

Evonik partners with AMSilk to manufacture sustainable silk proteins

- Smart-performance, fully biodegradable biopolymer sourced from renewable raw materials
- Innovative biotech manufacturing process
- Evonik enables innovators industrializing disruptive technologies/sustainable solutions

Essen, Germany. Evonik has entered into an agreement with the German biotech company AMSilk to produce industrial quantities of innovative, sustainable silk proteins. The silk can be used in a broad range of applications including high-quality fashion, smart materials in automotives, and medical devices. Materials produced with the silk proteins balance optimal performance with minimal environmental impact. Evonik is producing the silk at its contract development and manufacturing (CDMO) precision fermentation site in Slovakia.

“Working with a partner who puts sustainability at the heart of their business is in perfect alignment with our goals at Evonik. We are delighted to partner with AMSilk to bring smart biotech silk materials to industries worldwide,” said Thomas Riermeier, head of the Health Care business line at Evonik.

With more than three decades of experience as a reliable fermentation partner to companies working on advanced food ingredients, pharmaceuticals and other innovators, Evonik’s Health Care business plays a key role in the company’s life sciences division, Nutrition & Care. The division is guided by a vision driven by sustainability, providing solutions that achieve the highest functionality while closing carbon loops and preserving biodiversity.

“With Evonik, we have one of the most competent and renowned players for producing silk protein at our side. As we continue to improve our process, Evonik is not only the perfect industrial partner, but also as a strategic partner with whom we can scale up

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Media Contact

Evonik
Julia Born
Head of Market Communications
Health Care
Phone +49 6151 18-4984
julia1.born@evonik.com

Media Contact

AMSilk
Isabel Rosenberger
Senior Manager Marketing &
Communications
Phone +49 151 6106 3269
Isabel.rosenberger@amsilk.com

Evonik Industries AG
Rellinghauser Straße 1-11
45128 Essen
Germany
Phone +49 201 177-01
Fax +49 201 177-3475
www.evonik.com

Supervisory Board
Bernd Tönjes, Chairman
Executive Board
Christian Kullmann, Chairman
Dr. Harald Schwager, Deputy Chairman
Thomas Wessel, Ute Wolf

Registered Office is Essen
Register Court Essen Local Court
Commercial Registry B 19474

industrial production even beyond Europe,” says Klaus Kjeldal, Chief Production Officer at AMSilk GmbH.

AMSilk is the world's first industrial supplier of smart biotech materials by applying an outstanding technology platform based on silk proteins. AMSilk turns man-made proteins into silk formulations including fiber, hydrogels and silk powder for applications in the textile industry as well as for medical devices and consumer goods. All AMSilk materials are created with an end of life in mind, being completely vegan, biodegradable, and using renewable plant-based carbon, with no microplastics.

Evonik draws on its expertise in fermentation, including strain development, process optimization and large-scale manufacturing, to help innovators industrialize their disruptive technologies in promising markets such as advanced foods or nature-identical materials. With a total fermentation capacity of over 4,000 m³ spanning a network of global sites in the U.S., Europe and Asia, Evonik is well-positioned to support a wide range of projects regardless of scale and complexity.

Further Information

Please visit our website on precision fermentation
<https://healthcare.evonik.com/en/nutrition/precision-fermentation>

Find out more about AMSilk <https://www.amsilk.com/>

Company information

Evonik is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. The company is active in more than 100 countries around the world and generated sales of €15 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of €2.38 billion in 2021. Evonik goes far beyond chemistry to create innovative, profitable and sustainable solutions for customers. About 33,000 employees work together for a common purpose: We want to improve life today and tomorrow.

About Nutrition & Care

The focus of the business of the Nutrition & Care division is on health and quality of life. It develops differentiated solutions for active pharmaceutical ingredients, medical devices, nutrition for humans and animals, personal care, cosmetics, and household cleaning. In these resilient end markets, the division generated sales of €3.56 billion in 2021 with about 5,300 employees.

About AMSilk

AMSilk GmbH is the world's first industrial supplier of vegan silk proteins and has its headquarters in Neuried/Munich, Germany. Using a patented biotechnological process, AMSilk's smart-performance biotech material based on silk proteins can be converted into usable forms such as powders, hydrogels, fibers, and coatings and give such products unique properties. Among other things, the polymers are biocompatible, safe and robust. AMSilk invites you to discover more at www.amsilk.com.

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