



Press Release

First stone laying of Nexans new plant in Shanghai

Nexans invests new facility to produce special cables in China

Paris, July 8, 2004 – Today Nexans held a grand ceremony to celebrate the first stone laying of Nexans new plant in Shanghai, Nexans (Shanghai) Wires & Cables Co., Ltd. The new plant will be specialized in the production of special cables, with an aim to increase competitiveness when facing local and international competitors.

The production platform is designed, in a first phase, to produce shipboard cable, fire safety cable, rolling stock cable, and other types of special application cable like nuclear power plant cable. Products are mainly for thermoplastic and XLPE insulated special cables, which are easy to install and safe to people and property, thanks to light weight and small dimension, as well as low smoke, zero-halogen, fire-resistant and fire-retardant performances. The first investment phase will see the construction of a special cable manufacturing plant on a site of about 50,000m² in Waigaoqiao Free Trade Zone in Pudong, Shanghai and employ about 65 people. In a second phase, rubber-insulated cable production capacity will be added to the scope, amongst others to address possible “Transrapid” extension projects in China.

“It is planned to start production in the beginning of 2005. At that time, it will be a production center in China for special cables in response to our customers’ increasing pressure to localized goods and services in their proximity ” said Dominik Declercq, Country Manager of Nexans Greater China and Japan. He added : *“Thanks to the support from our management, partners and colleagues, the project has been carried on successfully.”*

Nexans in China

In the mid-80’s, Nexans entered into the Chinese market. With its business expansion, it continuously strengthens the product localization in China. Nexans has set up three industrial ventures since 1994, manufacturing telecom cables, electrical wires and telecom components, as well as a logistic center to serve our sales effort in the region. The total employees in China reach about 600 people.

Undoubtedly, it is a significant step for Nexans to implement its development strategies and further localization in a growing market. As Michel Lemaire, Executive Vice President Nexans' North America & Asia Area explained : *"Nexans has invested in several manufacturing companies in China starting 10 years ago, aiming to establish an industrial presence in China. We both serve Chinese customers producing for overseas and local markets, and international customers whose manufacturing base is more and more likely to be located in China. As such, we believe we have made the right choice in establishing this new Nexans cable factory in China."*

About Nexans

Nexans is the worldwide leader in the cable industry. The Group brings an extensive range of advanced copper and optical fiber cable solutions to the infrastructure, industry and building markets. Nexans cables and cabling systems can be found in every area of people's lives, from telecommunications and energy networks, to aeronautics, aerospace, automobile, railways, building, petrochemical, medical applications, etc. With an industrial presence in 29 countries and commercial activities in 65 countries, Nexans employs 17,000 people and had sales in 2003 of euros 4 billion. Nexans is listed on the Paris stock exchange. More information on www.nexans.com.cn

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