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Press Release

Covestro receives DNV certification for polyurethane resin in Europe

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Important step towards more efficient generation of wind energy

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- **Worldwide support for rotor blade production**
- **A cost-efficient, durable, and sustainable solution**

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With innovative material solutions, [Covestro](#) wants to push the boundaries of wind energy technology to boost the profitability and performance of wind turbines and support the further expansion of this renewable energy. The company has now received the important [DNV certification](#) for a polyurethane (PU) infusion resin that will be marketed in Europe, The Americas, Middle East and Africa. The unique resin allows for a cost-effective production of rotor blades. A few years ago, a PU resin developed by Covestro in China also passed the audits of the DNV Society. The classification is recognized worldwide and eases market access.

"The certification brings us one big step closer to our goal of making wind power generation more efficient," says Dirk Soontjens, who coordinates the global wind power program at Covestro. "At the same time, we are underscoring our global reach and desire to help wind turbine manufacturers around the world adopt this cost-effective, durable, and sustainable solution. For this purpose, we operate expert laboratories in Shanghai and Leverkusen and are currently scaling up more production capacity for the newly certified resin."

Advantages over epoxy resins

"The rotor blades are manufactured from the PU infusion resin and fiberglass meshes under vacuum in a process we developed together with our partners," explains Klaus Franken, who is responsible for the development of processing technologies. "Due to the high infusion speed combined with faster curing and significantly lower heat release of the PU resin compared to the commonly used



epoxy resins, the productivity of rotor blade production can be significantly increased."

The DNV certification mark also confirms the good mechanical properties of the resin in rotor blades for wind turbines. This opens up opportunities for design optimization to produce lighter and longer blades.

Working with customers in the wind power value chain, Covestro offers materials that not only inspire innovation in wind turbine design, but also help boost the efficiency of wind farms on a larger scale. In addition to polyurethane resins, these include raw materials for protective coatings, including those for leading edges of rotor blades, and elastomers for guiding submarine cables.

A pillar of the circular economy

Renewable energy sources such as wind energy are becoming an increasingly important alternative to fossil fuels. In addition to developing innovative material solutions for wind turbines, Covestro aims to continuously enhance its production processes and energy systems to pave the way for a climate-neutral future. This is also a key pillar of a global program to fully align the company with the circular economy.

This also includes securing Covestro's own energy supply from renewable sources. That's why the company has signed a supply agreement with the energy provider Ørsted to supply its German sites with green electricity starting in 2025. A contract has now also been signed with the Belgian utilities company ENGIE to supply the Antwerp site from its wind turbines, starting as early as April 1, 2021.

About Covestro:

With sales of EUR 10.7 billion in 2020, Covestro is among the world's largest polymer companies. Business activities are focused on the manufacture of high-tech polymer materials and the development of innovative, sustainable solutions for products used in many areas of everyday life. In doing so, Covestro is fully aligning itself to the circular economy. Its main customers are the automotive and transport industries, the construction industry, the furniture and wood processing industries, and the electrical, electronics, and household appliance industries. Other sectors include sports and leisure, cosmetics, healthcare and the chemical industry itself. As of the end of 2020, Covestro produces at 33 sites worldwide and employs around 16,500 people (converted to full-time positions).

Forward-looking statements

This press release may contain forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by Covestro AG management. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors could lead to material differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development, or performance of the company and the estimates provided here. These factors include those discussed in



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