

AQUAVI® Met–Met production started in Antwerp

- New source of methionine specifically designed for aquaculture of shrimp and other crustaceans
- Promising global product launch
- Boost for Antwerp as a methionine production site

Essen. At its site in Antwerp (Belgium), Evonik has inaugurated the world's first plant for the production of a new source of methionine specifically designed for shrimp and other crustaceans. The product, sold under the name AQUAVI® Met–Met, is an aquaculture feed additive to make shrimp farming more efficient and sustainable. The plant's modular design allows for increasing production capacity in order to meet customer demand.

“With AQUAVI® Met–Met, we are launching another product for healthy and sustainable animal nutrition. Based on our scientific and technological expertise, we have developed a product innovation that we can now offer to our customers worldwide,” said Dr. Reiner Beste, Chairman of the Board of Management of Evonik Nutrition & Care GmbH, at the inauguration ceremony. Since shrimp farming is concentrated in warmer seas close to the equator, the main markets for AQUAVI® Met–Met are located in Asia as well as in South and Central America. Evonik is already beginning to supply customers from these regions with the new product as the plant is ramped up to capacity.

“We are pleased that Evonik built the first production facility for AQUAVI® Met–Met in Antwerp,” said Frank Daman, Evonik site manager in Antwerp. “The new plant affirms our site's key position in Evonik's global production network for methionine.” AQUAVI® Met–Met is produced in conjunction with an existing methionine plant in a fully backward–integrated process. The environmentally friendly production process is water–based and uses no organic solvents. The Antwerp site with its harbor is an ideal hub for shipping the product to customers worldwide.

AQUAVI® Met–Met, a dipeptide made up of two DL–methionine molecules, achieves the same weight increase in shrimp and crustaceans as conventional methionine sources, but uses only half the active substance. This is mainly due to the fact that the

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dipeptide must be enzymatically broken down in the digestive system of the shrimp and is therefore available for protein synthesis at the right time. That in turn means that a higher share can be processed. In addition, AQUAVI® Met–Met is considerably less water–soluble than other methionine sources and therefore does not leach out of feed as quickly. This relieves the burden on the water.

Evonik has over 60 years of experience in the manufacture of essential amino acids and their derivatives and provides solutions for efficient and sustainable animal nutrition to customers in over one hundred countries. Evonik wants to make an even greater contribution to the efficiency of animal feed by adding innovative feed additives beyond amino acids to its portfolio in order to create additional value for its customers. Evonik’s products and services in the area of animal nutrition play a key role worldwide in the production of healthy and affordable food, while preserving natural resources and reducing the ecological footprint.

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.

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