Dr. Achim Marx

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Currently Dr. Marx is Director Biotechnology Policy, Lobbying & Branding at Evonik Industries. From 2009 to 2011, Dr. Marx was a business coach in Marketing Sales Excellence. He had previously been in charge of fermentation expertise and the Acrylic-Glass-from-Sugar project of the Biotechnology Science to Business Center, a center which he has been helping build up since 2005. From 2002 to 2005, he worked in amino acid production of the Health & Nutrition Business Unit in Slovakia. Before this time, he had been managing a research laboratory of the same business unit since 1998 in Halle in Westphalia. He received his doctor’s degree in biology and has contributed to several patents and publications on the subject of amino acid production and synthetic biology. He was a member of the steering committee of the OECD study “Bioeconomy 2030.”
Serving bioeconomy markets

Evonik, the creative industrial group from Germany, is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. Its activities focus on the key megatrends health, nutrition, resource efficiency and globalization. In 2010 about 80 percent of the Group's chemicals sales came from activities where it ranks among the market leaders. Evonik benefits specifically from its innovative prowess and integrated technology platforms. Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In fiscal 2010 more than 34,000 employees generated sales of around €13.3 billion and an operating profit (EBITDA) of about €2.4 billion.

Evonik is active in bioeconomy. Evonik's portfolio comprises amino acids and derivatives, active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), (bio)catalysts/products for the production of biofuels and platform chemicals, biobased polyamides, biobased polyester polyols for coatings/adhesives, cosmetics actives, emollients, enzymatically produced chirale α- and β-amino acids/chirale alcohols/chirale amines, peptides and keto acids for pharma/food/cosmetics, pharmaceutical aids for peroral/parenteral controlled release drug delivery systems, and surfactants.

We will illustrate how Evonik innovates and serves the bioeconomy markets. According to OECD bioeconomy comprises three segments - health, agriculture, and industry. To say it in short: Evonik is active in all three segments of bioeconomy. We will describe the products Biolys®, DYNOCOLL® Terra, RESOMER®, ThreAMINO®, TrypAMINO®, and VESTAMID® Terra. Evonik delivers high performance products to its customers. An important performance attribute is sustainability. We will illustrate life cycle asessement characteristics for Evonik's amino acids and biobased polyamides. Another important benefit to the customer is global supply security. We will describe Evonik's global amino acid supply network and long tradition in large-scale production of feed amino acids by industrial biotechnology. Finally, we will reflect on general commercializations trends in bioeconomy focussing on disruptive breakthroughs in industrial biotechnology.