

PRESS RELEASE

Oleon takes a new step in its growth and doubles the capacity of the isostearic acid and dimer production unit

Isostearic acid unit at Oleon Ertvelde doubling in capacity

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As part of a new phase of a global investment plan launched in 2018, Oleon, the European leader in plant chemistry production and a subsidiary of Avril, is taking a new step in expanding its production.

The capacity of its isostearic and dimer acids production unit, based in Ertvelde (Belgium), will double by 2024 to support its growth and competitiveness in industrial markets. The new production unit will process 14,125 tons per year, doubling Oleon's share of the global market.

In 2018, €20 million had been invested in a new production unit for premium quality dimers and isostearic acid to meet the growing demand for many industrial applications, mainly in the lubricants, coatings and cosmetics sectors.

"At the beginning of 2024, Oleon will be able to handle twice the production capacity at the Ertvelde site, thanks to the installation of a new reactor," explains Eddy Feijen, Managing Director Base Oleochemicals. "With this new unit, we continue to ensure the growth of our specialties in both isostearic acids and dimer acids."

About Oleon

Oleon, a company of the Avril Group, is a European leader in Oleochemistry. Oleon specializes in processing vegetable oils and animal fats into oleochemical products such as fatty acids, glycerin, dimers and esters. These are used as building blocks or ingredients in numerous everyday products such as food, cosmetics, lubricants, soaps, coatings, etc. Oleon, headquartered in Ertvelde (Belgium), has 6 production sites stretching from Belgium, to Germany, France, the US

and Malaysia. Avril specialties, of which Oleon is a part, had a turnover of € 941 million in 2021. Oleon employs some 1,000 people worldwide.

About isostearic acids and dimer acids

Isostearic acids are liquid fatty acids of 100% natural and vegetable origin.

They result from a reaction between oleic acid and a natural mineral catalyst.

Heat and odor resistant, easily transformed and with a long shelf life (thanks to its oxidation stability), isostearic acid is particularly suitable for the formulation of cosmetics and lubricants.

Dimer acids are molecules derived from vegetable oils. They are widely used in the composition of coatings: polyamides, polyesters and epoxy resins.

Thanks to their water repellent properties, they offer an interesting protection against corrosion.

They are very flexible and resistant to pressure (even at low temperatures) and allow for a uniform distribution of the pigment during the final application of the coatings.

NOTE INTENDED FOR EDITORS ONLY: FOR INFORMATION:

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