

## Evonik submits bid for METEX methionine technology platform

November 3, 2016

- Evonik to strengthen its biotechnology platform
- Binding bid for METEX fermentation methionine technology
- Both parties agreed to exclusivity and aim for a timely conclusion of the agreement

**Contact person specialized press**

**Dr. Jürgen Krauter**

Head of Communications  
Nutrition & Care  
Phone +49 6181 59-6847  
Fax +49 6181 59-76847  
juergen.krauter@evonik.com

Essen, Germany. Amino acids produced by fermentation are an important pillar of Evonik's product portfolio for sustainable animal nutrition. The production processes for Biolys® (lysine), ThreAMINO® (threonine) and TrypAMINO® (tryptophane) have been made continuously more efficient over the past years and the portfolio was just recently enlarged by launching ValAMINO® (valine). In order to strengthen its biotechnology platform Evonik intends the acquisition of a large technology package from the French company METabolic EXplorer (METEX) and has submitted a binding offer on October 27<sup>th</sup>. The bid is subject to approval by Evonik committees.

METEX, which is headquartered in Clermont-Ferrand (France), has succeeded in developing a fermentation process for manufacturing methionine. The binding Evonik offer includes the takeover of METEX's entire methionine technology as well as patents, essential bacteria strains, and the inoLa™ brand. These are to be transferred to Evonik after closing.

The transaction also includes a license agreement for the continued use of base technology by METEX. The companies also intend to explore the possibility of a research cooperation on the technological development of biotechnologically produced amino acids.

The companies are planning a timely conclusion of the agreement and have agreed to exclusivity and not to disclose any information on the next steps until the agreement has been signed.

**Evonik Nutrition & Care GmbH**

Rellinghauser Straße 1-11  
45128 Essen  
Telefon +49 201 177-01  
Fax +49 201 177-3475  
Germany

[www.evonik.com](http://www.evonik.com)

**Supervisory Board**

Dr. Ralph Sven Kaufmann, Chairman

**Management Board**

Dr. Reiner Beste, Chairman  
Dr. Hans Josef Ritzert  
Michael Gattermann  
Markus Schäfer

Registered office Essen  
Registered court  
Essen local court  
Commercial registry B 25784  
HR no. FN 431387 v

Founded in 1999 the biotechnology company METabolic EXplorer specializes in the development of biotechnology production processes for bio-based substances that are used in a wide variety of daily everyday products such as textile fibers and feed additives.

#### **Company information**

Evonik, the creative industrial group from Germany, is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals, operating in the Nutrition & Care, Resource Efficiency and Performance Materials segments. The company benefits from its innovative prowess and integrated technology platforms. In 2015 more than 33,500 employees generated sales of around €13.5 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of about €2.47 billion.

#### **About Nutrition & Care**

The Nutrition & Care segment is led by Evonik Nutrition & Care GmbH and contributes to fulfilling basic human needs. That includes applications for everyday consumer goods as well as animal nutrition and health care. This segment employed about 7,000 employees, and generated sales of around €4.9 billion in 2015.

#### **Disclaimer**

In so far as forecasts or expectations are expressed in this press release or where our statements concern the future, these forecasts, expectations or statements may involve known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Actual results or developments may vary, depending on changes in the operating environment. Neither Evonik Industries AG nor its group companies assume an obligation to update the forecasts, expectations or statements contained in this release.