

# News Release



## **BASF Construction Chemicals to participate at Electra Mining Africa 2008**

### **BASF's Underground Construction division offers global expertise and comprehensive solutions for the mining industry**

BASF Construction Chemicals South Africa will be one of the top global exhibitors to participate at the Electra Mining Africa exhibition which runs from 8 - 12 September 2008 at the National Exhibition Centre, Nasrec, Johannesburg.

Electra Mining Africa showcases the latest developments, technology, trends, products and services in all sectors of the mining, construction, industrial and power generation industries. It expects to host more than 35 000 visitors, including major decision makers from the Mining, Electrical Engineering, Power Generation, Civil Engineering and General industry in Southern Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa and foreign countries. Rated as the second largest mining show in the world and the biggest trade exhibition in Southern Africa, Electra Mining is recognized as a gateway into Africa for local and global investors looking for new business opportunities in these industries.

Says Lars Hage, who heads up BASF Construction Chemicals South Africa's Underground Construction division (UGC): "BASF Construction Chemicals South Africa has long had a strong market share in the mining sector. Our advantage over competitors is that we offer comprehensive solutions that meet world class standards and

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are proven at a global level. We provide not only a broad range of products, the know-how and the onsite consultation that delivers successful outcomes, but also the necessary machinery and equipment.”

BASF offers a full range of solutions, including sprayed concrete admixtures and equipment, fibres, waterproofing membranes, fire protection, anchoring and grouts, both pre and post-injection systems for water stopping and ground consolidation, TBM product systems, mine backfill, TSL membranes, high performance flooring products, concrete admixtures for both in-situ as well as pre-cast concrete linings.

Notes Hage: “With many underground projects attracting international contractor and design teams, our global presence permits seamless technology and service transfer to any project, anywhere in the world. We develop truly innovative solutions that offer overall project savings by maximizing material performance and shortening installation time wherever possible to enhance competitiveness. In addition, we are very focused on workplace health and safety and environmental responsibility. These are key concerns in our product development and equipment design, particularly considering the confined nature of underground construction work.”

Another attraction is the lab facilities, international analysis and R&D that BASF Construction Chemicals can provide its customers in South Africa. Says BASF Construction Chemicals’ South African MD Paul Lowndes: “2008 has been a year of consolidation, infrastructure and resource building for BASF Construction Chemicals in South Africa. We have also strengthened our distribution networks and partnerships with applicators and contractors. We believe we are now fully equipped to further increase our market share in the mining sectors in South Africa and on the African continent.”

BASF's Construction Chemicals division is the leading supplier of chemical systems and formulations for the construction industry. Continuous innovation and tailor-made solutions ensure its customers are more successful. Its Admixture Systems business unit specifically helps customers in the ready-mix, precast, manufactured concrete and underground construction industries. The Construction Systems unit offers a wide range of products for sports and industrial flooring, external renders and wall insulation, expansion joints, wood preservatives as well as specialist repair mortars, tile adhesives and waterproofing membranes. The division operates production sites and sales centers in more than 50 countries and achieved sales of €2.1 billion with approximately 7,100 employees in 2007.

BASF is the world's leading chemical company: The Chemical Company. Its portfolio ranges from oil and gas to chemicals, plastics, performance products, agricultural products and fine chemicals. As a reliable partner BASF helps its customers in virtually all industries to be more successful. With its high-value products and intelligent solutions, BASF plays an important role in finding answers to global challenges such as climate protection, energy efficiency, nutrition and mobility. BASF has more than 95,000 employees and posted sales of almost €58 billion in 2007. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (AN). Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).