

Investment to meet rising demand

### **New production line goes on stream at Perlon Monofil**

#### **Annual capacity now well over 5,000 tons**

**Dormagen** – In March 2008, Perlon Monofil GmbH started up a new production line for Perlon monofilaments at its Dormagen site. The new capacity will enable this LANXESS subsidiary to build on its global position as a manufacturer and supplier of polyamide and polyester monofilaments – high-grade plastic filaments and wires. "By expanding our capacity, we are responding to the mounting demand – particularly in Asia – for monofilaments for paper machine clothing, and to the increasing trend towards small filament diameters on the European market," said Frank Winkes, managing director of Perlon Monofil. The new plant has an annual capacity of around 350 tons and cost some EUR 3 million. In all, the company now has a total annual capacity of well over 5,000 tons for Perlon monofilaments.

The advantages of the new plant are its high production speed, simplified production process, and expanded production capabilities. The high-speed extrusion line runs at a speed of up to 900 meters per minute. Raw material and color changes are faster and easier to perform, thereby improving reliability and flexibility of supply. Thanks to a new winder technology, monofilaments with a diameter of less than 0.1 mm can also be manufactured.

Perlon-Monofil GmbH develops and produces high-grade monofilaments for superior technological applications. They are marketed under the names Perlon, Atlas and Bayco, and are used among other things for paper machine clothing, technical fabrics, wire for wine and fruit-growing, mooring cables, fishing lines for sports angling and strings for tennis, badminton and squash rackets. The monofilaments are based primarily on polyamides (PA) such as PA 6,

#### **LANXESS AG**

Contact: Michael Fahrig  
Corporate Communications  
Market Communications  
Trade & Technical Press  
51369 Leverkusen  
Germany

Phone: +49 214 30-45041  
Fax: +49 214 30-44865  
michael.fahrig@lanxess.com

Page 1 of 2

12, 6.6, and 6.12, copolyamides or polyester, depending on the area of application. Their diameter ranges from 0.08 to 6 mm.

LANXESS is a leader in specialty chemicals with 2006 sales of EUR 6.94 billion and around 14,500 employees in 21 countries. The company is represented at 47 production sites worldwide. The core business of LANXESS is the development, manufacture and sale of specialty chemicals, plastics, rubber and intermediates.

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**LANXESS AG**

Contact: Michael Fahrig  
Corporate Communications  
Market Communications  
Trade & Technical Press  
51369 Leverkusen  
Germany

Phone: +49 214 30-45041  
Fax: +49 214 30-44865  
michael.fahrig@lanxess.com

Page 2 of 2

**Forward-Looking Statements**

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