

BASF Chongqing MDI project approved

BASF has received approval for a 400,000 t/y MDI (diphenylmethane diisocyanate) project in Chongqing, China. The investment will total RMB 8 billion (~ EUR 860 million). The facility is expected to start up by 2014.



Rendering of the BASF MDI plant in Chongqing

The project was approved by Chinese authorities, following a stringent examination of environmental, health and safety standards, two rounds of local public consultation and several expert reviews. The facility will consist of an MDI plant, a nitrobenzene plant and an aniline plant, and will cover 40 ha. It will form the center of an integrated chemical production complex operated by the **Chongqing (Changshou) Chemical Industry Park**.

In China, BASF has been producing MDI in Caojing, Shanghai since 2006. The company also has production of MDI in Antwerp, Belgium; Yeosu, Korea; and Geismar, LA, USA.

In addition to the production complex for MDI, BASF is also establishing a new Polyurethane Solutions System House in Chongqing to meet the demand of the growing markets in important industries like construction, appliances, transportation and footwear. The planned System House will have local production with sales, technical service and development personnel to provide fast and competent support to its customers. The System House will be fully integrated into the new MDI plant, says BASF.

The company estimates that there will be at least 300 permanent jobs created through the BASF facility alone when the plant is operating in full swing. At start-up, a total of 17 plants and businesses in the chemical park will immediately begin operation as key partners or suppliers, forming the nexus of a new industry manufacturing cluster serving multiple, labour-intensive industries.

Key safety and environmental protection features of the proposed project include full integration into a chemical park and optimised processes to bring very high efficiency and minimal emissions. The complex is an example of BASF's integrated production concept known as "Verbund" in which waste streams are recycled and used as feedstock for chemical production to maximise efficiency and minimise environmental impact. Furthermore, BASF has introduced a "five levels of safety for isocyanate production" system based on advanced solutions stemming from decades of experience worldwide to meet strictest local and BASF global environmental and safety standards.

Additionally, BASF will implement a "three levels of water protection" system. These processes include water protection measures from other sites BASF has operated for many years near sensitive watercourses such as the Rhine River in Ludwigshafen, Germany, the Schelde River in Antwerp, Belgium (located near the coastline of the North Sea) and the Mississippi River near Geismar, LA, USA.

Adresse:

<http://www.gupta-verlag.com/general/news/industry/9718/basf-chongqing-mdi-project-approved>