

PRESS RELEASE

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WACKER Opens New Laboratory for Adhesives and Sealants in the Moscow Technical Center

Munich/Moscow, March 16, 2018 – WACKER, the Munich-based chemical group, is strengthening its presence in Russia by expanding the service portfolio offered by its technical center in Moscow. WACKER is integrating a new dedicated laboratory for adhesives and sealants based on silane-terminated polyethers (hybrid polymers) used mostly in the construction industry. Furthermore, the center's existing laboratories for dry-mix-mortar, paints, coatings and construction-silicones applications has been accredited by the Russian Federal Service for Accreditation as an official test lab: WACKER can thus provide an independent test protocol as a basis for officially recognized quality certificates. Thanks to this expansion and accreditation, WACKER is able to meet the needs of its local customers, who are increasingly demanding high-quality silicone and polymer products.

Being extremely versatile, modern sealants and adhesives are used in an increasingly broad range of applications – from the construction industry through to transportation and energy. The Moscow technical center's new laboratory helps WACKER support the enhancement of these applications. "The market for sealants and adhesives in Russia has huge potential, which was the main factor behind our decision to open the new facility. For us, the most important reason is to provide customers with technical support as fast as possible while keeping local market needs in mind," said Dr. Alexander Serov, Managing Director of WACKER Russia, during the opening ceremony.

WACKER's new lab facility offers the possibility of testing and developing sophisticated formulations based on local fillers and additives. Modern planetary and asymmetric centrifugal mixers make it possible to prepare adhesives and sealants of varying viscosity and thixotropy and to use a rheometer to characterize them. Thanks to the state-of-the-art laboratory equipment, it is also possible to determine the products' tensile strength, adhesion, shear strength and shore hardness. What's more, the Moscow technical center has a climate room for testing samples under standard conditions to provide repeatable results. All tests for liquid and cured adhesives and sealants can now be conducted in accordance with international standards. The new lab enables WACKER to identify and respond to regional trends and developments at an early stage, offering its customers tailor-made local solutions.

The opening of the new facility is complemented by the fact that the Moscow technical center's existing dry-mix-mortar, paints, coatings and construction-silicones laboratories have been accredited by the Russian Federal Service for Accreditation as official test labs in accordance with GOST ISO / MEK 17025 . This means that WACKER will be able to issue a Russian state-approved protocol on the results of product tests, which will allow customers to apply for quality certificates for their products. These certificates for tile adhesives, paints and coatings, self-levelling compounds or renders are increasingly required in both public and private construction projects. "This accreditation enables us to add value for our customers. It provides them with independent test results that prove the quality of products modified with VINNAPAS® and SILRES®," said Alexander Serov. WACKER is thus making an important contribution to the distribution and advancement of modern, high-quality building materials.



Highly specific tests can be performed in the new laboratory in Moscow. The image shows lab assistant Ekaterina Aleksandrova using a planetary mixer to produce a low-modulus sealant with silane-modified polyether as a binder. (Source: Wacker Chemie AG)

Note:

This photo is available for download at:
<http://www.wacker.com/pressreleases>

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The company in brief:

WACKER is a globally-active chemical company with some 13,800 employees and annual sales of around €4.9 billion (2017). WACKER has a global network of 23 production sites, 21 technical competence centers and 50 sales offices.

WACKER SILICONES

Silicone fluids, emulsions, rubber grades and resins; silanes; pyrogenic silicas; thermoplastic silicone elastomers

WACKER POLYMERS

Polyvinyl acetates and vinyl acetate copolymers and terpolymers in the form of dispersible polymer powders, dispersions, solid resins and solutions

WACKER BIOSOLUTIONS

Biotech products such as cyclodextrins, cysteine and biologics, as well as fine chemicals and PVAc solid resins

WACKER POLYSILICON

Polysilicon for the semiconductor and photovoltaic industries