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BYK-Chemie GmbH

Postfach 10 02 45
46462 Wesel

Abelstraße 45
46483 Wesel
Germany

T +49(0) 281 670-0
F +49(0) 281 65735
info@byk.com
www.byk-chemie.com

Brazilian Opening Ceremony

On November 23, 2004 the 8th BYK-Chemie application laboratory was officially inaugurated.

On the premises of the BYK-Chemie distributor for Brazil, Bandeirante Quimica, 190 m² of lab area are now available to serve customer needs. Fully equipped, from application to testing equipment, the BYK-Chemie lab is responsible for the Latin American market of coatings and plastics producers.

During the opening ceremony, which was attended by over 100 guests, Mr. Carlos Abreu, Marketing Director of Bandeirante Quimica, presented the new, even more customer-oriented business model of Bandeirante Quimica. Mr. Detlev Lindner, Business Manager Paint Additives of BYK-Chemie, pointed out that the new claim of BYK-Chemie – “Substance for Success” – is clearly reflected in the new application laboratory and its facilities for assisting coatings and plastics formulators with their daily work. Dr. Wolfgang Kortmann, Global Lab Manager of BYK-Chemie, sees in this new laboratory another milestone in customer approach, bringing the company closer to the customers and their regional situation.

BYK-Chemie will extend its laboratory capacities in the near future with applications labs in India and the North of China.

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About BYK-Chemie:

BYK-Chemie is one of the World's Leading Suppliers of Additives used in the Coatings, Inks, and Plastics Industry.

Approximately 85 % of our sales are generated by exports. Our major export markets are Europe, the United States and the Far East.

Chemical additives are used by processing industries in the production of coatings, inks, and plastics. In very small quantities, BYK-Chemie additives simplify manufacturing processes, and significantly improve the quality of finished goods, such as motor vehicles and furniture. BYK-Chemie is a member of ALTANA Chemie AG, Wesel. ALTANA Chemie is developing and producing high quality, innovative products in the sector of specialty chemicals.

BYK-Chemie has been producing additives since 1962 in Wesel. Today it employs over 881 people worldwide, 25 % of whom work in research and development departments or technical laboratories.

For enquiries:

BYK-Chemie GmbH
Frank Dederichs
Head of Market Communication

Tel.: (0281) 670-217
Fax: (0281) 670-660
e-mail: frank.dederichs@altanachemie.com

This press release is also available on the Internet at: www.byk-chemie.com.