

Water Digest met with **Dr. Werner Breuers, Management Board Member of Lanxess AG**, at a forum held in New Delhi by the German Development Cooperation. He was one of the spokespersons on the subject of "Sanitation and sewage treatment, Sewage sludge, Water efficient technologies".

Dr. Werner Breuers is highly impressed by the passion and friendly nature of Indians. Whenever he speaks with them, in particular the head of Lanxess India, he is always glad to hear about the very fruitful cooperation with the local authorities.

In a one-on-one interview, Dr. Breuers said: "Our Ion Exchange Resins business unit will be very successful in India because we specialize in this field and have been doing business in the subcontinent for a long time". So, let's read more about what Dr. Werner Breuers had to say ...

### ON DRINKING WATER SOLUTION

Lanxess is able to provide solutions to present challenges. With our ion exchange resins, we are able to remove for instance metals like nickel, iron or other heavy metals from the water. We can also remove arsenic from drinking water.

Other examples are our iron oxide products. After treatment with these products, one can have real drinking water that carries no health risks. We have certain product groups that are useful for sanitation and water treatment.

Our rubber products like Buna EP can be used for sealings to avoid pipe leakages so that sewage water does not contaminate agricultural land, which in turn aids the cultivation of fruits and vegetables.

### EXAMPLES HERE IN INDIA

Lanxess has an example in India with the West Bengal Public Health engineering department in the form of a project that aims to remove arsenic from the drinking water supply. Since March 2007, the Lanxess Pilot Plant is running and we have made good progress. An analysis

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– Dr. Werner Breuer



shows that the arsenic content in water before treatment is 0.082 micro mg/liter, but only 0.01mg/liter after treatment.

### DOING BUSINESS IN INDIA

India is alongside China a very important country. In Asia, we are focusing very much on India to expand our business and have decided to build a new production facility in Jaghadia, Baroda (now called Vadodara), where we are building a new Ion Exchange Resin plant that should start up at the beginning of 2011. This investment will create 200 new jobs in the region.

### EXPERIENCE WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND AUTHORITIES IN INDIA

Personally, I have always found Indians to be very polite and friendly people. And when I talk to our Indian employees or the head of Lanxess India I always hear about their fruitful co-operation with the local authorities. So no complaints here.

### ON THE EXPANSION OF OTHER BUSINESS LIKE: RUBBER

Being strong in rubber, we want to lend our expertise to the Indian industry. We are one of the biggest producers of synthetic rubber, which is required for the manufacturing of tube-less tyres. And we have also developed new rubber mixtures, which reduce the rolling resistance of a tyre this not only helps you to save fuel but also reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions into the atmosphere.

### IF YOU WOULD HAVE GIVEN A CHANCE WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO CHANGE IN WATER INDUSTRY

I think the main issue is not the water industry, the main issue is the

pollution of water. There are two topics here: - Firstly, we should be very careful with our resources and hence try to use less water. The second issue is the contamination of rivers or water bodies with polluted water. It's not only up to the water industry, it's also the job of the the government, local authorities and inhabitants to clean waste water by adopting recycling methods and avoid river/water pollution.

### MESSAGE TO THE WATER INDUSTRY

Lanxess is ready to support the sector with our products and create awareness for more clean water.

### ABOUT DR. WERNER BREUERS

Dr. Werner Breuers was appointed to the Management Board of LANXESS AG effective May 14, 2007. After holding a number of managerial positions at Hoechst AG, Breuers became Head of Sales and Marketing at Hostalen Polyethylen GmbH in 1998 and was also a member of the Board of Directors of Hostalene Polietilene Italia S.r.l. in Milan, Italy. In 1999, he joined polyethylene manufacturer Elenac GmbH of Kehl, Germany, as Vice President Licensing and Catalysts. A year later Elenac became part of the Basell Group. As a member of the management team, he was Head of the Technology Business Division based in Milan for the first four years and was most recently President of Basell Polyolefins Europe, headquartered in Hoofddorp near Amsterdam.