

Düsseldorf, 19-26 October 2016

K 2016: RadiciGroup Performance Plastics spotlights its new RADILON® Aestus T product portfolio.



RADICIGROUP PERFORMANCE PLASTICS – world-renowned producer of polyamide, PBT, TPE and POM engineering plastics, and leading business area of RadiciGroup – is once again a major player at the **K fair**, the World's No. 1 Trade Fair for Plastics and Rubber, with more than 3,000 exhibitors from 60 countries.

The unequivocal star of the event: the newly launched **RADILON® Aestus T** polyphthalamide (PPA) product range.

Along with the new PPAs, **focus on specialties**: from RADILON® HHR and RADILON® X-TREME to RADISTRONG®, RADILON® A and S, RADILON® D and RADILON® DT, and halogen-free and red-phosphorous-free RADIFLAM® A HF for the electrical industry.

Through the **acquisition** of the Engineering Polymer Solutions business of the North American INVISTA, RadiciGroup Performance Plastics further strengthens and expands its presence in the North American and European markets.

Sustainability: recently updated and published Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) for Radilon® S and Radilon® A (PA6 and 6.6 engineering plastics), HERAMID® (post-industrial engineering plastics) and the polyamide waste recovery service. Reduced environmental impact.

Established in 1981 and today boasting production facilities in Italy, Germany, the United States Mexico, Brazil, China and India, as well as a global sales network, RADICIGROUP PERFORMANCE PLASTICS (www.radicigroup.com/plastics) is one of the most prominent exhibitors (Stand B10 Hall 6) of the most important international trade show for the plastics and rubber industries: [K 2016](#).

RadiciGroup's star player at the event is **RADILON® AESTUS T**, the brand of its new **polyphthalamide (PPA)** range and the latest result of RadiciGroup Performance Plastics' multi-generation product plan for the development of high performance materials. In the first stage of the plan, **automotive, water/plumbing, beverage dispensing equipment and electrical/electronics** are among the main target markets for these new RadiciGroup Performance Plastics specialties.

RADILON® AESTUS T products deliver not only the highest temperature resistance, but also high flame resistance and high chemical resistance, especially to aggressive fluids. **RADILON® AESTUS T is the answer to the market's demand for innovation, maximum customization, flexibility and performance.**

The key characteristics of RADILON® Aestus T are:

- High melting temperature and high heat distortion temperature under load
- Excellent resistance to prolonged ageing in air, glycol and alcohol-petrol blend
- Good flowability, which makes the moulding of very thin-walled parts possible

RADILON® Aestus T's main target markets include:

ELECTRICAL/ELECTRONICS

The performance characteristics of the new PPA product range make these materials ideal for the manufacture of lead-free soldering parts and components with high mechanical resistance to high temperatures. Of particular importance is the flame resistance delivered by RADILON® Aestus T materials, which have been designed to be rated in flammability class V0, according to UL94, even in the case of thin-walled components.

WATER/PLUMBING

The RADILON® Aestus T range is ideal for the manufacture of fittings coming into contact with hot water at temperatures of up to 85 degrees. It has steam resistance up to 120 degrees. Applications include valves, hot water distribution manifolds and water-meter housings. RADILON® Aestus T can also be used for parts coming into contact with drinking water.

HOT BEVERAGE DISPENSING MACHINES

In this specific sector, the new RadiciGroup polyphthalamide (PPA) materials are ideal for the manufacture of parts resistant to hot water (up to 85 degrees) and steam (up to 120 degrees), as well as parts coming into contact with food.

AUTOMOTIVE

In the automotive industry, RADILON® Aestus T materials are ideal for applications such as fuel system components (fuel connectors) and high temperature resistant parts in contact with air or cooling fluids (e.g., thermostat housings).

Electrical/electronics, automotive, water/plumbing, and beverage dispensing equipment: these are industries with fast-growing demand for customized products requiring high flexibility in development and production.

