

Resource Efficiency remains on a growth track

"We want to go on growing faster than global GDP and continue to report an adjusted EBITDA margin of over 20 percent," said Dr. Claus Rettig, Chairman of the Board of Management of Evonik Resource Efficiency GmbH, at the Commerzbank Sector Conference in Frankfurt (Germany) on September 8. Effective July 1, 2015, Evonik Industries implemented its new Group structure, which gives the three chemical segments greater entrepreneurial freedom, allowing differentiated management of their businesses. The Resource Efficiency segment presented itself to investors for the first time at this sector conference.

The Resource Efficiency segment is a leading supplier of innovative products that facilitate energy-efficient and resource-saving solutions for customers. These include attractive industrial applications such as energy-saving tires, wind turbines, lightweight construction and high-performance lubricants.

Above all, selective investments and innovations pave the way for profitable growth in the future. Worldwide, the Resource Efficiency segment has 16 research & development (R&D) centers and in 2014 its R&D ratio (R&D expenses relative to sales) was 4.3 percent.

Resource Efficiency's latest innovations include a new generation of lubricant additives based on comb polymer technology, which will be brought onto the market in fall 2015. These additives reduce vehicle fuel consumption by 3–4 percent and also extend the life of engines and gears. Dr. Rettig: "Our latest high-performance additive expands our leadership in lubricant additive technology. At the same time, it strengthens our position as a provider of energy-efficient system solutions for the automotive industry."

The Resource Efficiency segment's strengths also include innovative materials and processes for 3D printing. It is already an established producer of powders for laser sintering. In addition, Evonik recently took a stake in Wiivv Wearables, a start-up which is one of the first companies to use 3D printing for individualized mass production.

September 8, 2015

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The segment is also making selective investments to expand its leading market positions. For example, it recently started basic engineering for a new world-scale plant to produce precipitated silica for the rubber industry and, above all, the tire industry. Construction of this plant in the south east of the United States, close to major tire production facilities, will start when approval has been received from the relevant authorities, and completion is scheduled for the end of 2017. Investment will be in the upper double-digit million euro range. The new world-scale facility will be Evonik's biggest investment in North America in the past five years.

Company information

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

Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In fiscal 2014 more than 33,000 employees generated sales of around €12.9 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of about €1.9 billion.

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