

**News Focus**
**China Remained the Leader in PMDI Exports to Southeast Asia in H1**

2018-10-30



PUdaily, Shanghai-- 1. China's PMDI (polymeric MDI) exports to Southeast Asia in H1 2018 .Currently, there are 6 MDI manufacturers in China, including BASF, Covestro, Huntsman, Shanghai Lianheng Isocyanate, Tosoh (Rui'an) and Wanhua Chemical. Shanghai Lianheng Isocyanate only produces crude MDI. BASF Shanghai, Huntsman Shanghai and Tosoh (Rui'an) only have MDI rectification unit. According to a rough estimate, by the end of 2017, China's PMDI capacity reached about 2.3 million tons/year.Covestro, Wanhua and Huntsman are the major MDI manufacturers in China that export MDI to Southeast Asia. In the first half of the year, China exported 38,000 tons of PMDI to Southeast Asia, decreasing by about 3,000 tons compared with the same period last year and accounting for 26% of its total PMDI exports...[More](#)

**Polyurethane Market**
**Major Events in China's PU Industry in 2018**

2018-10-29

PUdaily, Shanghai-- We have entered the fourth quarter of 2018. With ups and downs, the PU industry year-to-date has seen profound transformation and shuffle as well as reported a mixture of good and bad news. Overall, the prosperity level of the polyurethane raw material industry is lower than last year, with most companies recording a decreased net profit in the first three quarters. Today, PUdaily will list the most influential events that have occurred in this year's TDI industry for readers to review the highlights of the industry. On January 16, the Indian fertilizer and chemicals manufacturer GNFC said, soon after the accident of gas leak happened, the company shut down its TDI plant in Dahej. "in the morning on January 15, the TDI-II plant in Dahej suddenly leaked gas. As a result, the plant was emergently shut down", the company said. In order to effectively prevent harm, the management decided to suspend the production and when it would be resumed remained unknown. The company clarified that neither there was any property damage nor any loss of life. GNFC said, "root cause is thoroughly analysed, reviewed and necessary further safety measures to be taken are fully evaluated in addition to current safety precautions." The company said, "decision to close TDI-II Plant indefinitely is taken till the process of necessary preparations, putting in place further checks and balances and thorough evaluation is over...[More](#)

**Company Dynamic**
**BASF Evaluates Options for its Construction Chemicals Unit**

2018-10-29

BASF is evaluating options for its construction chemicals business, including a sale or merger. The company aims to reach an agreement on a transaction in 2019. BASF chairman Martin Brudermüller told analysts on Friday that the construction chemical industry "currently offers attractive consolidation opportunities." He said that the company has taken the decision because of the higher critical mass in construction systems needed to be successful in the long term...[More](#)

**Covestro to Cut 900 Jobs in 350 Million Euros Efficiency Push**

2018-10-26

Germany's Covestro (1COV.DE) plans to cut 900 jobs globally and reduce costs by 350 million euros (310 million pounds) per year from 2021, aiming to reign in an increase in expenses from an investment push to widen output capacity. About 900 of globally 15,700 full-time positions will be reduced, including 400 in Germany, to be carried out in a "socially acceptable" manner that has already been agreed with the group's German works council, the company said on Thursday...[More](#)

**Dunlop Launches New Series of Tennis Rackets with E-TPU from BASF**

2018-10-26

According to Dunlop, modern day tennis players tend to play with more spin and as a result, hit the ball out of the top of the racket rather than the centre. The disadvantage of this is players swing with more force to generate more power and spin. This puts extra load on the player's arm and can result in injury. The Dunlop research team observed this trend and employed an innovation to resolve this aspect – the Sonic Core made with BASF's Infinergy expanded thermoplastic polyurethane...[More](#)

**Axalta Releases Third Quarter 2018 Results**

2018-10-26

Third quarter net sales of \$1,139.3 million increased 4.4% year-over-year including 2.5% negative foreign currency impacts. Constant currency net sales increased 6.9% in the period, driven by volume growth of 4.0% including 0.4% acquisition contribution and 2.9% higher average selling prices. Third quarter net sales growth was positive in nearly all regions, including higher average prices in all regions except Asia Pacific, which saw ongoing lower average prices resulting from Light Vehicle in China...[More](#)

**Industry Glance**
**Chemours Commits to Corporate Responsibility**

2018-10-30

Wilmington, Delaware – Chemours has issued its first Corporate Responsibility Commitment report. As well as giving an overview of its 2017 actions and outcomes, it expresses the company's commitment as 10 goals targeted for completion by 2030, in areas including waste, climate and a sustainable supply chain. As part of the social responsibility initiative, Chemours has signed on to the United Nations Global Compact...[More](#)

**BASF, Kolon JV Starts Production at New \$220 mn POM Plant**

2018-10-26

SEOUL, KOREA: Kolon BASF innoPOM Inc, a 50:50 joint venture between Kolon Plastics and BASF has started operations at its new polyoxymethylene (POM) plant in Gimcheon, Korea. The plant has a capacity of 70,000 metric tons per year, together with existing Kolon plant, it creates the world's largest POM production facility. Construction of the \$220 million plant, which began in April 2016, lasted for 27 months without any safety or environmental incidents...[More](#)

**Fujian Connell Polyurethane's 400k t/a MDI project approved**

2018-10-26

On October 22, according to the Development and Reform Commission of Fujian Province, Fujian Connell Polyurethane's 400k t/a MDI project was approved. It is learned that the project is located in the Economic Zone of Jiangyin Port City, Fuzhou, with a total investment of 6.602 billion yuan.It will be built in two phases.In the first phase,a 400k t/a MDI

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### Market Yearly report



facility and an auxiliary 55k t/a formaldehyde facility and 100k t/a hydrogen chloride oxidization facility will be built. In the second phase, a 480k t/a nitrobenzene... [More](#)

#### **Graphene Enhanced Polyurethane Foam: Ford Promotes New Innovation for Vehicle Parts** 2018-10-25

Ford, in collaboration with Tier I Eagle Industries and XG Sciences, has made innovative advances in PU foam for auto components. In a new first for the automobile industry, Ford, collaborating with Tier I Eagle Industries and major graphene supplier XG Sciences, has invented a method to utilize a very small amount of graphene to greatly improve upon lightweight foam that has better heat conductivity and improved noise reduction. The new material has been named as xGnP graphene-enhanced polyurethane (PU) foam... [More](#)

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