

April 14, 2011

## Evonik expands its L-Tryptophan capacity

Evonik Industries (Germany) announces a capacity increase of TrypAMINO® (L-Tryptophan) at Evonik Fermas s.r.o., a 100% affiliated company of Evonik AG, in Slovenska Lupca, Slovakia.

The Tryptophan plant will be expanded to a final capacity of 2,000 tons/year, with significant additional volumes coming on stream by August 2011 already. The expanded production line takes advantage of a significant improvement of the company's proprietary technology. In addition to that, the infrastructure of the site has been re-organized, leading to a leaner and more efficient operational set-up.

"Through these changes, we believe the competitiveness of Evonik's European biotechnology manufacturing platform is further elevated. And besides L-Tryptophan, this platform also continues to successfully manufacture L-Threonine, L-Valine, L-Isoleucine and L-Proline," explains Dr. Walter Pfefferle, Head of the Bioproducts Business Line of Evonik.

The TrypAMINO® expansion complements two recent expansion announcements of the Health & Nutrition Business Unit of Evonik, namely the expansion of its MetAMINO® production line scheduled for completion in 2014 and the expansion of its Biolys® production in Blair, USA. The current Biolys® capacity will be nearly doubled by August 2012 with first additional quantities already being available in November this year.

These expansions are made in order to sustainably supply the rapidly growing demand of the company's feed grade amino acids customers, while underlining the strategic importance of biotechnology within Evonik.

L-Tryptophan, which Evonik is marketing under the brand name TrypAMINO® is an essential amino acid which is still in an emerging stage in animal nutrition. It cannot be synthesized by the body and therefore needs to be ingested by the animal with the feed. An optimal Tryptophan to Lysine ratio enhances feed intake, weight gain and the nutritional value of the feed, while nitrogen excretion is reduced by balancing the dietary crude protein content to the animal's requirement.

### Michael Klas

Health & Nutrition  
Communications

Phone +49 6181 59-6785

Fax +49 6181 59-76785

michael.klas@evonik.com

### Evonik Degussa GmbH

Rellinghauser Straße 1-11

45128 Essen

Germany

www.evonik.com

### Chairman of the Supervisory Board

Dr. Klaus Engel

### Management Board

Patrick Wohlhauser, Chairman

Dr. Thomas Haeberle, Thomas Wessel

Registered Office: Essen

Register Court: Essen Local Court

Commercial Registry B 20227

Evonik is the only company in the world that produces and markets all four essential amino acids used in advanced animal nutrition: MetAMINO® (DL-Methionine), Biolys® (L-Lysine), ThreAMINO® (L-Threonine) and TrypAMINO® (L-Tryptophan). The company markets innovative products and services in more than one hundred countries and thus makes a valuable contribution to the cost-efficiency of its customers and to healthy and environment-friendly animal nutrition.

#### **About Evonik**

Evonik is the creative industrial group from Germany. In our core business of specialty chemicals, we are a global leader. In addition, it has energy and residential real estate operations. Our performance is shaped by creativity, specialization, reliability and continuous self-renewal.

Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In fiscal 2010 more than 34,000 employees generated sales of around €13.3 billion and an operating profit (EBITDA) of about €2.4 billion.

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