RadiciGroup Performance Plastics is able to efficiently meet such requirements, thanks to its wide specialty portfolio and its industrial organization. Besides Radilon® Aestus T, RadiciGroup's focus at the K fair in Düsseldorf is on: high temperature resistant **RADILON® HHR** and **RADILON® X-TREME**; metal replacement specialties **RADISTRONG®**, **RADILON® A and S**; and **RADILON® D** and **RADILON® DT 6.10 and 6.12** polyamides. At the show, there will also be a special emphasis on **RADIFLAM® A HF** halogen-free and red-phosphorous-free flame retardant materials for the electrical industry.

BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS...

On Friday, 14 October, RADICIGROUP PERFORMANCE PLASTICS concluded an agreement to purchase the Engineering Polymer Solutions business of the North American company INVISTA. The acquisition allows RadiciGroup – a world-leading producer of nylon, PBT, TPE and POM engineering plastics – to further strengthen and expand its presence in the North American and European markets. This transaction represents an important step in RadiciGroup's development plans.

With the acquisition of Engineering Polymer Solutions, RadiciGroup Performance Plastics will be able to significantly increase its production capacity in the United States and in Europe, where INVISTA already has two production plants (in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Born, The Netherlands, respectively).

RadiciGroup will relocate its Chattanooga business activities to other production plants based North America, specifically *Radici Plastics USA Inc. in Wadsworth, Ohio, and Radici Plastics Mexico S. de R.L. de C.V., in Mexico*, thus optimizing and synergistically combining competencies, know-how, technologies and state-of-the-art production facilities. OEM approvals will be valid and usable worldwide in industries such as automotive, electrical/electronics, industrial and consumer goods. A further value added will be gained from the respective competencies in sales and brand positioning of the brands TORZEN® and RADILON®.

1981-2016

RadiciGroup celebrates its 35th anniversary in the plastics business...

***RADICIGROUP PERFORMANCE PLASTICS** has a noteworthy industrial history. It started on its path in 1981 with the creation of its first Italian company (ten employees and one production line with a capacity of 3,600 kilograms per day of basic engineering plastics) and then followed a route of constant global expansion. After Italy, it extended its operations to France, the United Kingdom, Brazil, the United States, Germany and Spain. And next, China, India and Mexico. Today, RadiciGroup Performance Plastics has 475 employees, production sites in 8 countries, a global sales network and a product portfolio that has achieved great success in the market.*

The stages of a success story...

■ 1981, ITALY – RADICI NOVACIPS SPA, THE FIRST ITALIAN PRODUCTION SITE WAS FOUNDED

Diversification and vertical integration of its industrial activities was the directive followed in the 1980s by RadiciGroup, which had been engaged up to then in the synthetic fibres and textile businesses. This strategy led the Group to make its first move in the production of engineering plastics – thermoplastic materials used in a variety of industries where it was not hard to see the potential for future development. Thus Radici Novacips SpA was born in Villa d'Ogna, province of Bergamo, becoming the first company of the future RADICIGROUP PERFORMANCE PLASTICS business area – now the feather in the Group's cap.

■ 1988, ITALY – RADICI NOVACIPS SPA EXPANDED AND A SECOND PRODUCTION SITE WAS CREATED

The application sectors requiring the use of engineering plastics soon started to experience strong growth. In a short time, Radici Novacips SpA was able to acquire excellent knowledge of the dynamics of these new markets and, at the end of the 1980s, decided to expand its production activities by acquiring a new compounding plant located in Chignolo d'Isola, also in the province of Bergamo, which became the second production site of Radici Novacips SpA.

■ 1989, FRANCE – RADICI PLASTICS FRANCE SA, THE FIRST SALES OFFICE ABROAD, WAS FOUNDED

■ 1996, UNITED KINGDOM – THE ENGLISH SALES UNIT, RADICI PLASTICS UK LTD, WAS CREATED

■ 1997, BRAZIL – THE FIRST PRODUCTION COMPANY ABROAD, RADICI PLASTICS LTDA, WAS SET UP

RadiciGroup Performance Plastics took its first step outside Europe, through the acquisition of a production plant in Brazil, which then became RADICI PLASTICS LTDA.

