



Korea Engineering Plastics

At the end of 1999, Celanese AG acquired a 50 percent share in Korea Engineering Plastics Co., Ltd. (KEP) from the Korean Hyosung Corporation, thus strengthening its position in the Asia-Pacific region. KEP was incorporated in 1987 as a joint venture between Hyosung and the Japanese firm Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Corporation. With around 150 employees in production, research and marketing, the company is the leading supplier of polyacetal in its domestic market.

Using technology licensed from Mitsubishi Gas Chemical, KEP produces POM at its 55,000 metric ton plant in Ulsan, South Korea, and markets it under the Kepital® brand-name. The company is market leader in its domestic market. KEP offers its customers a selection of polyacetal products with improved heat resistance, long-term dimensional stability, and fatigue and creep resistance.

Cooperation between KEP and Ticona is being intensified with the agreement to construct a world-scale 60,000 metric ton POM facility in China. The new plant, which will use technology owned by Ticona and Polyplastics, represents the first time Polyplastics, Mitsubishi Gas Chemical, KEP and Ticona have worked together on a project.