

## Ralf Blauth is retiring from Evonik's Executive Board – Thomas Wessel appointed to the Executive Board as Chief Human Resources Officer effective September 1, 2011

The Supervisory Board of Evonik Industries AG has appointed Thomas Wessel (48) to the Executive Board of Evonik Industries as Chief Human Resources Officer effective September 1, 2011. Mr. Wessel is currently a member of the Board of Management and Chief Human Resources Officer of Evonik Degussa GmbH. He succeeds Ralf Blauth (60), who has decided to fulfill his long-standing plan to take early retirement from the Executive Board of Evonik Industries and the post of Chief Human Resources Officer as of August 31, 2011.

Wilhelm Bonse-Geuking, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Evonik Industries AG, commented: "Mr. Blauth has made an enormous contribution to the Evonik Group and the former Degussa AG over many years. On behalf of the Supervisory Board, I would like to thank him for his outstanding service during the fundamental repositioning of Evonik as a specialty chemicals group, for which he paved the way on the human resources side." Further, Mr. Bonse-Geuking commented: "His successor on the Executive Board is Mr. Thomas Wessel, an experienced human resources manager who played a part in integrating Degussa into the Group and is very familiar with the chemicals business from his role as Chief Human Resources Officer at Evonik Degussa GmbH. We wish him every success in his function on Evonik's Executive Board."

Klaus Engel, Chairman of the Evonik's Executive Board: "The smooth and successful repositioning of Evonik as a specialty chemicals group would not have been possible without Mr. Blauth's enormous experience and personal commitment. He played a key role in ensuring that the Evonik's employees and their representative bodies always actively supported and helped shape the development of the Group. The Executive Board is very grateful for his contribution. We regret that Mr. Blauth has decided to take early retirement and wish him all the best for the future. At the same time, I am delighted to welcome our experienced and valued colleague Thomas Wessel as a new member of the Executive Board of Evonik Industries. We look forward to continuing our successful collaboration with him." June 29, 2011

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## **Company information**

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  $\in$ 13.3 billion and an operating profit (EBITDA) of about  $\in$ 2.4 billion.

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