

Evonik invests in Danish hydrogen peroxide start-up HPNow

December 21, 2017

- Breakthrough in electrochemical production of hydrogen peroxide
- Technology allows on-demand production of low concentration hydrogen peroxide, directly at the point of use
- Strategic strengthening of position in the hydrogen peroxide business

Silke Linneweber
External Communications
Phone +49 201 177-3389
silke.linneweber@evonik.com

Holger Seier
Head of Communication
Corporate Innovation
Phone +49 201 177-2222
holger.seier@evonik.com

Essen, Germany. Evonik has invested in the startup HPNow ApS through its venture capital unit and now holds a minority stake in the company, which is headquartered in Copenhagen (Denmark). HPNow has developed a technology for producing hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) in a fully automatic system using water, air, and an electric current. The transaction took place in the context of a Series A round of financing. The parties have agreed not to disclose the amount of the investment. Evonik will be represented by a seat on the company's supervisory board. "HPNow can facilitate a breakthrough in the electrochemical production of hydrogen peroxide," says Bernhard Mohr, head of Venture Capital at Evonik. "Evonik possesses a great deal of expertise and extensive experience in the hydrogen peroxide business, so we're an ideal match for HPNow."

With an annual capacity of more than 950,000 metric tons and 13 production plants, Evonik is one of the world's largest producers of hydrogen peroxide. The HPNow technology solution enables low concentration H₂O₂ production on demand, directly at the intended point of use, and using only electricity, water and air as feedstock. The system is based on a modular generator in which a proprietary electrocatalytic cell is used to produce hydrogen peroxide from water and oxygen in a single step. "This patented technology offers the possibility of cost-efficient provision of hydrogen peroxide as needed, directly at the customer's point of use," says Michael Träxler, head of Evonik's Active Oxygens Business Line. "The investment supports our strategy of supplying our customers with tailored system solutions."

Evonik Industries AG
Rellinghauser Straße 1-11
45128 Essen
Germany
Phone +49 201 177-01
Fax +49 201 177-3475
www.evonik.com

Supervisory Board
Dr. Werner Müller, Chairman
Executive Board
Christian Kullmann, Chairman
Dr. Harald Schwager, Deputy Chairman
Thomas Wessel
Ute Wolf

HPNow's technology will permit the use of H₂O₂ in applications where transport and storage issues have so far restricted the use of the material, for example in various areas of agriculture. HPNow plans to use the capital to further scale up and commercialize its technology. "In Evonik we've gained a strategic investor with extensive experience in innovative technologies connected with hydrogen peroxide as well as expertise in tapping new markets," says Ziv Gottesfeld, co-founder and CEO of HPNow. "We very much look forward to working with them in bringing our on-site hydrogen peroxide generation solutions to new markets and customers."

As part of its venture capital activities, Evonik plans to invest a total of €100 million in promising start-ups with innovative technologies and in leading specialized venture capital funds. Regional focus is Europe, North America and Asia. Evonik currently holds stakes in more than twenty startups and specialized funds. Further information is available at <http://venturing.evonik.com/>

For further information about HPNow go to <http://www.hpnow.dk/>

Captions of the attached photos:

Ziv Gottesfeld: Co-founder and CEO of HPNow

HPNow_generator: The HPNow technology solution enables low concentration H₂O₂ production on demand, directly at the intended point of use, and using only electricity, water and air as feedstock. The system is based on a modular generator in which a proprietary electrocatalytic cell is used to produce hydrogen peroxide from water and oxygen in a single step. The picture show trials in Israel.

Company information

Evonik is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. The focus on more specialty businesses, customer-orientated innovative prowess and a trustful and performance-oriented corporate culture form the heart of Evonik's corporate strategy. They are the lever for profitable growth and a sustained increase in the value of the company. Evonik benefits specifically from its customer proximity and leading market positions. Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world with more than 36,000 employees. In fiscal 2016, the enterprise generated sales of around €12.7 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of about €2.165 billion.

Disclaimer

In so far as forecasts or expectations are expressed in this press release or where our statements concern the future, these forecasts, expectations or statements may involve known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Actual results or developments may vary, depending on changes in the operating environment. Neither Evonik Industries AG nor its group companies assume an obligation to update the forecasts, expectations or statements contained in this release.