

### **LANXESS doubles membrane production capacity**

- **New Lewabrane ULP line launched for removing micropollutants in water treatment**
- **LANXESS at Aquatech 2017, October 31 to November 3, Amsterdam RAI, Hall 1, Stand 01.314**

**Cologne** – Specialty chemicals company LANXESS – as announced previously in mid-2017 – has doubled its membrane capacities. “We have expanded the capacity of our plant in Bitterfeld so that we can continue meeting the rising demand for reverse osmosis membrane elements. This step makes us even more attractive as a supplier to major customers,” says Jean-Marc Vesselle, head of the Liquid Purification Technologies business unit at LANXESS.

The market for reverse osmosis membrane elements is currently projected to continue growing at an above-average annual rate of ten percent (CAGR 2015-2020) in the years ahead. Because the plant was already operating almost at the limit of its capacity, LANXESS decided to double it.

Production of membrane elements for the Lewabrane line is a multi-stage process. It begins with the fabrication of a thin-film composite membrane comprising several individual layers. A polysulfone base layer and an active filter layer are applied on a nonwoven base substrate. The filter layer is made of polyamide and applied in a complex coating process. Produced as flat components, the reverse osmosis membranes are then wound by fully automated autowinders into spiral-shaped elements. This design helps to conduct untreated water towards the membrane surface and to collect the permeate (filtrate).

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In addition to the membrane elements plant, LANXESS also operates the world's largest plant for monodisperse ion exchange resins in Bitterfeld.

### **New Lewabrane ULP range expands membrane portfolio for water treatment**

LANXESS has been continuously expanding its line of membrane elements since production began in September 2011 and the products were introduced to the market in early 2012. Today, numerous types of Lewabrane elements are available in different sizes, which can be optimized for high fouling resistance, high energy efficiency or high performance.

The new Lewabrane RO ULP line is the latest addition. These "Ultra Low Pressure" elements display higher water permeability than the standard elements, while offering the same high level of rejection of critical substances. The operating pressure required in the pressure vessel is 40 percent lower, which reduces operating costs. Furthermore, the new membranes are a good option for removing micropollutants from wastewater and drinking water.

### **LANXESS at Aquatech 2017**

As an exhibitor at Aquatech 2017, from October 31 to November 3 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, LANXESS will be showcasing its Lewatit-brand ion exchangers, its Lewabrane line of reverse osmosis membrane elements and its Bayoxide iron oxide adsorbers for water treatment. Exhibits will include the new Lewabrane RO ULP line of membrane elements.

"As one of the world-leading suppliers of products and solutions for water treatment and purification, we support our customers in managing scarce water resources as efficiently as possible. Our products meet the highest German and international production and quality standards. At Aquatech, we want to demonstrate our

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competence as an experienced, all-around supplier to a broad, international, professional public,” announced Vesselle.

The unique LewaPlus software application for integrated system design will also be available for demonstration at the LANXESS stand. It supports the simulation and design of both reverse osmosis (RO) and ion exchange (IEX) processes for water desalination. It is the only planning tool currently available that makes it possible to design highly complex water treatment systems and draw direct comparisons between calculations for RO and IEX processes.

Detailed information is available online at <http://lpt.lanxess.de/>. The LewaPlus design software can also be downloaded from this website free of charge.

LANXESS is a leading specialty chemicals company with sales of EUR 7.7 billion in 2016 and about 19,200 employees in 25 countries. The company is currently represented at 75 production sites worldwide. The core business of LANXESS is the development, manufacturing and marketing of chemical intermediates, additives, specialty chemicals and plastics. Through ARLANXEO, the joint venture with Saudi Aramco, LANXESS is also a leading supplier of synthetic rubber. LANXESS is listed in the leading sustainability indices Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI World) and FTSE4Good.

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### Forward-Looking Statements

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## News Release

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### Information for editors:

All LANXESS news releases and their accompanying photos can be found at <http://press.lanxess.com>. Recent photos of the Board of Management and other LANXESS image material are available at <http://photos.lanxess.com>. TV footage can be found at <http://globe360.net/broadcast.lanxess/>.

You can find further information concerning LANXESS chemistry in our WebMagazine at <http://webmagazine.lanxess.com>.

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## Pictures



LANXESS is producing Lewabrane membrane elements for water treatment in Bitterfeld, Germany. The membrane's active separating layer forms a wafer-thin polyamide film. That filters out undesirable substances from water such as salts, pesticides, herbicides, viruses, bacteria and also minute particles. Photo: LANXESS AG

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For quality assurance purposes each individual Lewabrane product is checked in an element tester at the LANXESS site in Bitterfeld, Germany. Photo: LANXESS AG

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