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### Inauguration of a new syngas plant

Synthesis gas comprising carbon monoxide and hydrogen constitutes the raw material basis for oxo products and specialties at the Oberhausen site. The existing SAR syngas plant, which is still used to produce syngas from heavy oil, is no longer considered economical, mainly due to the high maintenance and operating costs. Construction of the new Oberhausen-SAO syngas plant started in April 2002 following the ground breaking for the plant in October. The syngas plant is scheduled to start operating by mid-2003. The new plant uses natural gas, is also more environmentally friendly, and is expected to operate much more reliable than its predecessor.

At a time when industrial chemicals companies need to secure a cost advantage and be in a position to produce growth-oriented products, the new synthetic gas plant is the ideal building block to enhance the attractiveness of the Oberhausen site. The high qualification standards of around 1,200 employees from Celanese Chemicals and Ticona are also one of Oberhausen's strengths. In addition, Oberhausen currently serves as a training center for approximately 60 apprentices. Oberhausen is adapting to our growth strategy of expanding sites in those regions in which we want to participate in sustainable growth. ◀

## CELANESE AT THE OBERHAUSEN SITE

**Area:** approx. 120 hectares (approx. 25 hectares available)

**Companies:** Celanese Chemicals incl. Estech, Ticona

**Products:** wide range of organic chemical intermediates (amines, carboxylic acid, plasticizers, NPE etc.), basic chemicals (butyraldehyde, 2-ethylhexanol, butanol etc.) as well as polymers (GUR®, COC)

**Sales volume:** approx. € 360 million

**Employees (Chemicals, Ticona):** approx. 1,200

**Apprentices:** approx. 60

**Certification:** ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and others

**Other companies:** Clariant, Messer, Syntetix