiming at high-end markets like premium TVs, advanced smartphones and digital screens in cars. These are the areas where chemical quality and consistency are crucial. Overall, Deepak Nitrite is aiming to become a trusted supplier of these critical materials.

Entry into photoresist chemicals for semiconductors:

India is importing most of its semiconductor-grade chemicals, which include photoresists, from countries like Japan, South Korea and China. There is an increasing demand for electronics and electric vehicles. Therefore, India is striving to manufacture chips locally, and Deepak Nitrite is stepping up to meet the demand and reduce the import dependency by developing and producing photoresist chemicals domestically.

#### Innovation center in Pune:

Deepak Nitrite has set up a dedicated innovation centre in Pune to intensify its focus on research and development of new chemical processes, sustainable technologies and advanced materials.

By building the centre, the company is building strong internal capabilities for long-term growth and leadership in specialty chemicals.

Takeaway:

Deepak Nitrite has strategically evolved from a traditional commodity chemical producer into a trailblazer in sustainable and high-performance specialty chemicals. By introducing an energyefficient phenol-acetone production pioneering domestic process, of critical photoresist production materials, investing heavily in R&D infrastructure and targeting next-gen applications like OLED and batteries, the company has shown their commitment innovation. to environmental responsibility, and national self-reliance. Their approach spans green manufacturing, import substitution and advanced electronics support that demonstrates how Indian chemical players can rise to the challenges and reinforce the country's position as a serious player in the specialty and electronics chemical space.

## Wanhua Chemical Presented In-Cosmetics Europe Bringing Green Innovation Solutions

 $R^{
m ecently,\ the\ In-Cosmetics\ Europe,}$  the international exhibition for cosmetic and personal care ingredients, opened in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Wanhua Chemical continues to be committed to providing innovative solutions. with the development direction of "sustainable raw materials, sustainable processes, and sustainable end-products," to meet the current and future sustainable development needs of the personal care, home care, industrial and public facility cleaning, and hygiene industries

### 1,3-Butanediol – 100% Naturally Sourced, Low-Carbon Production

Carfil<sup>®</sup> 1,3BG, as an excellent humectant and solvent, features high purity and low irritation. It provides a refreshing skin feel, effectively reduces the stickiness of formulations, enhances the efficiency of preservative systems, and reduces the use of preservatives to ensure product safety. Basing on Wanhua Chemical's first-class distillation and purification technology, the odor control of Carfil<sup>®</sup> 1,3BG can reach an industry-leading level. Meanwhile, the production process uses green electricity and lowcarbon processes to achieve 100% natural sourcing and full life of carbon cycle.

### Glycolipid – 100% Bio-based, 100% Naturally Fermented, 100% Biodegradable

Glucolipid, as a natural, safe, and environmentally friendly bio-surfactant, are entirely made from plant-derived oils. They have extremely high surface activity and low irritation, with a unique skin feel, and can be widely used in mild cleaning products such as personal care, oral care, and baby care. In addition, carbomer, diols, silicone emulsifiers, film formers, and other innovative and sustainable industry solutions are also displayed to this exhibition.

With the full-chain sustainable concept of "raw materials-processend products," Wanhua Chemical injects green vitality into the personal care field through breakthroughs in natural sourcing, low-carbon processes, and biodegradable technologies. We will continue to focus on the field of green chemistry and promote the industry towards a more efficient, safer, and more sustainable direction.

Source : Wanhua



# Cementing Sustainability UCLAs Zerocal Could Slash Industry CO<sub>2</sub> by 98 Percentage

### Vinodhini Harish

Introduction:

**T**t was only in the dreams that a Ltechnology was brought up that eliminates up to 98% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, until this innovation reengineers the traditional cement-making process! Scientists at the UCLA Institute for Carbon Management (ICM) have introduced a potentially transformative breakthrough and named it Zerocal (Zero Carbon Lime). With global construction booming, the entire system relies on cement. This indispensable with material comes а steep environmental cost and contributes nearly 8% of global Carbon emissions. This innovation entered the industry at the right time. In this short read, we have explored the technology, its benefits, how it matters to India and how this could evolve in the future. Let's begin!

Researchers at UCLA have created a process called Zerocal- Zero Carbon Lime. Through this process, the manufacturers can make cement with almost no carbon emissions. Reports say that cement production is one of the polluters in biggest the world, responsible for about 8% of global carbon emissions. Traditional cement is made by heating limestone, which releases a lot of CO<sub>2</sub> and from burning fossil fuels and from the chemical reactions themselves. Zerocal process does this differently and makes it more efficient as well.

