

# Süd-Chemie

**Süd -Chemie AG** was a global specialty chemicals company with headquarters in Munich , which was founded in 1857 by Justus von Liebig, among others , as Bayerische AG for chemical and agricultural-chemical products (BAG). In 2011, it was taken over by Clariant .

## Süd-Chemie



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## Key figures

In 2009, the Group's turnover amounted to EUR 1,071.6 million, with an EBIT of EUR 103.5 million and 6,485 employees worldwide (as of December 31, 2009).

## Story

In 1857, the Bavarian AG for chemical and agricultural-chemical products (BAG) was founded. In 1859, the BAG began producing the artificial mineral fertilizer superphosphate .

In 1906, Erdwerke Kronwinkl Franz Schmid & Co. GmbH (EKFS) was founded in Moosburg for oil and beverage refining . In 1909, EKFS was renamed Tonwerk Moosburg A. & M. Ostenrieder GmbH. In 1923, Sirius Werke AG was founded in Deggendorf and in 1925, BAG expanded its product range to include bleaching earth .

In 1930, Tonwerk Moosburg and Sirius-Werke merged to form Vereinigte Bleicherdefabriken AG (VBF), and in 1941, VBF and BAG merged to form Süd-Chemie AG.

<b>Legal form</b>	Public limited company
<b>Founding resolution</b>	1941 (1857 as BAG)
<b>Reason for dissolution</b>	2011/12
<b>seat</b>	Acquired by <u>Clariant</u> , name abandoned in 2012 after integration
<b>Line</b>	<u>Munich</u> , <u>Germany</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Günter von Au</u>, <u>Chairman of the Board</u></li> <li>▪ <u>Hariolf Kottmann</u>, <u>Chairman of the Supervisory Board</u></li> </ul>
<b>Number of employees</b>	6,485 <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Sales volume</b>	EUR 1.072 billion <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Industry</b>	<u>Chemical industry</u>
<b>Website</b>	<u>www.sud-chemie.com</u> ( <u>https://www.sud-chemie.com</u> )

As of: 31 December 2009

Süd-Chemie became the market leader in the bleaching earth business and the leading independent catalyst manufacturer in Europe. The first catalysts based on bentonite were produced at the end of the 1950s. In 1958/1959, the joint venture Girdler-Südchemie Katalysator GmbH was founded with Chemetron Corp., Chicago/USA. The aim was to manufacture catalysts for fertilizer production and for processing petroleum, vegetable oil, vegetable fat and fatty acids.



Share of 1000 RM of Süd-Chemie AG dated 5 December 1941

In 1974, the entire catalyst business of Chemetron (Girdler Chemical Inc.) in Louisville (Kentucky) was taken over and in 1977 Girdler Chemical Inc. took over United Catalysts Inc., Louisville/USA. At the end of the 1970s, the catalyst division was expanded through further investments in Japan, India, South Africa and the Middle East.

In 1996, the packaging manufacturer Airsec SA, Paris/France, was taken over. In 1997, the catalyst specialist Montecatini Tecnologie SpA, Novara/Italy, was taken over by the Italian conglomerate Montedison. In 2001, the catalyst activities in Germany were consolidated at the Heufeld site.

In 2002, the China business was expanded and a majority stake in the catalyst manufacturer in Panjin and a foundry ruby tonite manufacturer in Jianping were acquired. In 2003, a joint venture was concluded with Scientific Design, Little Ferry /USA. In 2004, the foundry division was strengthened by the acquisition of the metallurgy product sales division of SKW Metallurgie AG in Düsseldorf. In 2005, a majority stake was acquired in Phostech Lithium Inc. in Quebec/Canada, a manufacturer of lithium iron phosphate.

In 2005, Süd-Chemie was taken over by the US investment company One Equity Partners (OEP) and the company concentrated on its core business: the Functional Additives division (rheological additives) and the Copisil business (additives for carbonless carbonless paper) were sold. The company entered the field of polymerization catalysis through a joint venture in Shanghai/China. In 2005/2006, production of gas-to-liquids (GTL) catalysts began in Doha/Qatar. In 2006, the Pet Products division was sold.