■ 1998, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND GERMANY – RADICI PLASTICS USA INC. AND RADICI PLASTICS GMBH WERE FOUNDED. In 1998 Radici Plastics USA Inc., based in Rochester Hills, MI, and Gastonia, NC, was founded. Also in 1998, the Group acquired a big German compounder located in Lünenburg, which became the production site of Radici Plastics GmbH, soon joined by sales offices in Reutlingen, Viernheim, Bergisch Gladbach and Hamburg.

■ 2000, SPAIN – RADICI PLASTICS IBERICA SL, SALES UNIT IN LA CAROLINA, WAS CREATED

■ 2003, CHINA – RADICI CHEM SHANGHAI CO., LTD., SALES UNIT IN CHINA, WAS CREATED

■ 2006, INDIA AND CHINA – RADICI PLASTICS MODI P. LTD, SALES UNIT IN INDIA, WAS CREATED

In 2006, Radici Novacips SpA and the Indian Modi Group entered a joint venture to create a sales office that allowed RadiciGroup to make its first move in India. During the same year, the Group expanded its presence in China by starting production activities, after establishing Radici Plastics (Suzhou) Co., Ltd., a sales unit, three years earlier in 2006.

■ 2010, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA – THE GROUP STRENGTHENED PRODUCTION IN THE USA

In 2010, the acquisition of the American compounder MDE allowed RadiciGroup Performance Plastics and its company **Radici Plastics USA Inc.** to strengthen production in the United States.

■ 2015, MEXICO AND INDIA – KICK OFF OF PRODUCTION IN MEXICO AND INDIA

Through the acquisition of the polyamide engineering plastics division of the Mexican company Resinas TB, RadiciGroup Performance Plastics started its production activities in Mexico with the founding of a new company **Radici Plastics Mexico S. de R.L. de C.V.** Again in 2015, RadiciGroup strengthened its commercial and production presence in India by taking 100% control of Radici Plastics Modi P. Ltd, now **Radici Plastics India** (the joint venture with the Indian M.K. Modi Group was dissolved).

■ 2016, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE NETHERLANDS – THE ACQUISITION OF THE BUSINESS ENGINEERING POLYMER SOLUTIONS BUSINESS OF THE AMERICAN COMPANY INVISTA.

TODAY... RADICIGROUP PERFORMANCE PLASTICS is a leading worldwide producer of a broad range of engineering plastics and copolymers: polyamide (RADILON® - RADISTRONG® - RADIFLAM® - HERAMID®), PBT (RADITER®), TPE (HERAFLEX®) and POM (HERAFORM®). These are recognized market brands standing for technical performance, reliability and sustainability. A global network of production and sales sites, in Italy and the rest of Europe, North America, South America and Asia, allows RadiciGroup Performance Plastics to supply its customers with products and services that are the result of its long experience and exceptional know-how gained in the polyamide business. All products are developed to best respond to the needs of markets such as automotive, electrical/electronics, household appliances and industrial, the main fields of application of RadiciGroup engineering plastics.

RADICIGROUP - With 2,985 employees, sales revenue of EUR 1,011 million, and a network of production and sales sites located in Europe, North America, South America and Asia, RadiciGroup is one of the world's leading producers of a wide range of chemical intermediates, polyamide polymers, engineering plastics, synthetic fibres and nonwovens. These products are the result of the Group's outstanding chemical know-how and are used in a variety of industrial sectors such as: AUTOMOTIVE – ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS – CONSUMER GOODS – APPAREL – FURNISHINGS – CONSTRUCTION – HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES – SPORT. With its business areas - **Specialty Chemicals, Performance Plastics and Synthetic Fibres & Nonwovens** (Performance Yarn, Comfort Fibres and Extrusion Yarn), RadiciGroup is part of a larger industrial group that also includes textile machinery (ITEMA), energy (GEOGREEN) and hotel businesses (SAN MARCO).

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