Instead of burning limestone, the process involves dissolving it in a liquid and separating the useful calcium. The process uses electricity and not fire, which turns calcium into the key cement ingredient. Therefore, the process produces clean hydrogen and oxygen that can power the process, and there is no need for fossil fuels in the process. Although limestone is used in the process, it is used more cleanly and smartly.

India is one of the leading cement producers in the world, and the demand is rising fast. Zerocal gives the country a chance to make the process greener and attract more exports. Overall, through this process, India can become a global leader in low-carbon construction materials.

Zerocal could change how the cement is made across the globe with their idea, cutting the pollution and keeping the costs manageable. Thereby helping the countries as well to grow responsibly and protecting the planet.

## Creating a real-world impact: A pilot in India:

Ultra-tech Cement, recognizing its potential, has partnered with UCLA to implement the Zerocal process at one of its units. The goal is to serve several metric tons of zero-carbon lime daily and set the stage for one of the world's first low-emission cement production lines.

Zerocal is preparing itself as a landmark in the sector of innovation in green chemistry and electrochemical engineering. This eliminates the core chemical emissions of cement making and enables on-site renewable fuel production while setting itself as a precedent for rethinking "hard-to-abate" industries.

### Localizing technologies:

India should begin focusing on localizing the technology to fully

harness the potential of the Zerocal innovation. The collaborations with premier research institutions like the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITS), the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) and the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) can help adapt the Zerocal process to match the Indian limestone grades and available energy inputs. In addition to that, India's abundant renewable energy resources like solar, wind and emerging green hydrogen offer a cost-effective pathway for scaling up the technology in an environmentally sustainable manner.

## Governmental supports accelerate the deployment of these technologies:

India requires government intervention, as it is crucial in accelerating the deployment of Zerocal. Government initiatives offer research and development grants, tax incentives, and fast-track approvals for pilot plants, which can motivate industrial adoption. On the other hand, when the government mandates the usage of lowcarbon cement in public infrastructure projects through green procurement policies can create a stable demand base, thereby encouraging the private sector to adopt technologies like Zerocal. That said, several existing Indian government policies and missions indirectly support technologies like Zerocal.

Zerocal generates hydrogen as a byproduct, which can be used as a clean fuel. Now India's push for green hydrogen adoption may encourage cement companies to integrate processes like Zerocal, which contributes hydrogen economy.

PAT scheme -Perform, Achieve and Trade PAT scheme incentivizes industries like cement to reduce specific





energy consumption. Since Zerocal is a low-emission process and can help companies to meet or exceed PAT targets, the PAT scheme truly backs the technology.

There are other initiatives like Smart Cities Mission, PM Awas Yojana and green building codes like IGBC, GRIHA and others that support low-carbon materials that create market demand for innovations like Zerocal cement.

What could be the future with(for) Zerocal?

The industries are involved in long-term sustainable development and energy

transition planning. These initiatives, like India's Net Zero roadmap, green hydrogen mission and low-carbon industrial growth strategies, are highly effective in bringing Zerocal on a large scale.

These initiatives can provide policy frameworks and roadmaps for the largescale deployment of Zerocal. The support also includes Zerocal in hydrogen for Hard-Abate Sectors (HHAS) policies. It is most likely to recommend Zerocal in future decarbonization studies of construction and cement.

Takeaway:

Zerocal doesn't stop at cleaning up the cement, it rewrites the rulebook. The process keeps limestone in play yet enables a future where growth and green goals exist. Countries like India are surpassing scientific milestones as this is a strategic opportunity to lead the world in low-carbon construction materials, drive green job creation and contribute meaningful aspects to the global climatic mission. We can expect more growth through technology, apart from benefits like opening doors to the international climate finance, low-carbon exports and carbon credit monetization. It also supports energy transitions through the integration of green hydrogen and so on.

## Shin-Etsu Chemical develops new silicone products for personal care use that will improve texture and functionality in cosmetics

Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Tokyo; President: Yasuhiko Saitoh; hereinafter, "Shin-Etsu Chemical") has developed new silicone products for personal care applications as part of its silicon chemistry-driven solutions (Shin-Etsu Silicones Solution-EngineeringTM).

In the personal care industry, research and development activities are being carried out on various themes such as addressing diverse consumer demand and environmental issues and improving production efficiency. In response to these needs, Shin-Etsu Chemical has added new products to its lineup.

