

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Evonik Japan marks opening of new Oil Additives technology center at Tsukuba**

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TSUKUBA, JAPAN --- Today marks the opening of Evonik Japan's new Oil Additives Technology Center at Tsukuba. With the move from its previous location in Osaka, the technology center has quadrupled in size, signifying Evonik's growing commitment to its oil additives customer base in Japan and the surrounding region.

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"Evonik is strengthening its technical resources and capabilities in Asia to continue to meet the growing needs of the region," explains Evonik Vice President and Asia Regional Manager Wei Kiat Tan. "In addition to the expansion of the physical structure and capabilities, we are also growing our technical team with the addition of another employee at the Tsukuba facility," he adds.

- The technology center has moved from Osaka to Tsukuba and has quadrupled its size.
- The test capabilities of the technology center have been enhanced to intensify support to product development.

"We are very happy to welcome the Oil Additives lab to Tsukuba, a location, which has emerged to become a major innovation hub for Evonik," explained Ulrich Sieler, president of Evonik Japan. "Four different application labs, plus a catalyst production facility make Tsukuba a significant breeding ground for innovative solutions," he added.

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Evonik is a recognized leader in oil additives technology and supports high quality lubricant marketers worldwide with its global network of regional technology centers and production facilities. Evonik produces its oil additives under the brand name VISCOPLEX® and its synthetic base fluids under the VISCODASE® brand.

Rapidly-expanding mobility within the Asia market, coupled with an increasing demand for high-performance lubricants with higher

additive content has led Evonik to increase both its production capacity and technical capabilities in the region. In addition to the investment at Tsukuba, a major expansion at the company's Shanghai technology center is underway and capacity at Evonik's Singapore oil additives plant will soon be doubled through a major multi-year debottlenecking and expansion project.

Tsukuba's advanced test capabilities and an expansion of its close collaboration with Evonik's oil additives technology centers in Shanghai and North America and the company's research center at its headquarters in Germany will bring a new level of support to Japan-based customers and OEMs. Evonik prides itself on its ability custom-tailor its products to the specific needs of its customers' product development efforts.

In addition, Evonik has taken a leadership role in developing lubricant additive technology designed to improve fuel efficiency and productivity. Energy-saving results have been demonstrated with VISCOPLEX® Viscosity Index Improvers (VIIs) in engine oils, driveline fluids and gear oils. Industrial and off-highway equipment field tests have also recorded up to double-digit improvements in fuel savings with DYNAVIS® technology for hydraulic fluids, reducing operating costs as well as CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Four years ago, Evonik opened its first technology center in Japan to meet the need for timely and effective support to the Japanese automotive industry and the country's high-performance lubricant marketers. The expansion that comes with the move to Tsukuba confirms the continued development of these relationships and the wisdom of the company's original decision to grow its business in Japan.

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#### **About Oil Additives at Evonik**

In addition to its VISCOPLEX® Viscosity Index Improvers (VIIs) in engine oils, driveline fluids, gear oils, and hydraulic fluids, Evonik's VISCOBASE® synthetic base fluids provide excellent solvency in automotive gear oil formulations such as heavy duty axle oils and manual transmission fluids.

The Oil Additives business line of Evonik Industries also specializes in high-performance additives and technologies for fuels and refinery products. Evonik's VISCOPLEX® Cold Flow Improvers (CFIs) provide outstanding flow properties for biofuels in any region or season. VISCOPLEX® dewaxing aids (DWAs) are designed for refinery solvent dewaxing processes that involve differing lube oil viscosity grades, especially bright stocks.

Advanced regional technology centers, modern global manufacturing centers, and a secure and reliable supply chain worldwide enable Evonik's continuous development of customized solutions for customers anywhere on earth.

#### **Company information**

Evonik, the creative international industrial group, is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. Its activities focus on the key megatrends resource efficiency, health, nutrition and globalization. Evonik benefits specifically from its innovative strength and integrated technology platforms. Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In fiscal 2013 more than 33,500 employees generated sales of around €12.9 billion.

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