




## “UV curing technology: driving growth in all key regions “

Andrew Chambers, Vice President Photoinitiators of IGM Resins

**What are the parameters of the expansion of the company and why have you chosen to build the greenfield site in Anqing, China?** We have committed in excess of EUR 50 million for completion of the new, state of the art, photoinitiator production site in Anqing to build out a finished product capacity in excess of 10,000 metric tons. The site will benefit from backward integration into key raw materials which will ultimately result in safer operations, an improved environmental footprint and improved quality control. Anqing High Tech Industrial Development Zone was chosen for its highly developed environmental control, support facilities, location, and as a safe, national level chemical park.

**Where do you expect increasing demand for photoinitiators?** The performance and environmental benefits from UV curing technology are driving growth in all key regions and a broad cross section of end markets. We are experiencing strong growth in photoinitiators for inks and coatings in the safe packaging of food and pharmaceutical products, the digital (inkjet) market and the exciting developments in electronics and display markets. Across all sectors, the emergence of LED lamp curing technology is a key driver requiring novel photoinitiators to ensure effective curing.

**Where do you see challenges for UV technology in the coatings industry?** Environmental and toxicological product safety are challenges for the industry which we are working hard to overcome to ensure the long-term viability of UV curing markets. The superior performance benefits and green credentials of UV curable coating technologies are well documented. Essential to its adoption in new markets are Photoinitiators that ensure that inks and coatings cure, effectively and safely. 

# MARKET MOVES

A short overview on the most important moves within the European coatings industry. You can find more news on markets and companies, raw materials and technologies at [www.european-coatings.com](http://www.european-coatings.com).

## Sika acquires Romanian manufacturer of construction materials

**Decorative Coatings** The company has agreed to acquire Adeplast SA, a manufacturer of mortars and thermal insulation solutions in Romania. It generates sales of EUR 109 million with a workforce of 460 employees. The transaction is subject to clearance by anti-trust authorities.

[www.sika.com](http://www.sika.com)



## UK Coatings Group acquires Thomas Howse

Source: raven - Fotolia.com



**Acquisition** The company, part of the Sheibani Group, has acquired coatings producer Thomas Howse based in Rowley Regis near Birmingham, UK. The acquisition forms part of the group's ongoing program of work to develop its coatings business. It also owns an other UK based coatings company, T & R Williamson.

[www.sheibanigroup.com](http://www.sheibanigroup.com)

“The North American wood coatings market remains an attractive market with growth primarily driven by construction and residential re-modelling.”

Thierry Vanlancker, Akzo Nobel

## Bodo Möller Chemie expands collaboration with Afcona Additives

**Expansion** Effective November 1, 2019, the company extends its business relationship with its partner from the Netherlands in Northern Europe, which has existed since 2017. The current cooperation in Poland and North Africa will now be ex-

panded to the Nordics Region adding the countries of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland.

[www.bm-chemie.com](http://www.bm-chemie.com)

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