### New Products

KF-6070W and KF-6080W are silicones in which some of the methyl groups in the molecular structure of dimethyl silicone oil (INCI name: dimethicone) have been replaced with hydrophilic functional groups. Both products combine high affinity with water due to their hydrophilic functional groups, while also imparting the excellent characteristics of silicone—high fluidity and smooth, non-sticky feel—to cosmetics and other products.

KF-6070W is a water-soluble silicone wax, characterized by its smooth melting and spreading sensation on the skin. It can be widely used as a feel enhancer in water-based and O/W (Oil in Water (\*1)) hair care, skin care, and base makeup products. Additionally, KF-6080W is a silicone emulsifier for O/W formulation type (\*2). This enables designing formulations with reduced stickiness and a smooth texture. It is liquid at room temperature, making it suitable for use in cold process (\*3) manufacturing personal of care products.

KSG-16-SF and KSG-19-PF are silicone elastomer gels with high light-diffusing

properties. KSG-16-SF features a high soft-focus effect, and KSG-19-PF is characterized by a light powdery texture. Since they can both serve as alternative materials for microplastic beads used in personal care products, we will continue to explore this potential.

We will exhibit new products at our booth at CITE JAPAN 2025, the 12th Cosmetic Ingredients and Technology Exhibition, which will take place from May 14 to 16, 2025, at Pacifico Yokohama in Yokohama.

Silicones are available in various forms such as fluids, emulsions, gels, and powders, and they combine the high functionality and quality required for personal care product ingredients. At Shin-Etsu Chemical, we will continue to expand the sales of silicone products, which are essential for enhancing the added value of personal care products and contribute to sustainability.



\*1 O/W (Oil in Water): A state where oil droplets are dispersed in water and uniformly mixed (emulsified).

elements emphasized in the planning and development stages of personal care products.

appearance or shape. One of the \*3 Cold process: A process that does not require heating and dissolving.

Source : Shin-Etsu

#### \*2 Formulation type : Refers to the

# Evonik launches particle dispersion portfolio to enhance dot sharpness and resolution of inkjet ink receptive coatings

Additives Evonik Coating has introduced a range of four new AERODISP<sup>®</sup> dispersions based on SiO2 or Al2O3 particles, designed to improve ink waterborne inkjet receptive coatings.

- New series of **AERODISP**<sup>®</sup> for dispersions improved waterborne inkjet ink receptive coatings
- Enabling excellent dot sharpness • and resolution, crucial for highquality digital printing
- Portfolio features both anionic and cationic options to meet various ink and application needs

ssen, Germany. Evonik Coating EAdditives has introduced a range of four new AERODISP® dispersions based on SiO2 or Al2O3 particles, designed to improve waterborne inkjet ink receptive coatings.

Excellent dot sharpness and high resolution are key supporting the transition from analogue to digital printing, especially for waterborne inkjet inks. In order to achieve highquality results, it is necessary to control the spreading behavior and fixation of the inks on the substrate.

With the new range of waterborne • AERODISP\* dispersions, Evonik Coating Additives developed has products to ensure high dot sharpness • and fixation of ink droplets on ink

receptive coatings, also known as inkjet The primers. AERODISP \* dispersions can be incorporated by simple

stirring and are compatible with many different binders and formulations.

To meet the needs of different applications, two of these new AERODISP<sup>®</sup> dispersions are anionic and two are cationic. This allows for optimal interaction and fixation of the ink on the primer.

The anionic grades are particularly recommended for food packaging and decorative applications as they are compatible with non-ionic and anionic binder systems. The cationic grades are compatible with non-ionic and cationic binder systems, making them the first choice for primers for e.g., textile inks.

**AERODISP®** Overview of new dispersions:

- AERODISP<sup>®</sup> WR 8520 anionic, • SiO2-based
- AERODISP<sup>®</sup> W 7520 WF - anionic, SiO2-based, excellent food contact status
- AERODISP<sup>®</sup> WK 7330 cationic, SiO2-based
- AERODISP<sup>®</sup> W 630 cationic, Al2O3-based, for high transparency



"We offer a comprehensive range of wetting agents for waterborne inkjet inks. Working with our customers, we have seen how important the substrate is. Ink receptive coatings, or inkjet primers, can ensure the highest resolution when formulated with our new AERODISP<sup>®</sup> dispersions," says Susanne Struck, Global Head of Market Segment Inks at Evonik Coating Additives.

Evonik Coating Additives offers a broad range of products and services for inks, along with a wide selection of additives for waterborne, radiation-curable, and solvent-borne printing inks and inkjet inks.

Source : Evonik







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- Feature Your Products/Tech.
- No Fake Enquiries
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