

Chemson
Polymer-Additive AG

PRESS RELEASE

Chemson's History

The Chemson Group is a globally active enterprise with companies in Austria (head quarters), Australia, Brazil, China, Great Britain, Germany, Netherlands and the United States.

The company makes and distributes additives for the polymer and glass industry. With a turnover of more than Euro 200 million, Chemson belongs among the world leaders in this sector of polymer additives industry.

The Chemson Group has its roots in five different companies from six countries.

In 1942 Cookson in Wallsend near Newcastle upon Tyne in England started to use White Lead as a stabiliser for flexible PVC. Shortly afterwards Cookson started production in Sydney, Australia.

In 1953 the Kautschuk-Gesellschaft, within the Frankfurt/Main based Metallgesellschaft Group, took up distribution and production of stabilisers for PVC processing in Langelsheim, Germany. The business was transferred to the newly founded daughter company Chemetall in 1982.

The stabiliser production at the Bleiberger Berkwerksunion (BBU) in Arnoldstein/Austria had its beginning in the year 1963.

Since 1976 Inbra in Brazil has been producing lead salts as PVC stabilisers. In 1988 the production site was transferred to Rio Claro, which is located about 150 km west of Sao Paulo. In 1998 the stabiliser business was integrated into the Chemetall Group.

The US-based Chemical Group has been dealing with the stabiliser for PVC processing since 1990. In 1996 production started in Philadelphia.

Allstab, head-quartered in Düren (Germany), is like Chemson, one of the leading PVC-additives manufacturer and provides its solid stabilisers and innovative one-pack systems particularly to the PVC industry. Allstab combines the experience, knowledge and ambition of nine European chemicals companies.



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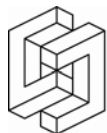
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Ein Unternehmen der Chemson - Gruppe

> more than additives



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Further Developments

In the year 1986 Chemetall and Cookson combined their stabiliser activities in a joint venture and thus Chemson came into existence, with sites in Germany, England and Australia.

In 1989 Metallgesellschaft obtained the majority share in the chemical activities of Bleiberger Berkwerksunion.

In 1990 the remaining shares of BBU and the Joint Venture share of Cookson were acquired.

In 1993 the above mentioned market activities were integrated into the Chemson Group.

In 1998 Chemson bought a share in the Chemical Group.

In April 2000 a Private Equity Investor and the senior management took over the Chemson Group (management buy-out), the Chemson Polymer-Additive AG in Arnoldstein/Austria was founded. In this context Chemetall transferred the stabiliser business of the Brazilian daughter Chemetall do Brasil to the new company.

Also in the year 2000 Chemson took over the remaining shares of the Chemical Group.

In 2001 the important step into the Chinese market was taken. Chemson AG set up Dalian Chemson Chemical Products Co. Ltd. in Dalian/China with a majority share holding.

In 2003 Chemson Ltda., Durex Ltda. and Penox S.A. combined their lead oxide activities in a joint venture and thus Durox Ltda. in Rio Claro/Brasil came into existence. Further on Chemson Polymer-Additive AG and Dorfner founded in 2003 Glassblend GmbH with production of glass additives in Arnoldstein/Austria.

In 2004 the entire Allstab-Group has been acquired by Chemson GmbH, Frankfurt/Germany.

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