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PR NEWSWIRE

DESK

iical Company and Sartomer Industries, ıanufacture and market specialty acrylate ɔmpany will be based at Manchester and ified territories."

· a - day ammonia plant has been put into , the second such M.W. Kellogg-designed in the USSR. Techmashimport, the compa- rchases in the Soviet Union, contracted for

'orporation, through its joint venture com- , has agreed to supply The Peoples Repub- l be used to purify ethylene gas by selective ies.

:e)—CdF Chimie has started up a new plant 0 metric tons a year of "Norsolene" SP hy- which came up to nominal capacity quick- ıy's steam cracker at Carling.

y)—BASF AG of Ludwigshafen is building of neopentyl glycol using its own technolo- plant, which is due on stream in 1975, will F says.

'ire & Rubber Company has sold its 40 per- ıat affiliate of Montedison. Montefiber now ity over the next five years from a current metric tons.

a second polyolefin licensing deal, Solvay exclusive license for the US of its high-den- Chemicals Corporation. The move follows a ɔlvay made with Hercules Incorporated on

's know-how for its new high-density poly- x. Solvay asserts the choice by Amoco con- made to its superactive catalysts and in the

lands)—J.T. Baker Chemicals BV will ex- Netherlands. Construction is due to start in ent and acid subdividing plant with ware- hosen is only a few miles from the present ected to give the company space for contin- eight years.

a series of hearings recently on the

CHEMICAL PROFILE ....PVC

SUPPLY

PRODUCER	CAPACITY*
Air Products, Calvert City, Ky	150
Air Products, Pensacola, Fla.	50
American Chem., Long Beach, Calif	150
Borden, Illiopolis, Ill.	140
Borden, Leominster, Mass	180
Conoco, Aberdeen, Miss.	285
Conoco, Oklahoma City, Okla	240
Diamond Shamrock, Deer Park, Tex	270
Diamond Shamrock, Delaware City, Del	100
Ethyl, Baton Rouge, La	180
Firestone, Perryville, Md	230
Firestone, Pottstown, Pa	270
General Tire, Ashtabula, Ohio	125
General Tire, Plt. Pleasant, W. Va.	50
Goodrich, Avon Lake, Ohio	140
Goodrich, Henry, Ill	140
Goodrich, Long Beach, Calif	140
Goodrich, Louisville, Ky	340
Goodrich, Pedricktown, N.J.	170
Goodyear, Niagra Falls, N.Y.	100
Goodyear, Plaquemine, La	100
Great American Chem., Fitchburg, Mass	40
Hooker, Burlington, N.J.	180
Hooker, Hicksville, N.Y.	15
Keysor-Century, Saugus, Calif	35
Monsanto, Springfield, Mass	70
National Starch, Meredosia, Ill	10
Olin, Assonet, Mass	150
Pantasote, Passaic, N.J.	60
Pantasote, Pt. Pleasant, W. Va.	90
Robintech, Painesville, Ohio	250
Stauffer, Delaware City, Del	175
Tenneco, Burlington, N.J.	165
Tenneco, Flemington, N.J.	70
Union Carbide, S. Charleston, W. Va.	160
Union Carbide, Texas City, Tex	240
Uniroyal, Painesville, Ohio	140
Total	5,415

* Millions of pounds annually of polyvinyl chloride and copolymers. Capacities vary with product mix. Approximately 76 percent of total nameplate capacity is devoted to homopolymer suspension resins, approximately 11 percent is devoted to copolymers, and approximately 13 percent is devoted to emulsion process (dispersion) resins. Certain-Teed plans to have a grass roots facility in Lake Charles, La., with a capacity of 300 million pounds annually, in operation by the fourth quarter of this year. Output will be 100 percent captive. Georgia Pacific plans to come on-stream late this year with a 220-million-pound facility at Plaquemine, La., most of the output of which will be for captive use. Robintech, in cooperation with Shinetsu of Japan, is hoping to have a 220-million-pound unit operating by the fourth quarter, most of the output of which will be captive for the two owners. Tenneco is completing a new 300-million-pound plant in Passadena, Tex., also expected to be on-stream by the fourth quarter. Borden owns all the output of Monsanto's Springfield, Mass., plant, and Borden is planning to add 200 million pounds of new capacity to its Illiopolis, Ill., facility by the end of the year. Diamond

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The big soft drink franchisers have

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Shamrock is planning to expand its Deer Park, Tex., plant by 200 million pounds during the fourth quarter. Goodyear will expand its Plaquemine, La., plant by 100 million pounds during the third quarter of this year. Stauffer hopes to add 10 million pounds of dispersion resin capacity by mid-1975, and another 55 million pounds of the same by mid-1976. Firestone says it is planning a "significant expansion" of its dispersion capacity by mid-1975. Air products is said to have a 200-300 million pound capacity expansion planned "on the books" for its Calvert City, Ky., plant, but no construction has begun. Total new capacity by the end of 1974 should be about 1.5 billion pounds, increasing nameplate capacity foe the industry to about 6.9 billion pounds annually.

DEMAND

1973:4.732 billion pounds; 1974: 4.9 billion pounds; 1978: 6.3 billion pounds.

GROWTH

Historical (1963-1972): 14 percent a year; 1973: 9 percent; **Future**: 2-5 percent a year through 1978.

PRICE

Historical (1963-1973): High homopolymer suspension resin, bulk, ft. alld., 16 cents a pound; low, same basis, 10 cents a pound. **Current**: homopolymer suspension, same basis, 17-20 cents a pound. **Projected**: homopolymer suspension, same basis, 24-26 cents a pound by year-end.

USES

Pipe, conduit, and fittings, 27 percent; flooring, 10 percent; siding and other construction, 6 percent; wire and cable, 9 percent; furniture, 6 percent; auto and transportation, 5 percent; film and sheet, 4 percent; textile, paper, and adhesives, 5 percent; sound records, 3 percent; export, 5 percent; miscellaneous, 20 percent.

STRENGTH

Cheapest material for most uses, often with no adequate substitute. Increasing prices have substantially improved profitably with virtually no erosion of relative cost-effectiveness. Construction end-uses should continue to grow rapidly and become increasingly dominant (pipe and fittings). Siding is considered a potentially rich market. Coated floorings, wire and cable, and auto use expected to grow strongly.

WEAKNESS

Toxicity is a serious threat, perhaps a pre-emptive market condition currently as monomer and polymer producers suspend capital investment pending research and regulatory developments. Some end-use markets, particularly packaging, have especial liability.

Otherwise, there is insufficient feedstock (monomer and precursers) to feed current PVC capacity, and a lack of new and announced feedstock capacity to support expanding PVC facilities.

OUTLOOK

Markets for PVC, especially in rigid and construction applications, continue to expand, while many minor end-uses will be shaked-out (especially disposable products). The effect of government toxicity investigations could cause production disruptions, and heavy expenses, if substantial engineering and work-practice changes are demanded. Inadequate feedstock supply, and projected supply, is expected to cripple growth in strong, traditional markets, and to inhibit the development of promising new ones.

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