In 2008, Süd-Chemie acquired a majority stake in Alvigo AS, Tallinn/Estonia, a leading catalyst manufacturer in the successor states of the Soviet Union. In addition, several smaller companies were acquired in the foundry business, thereby expanding the leading market position.

The two corporate divisions Adsorbents and Catalysts are divided into the business areas Adsorbents & Additives BAA, Protective Packaging BPE, Foundry Products & Specialty Resins BFR, Water Treatment BWT and Catalyst Technology BCT as well as Energy & Environment BEE.

In February 2011, it was announced that the Swiss specialty chemicals group Clariant was taking over Süd-Chemie for around 2.5 billion Swiss francs. On November 30, 2011, the exclusion of the minority shareholders was entered in the commercial register and Clariant AG became the sole shareholder. In 2012, just over a year after the takeover, Clariant removed the Süd-Chemie name and logo and announced that it would cut around 700 jobs by 2013. The only remaining management member was

CEO Günter von Au, who was given a seat on the Clariant Board of Directors . Süd-Chemie shareholders, with a share of 15%, are represented by two representatives on the supervisory board. [ 2 ]

## Products

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The product spectrum included the industrial groups food and feed additives, foundry additives, detergent, paper and specialty additives, special civil engineering, foundry products, specialty resins, protective packaging for pharmaceuticals and diagnostics as well as electronics and logistics, plastic additives, industrial water treatment, drinking water and wastewater treatment, catalysts for chemicals, petrochemicals, refineries, olefin polymerization, air purification, fuel cell technology, battery materials, including electrode materials for lithium iron phosphate accumulators and lithium titanate accumulators .

## Locations

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In Germany, in addition to the headquarters in Munich, there were other locations in Moosburg, Heufeld, Gammelsdorf, Duisburg, Fuldaabrück, Unterneukirchen, Bitterfeld, Bendorf, Wülfrath and Hilden.

Additional locations were in the Netherlands, Switzerland, Finland, Norway, Spain, France, Austria, the Czech Republic, Greece, Poland, Turkey, Great Britain, Russia, Italy, Sweden, Ukraine, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, Peru, the USA, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, China, Singapore, Malaysia, India, South Korea, Indonesia, Taiwan, Thailand, Japan, Australia, Malawi and South Africa.

Süd-Chemie began construction of what is currently Germany's largest second-generation bioethanol plant. This large demonstration plant, which is located in the immediate vicinity of the new Bavarian BioCampus in Straubing and can produce up to 1,000 tons of cellulosic ethanol from agricultural waste, was inaugurated in April 2012. [ 3 ] The project involves an investment volume of around €16,000,000 and accompanying research projects amounting to around €12,000,000. [ 4 ]

## Weblinks

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- Trends in lithium-ion batteries (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRK0H02ucAM>) , Dr. Norbert Schall in an interview, YouTube, accessed on 6 July 2012
- Early documents and newspaper articles on Süd-Chemie (<https://purl.org/pressemappe20/folder/co/021461>) in the Historical Press Archives of the ZBW

## References

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1. Corporate structure (<https://web.archive.org/web/20081120090054/http://www.sud-chemie.com/scmcms/web/content.jsp?nodeId=6503&lang=de>) ( Memento from November 20, 2008 in the Internet

*Archive* ).

2. *Clariant is heading for a showdown.* (<https://www.luzernerzeitung.ch/nachrichten/wirtschaft/clariant-steuert-auf-einen-showdown-zu;art9642,1145639>) In: *luzernerzeitung.ch*. *Luzerner Zeitung* , 25 November 2017, accessed on 23 December 2017 .
3. m4.de: *Clariant (Süd-Chemie) starts biofuel plant of the future in Straubing* (<https://web.archive.org/web/20130509024812/http://www.m4.de/pressemitteilungen/details/3034.html>) ( *Memento* from May 9, 2013 in *the Internet Archive* ). Press release from July 20, 2012. (<https://web.archive.org/web/20130509024812/http://www.m4.de/pressemitteilungen/details/3034.html>)
4. Sugar Journal E-Newsletter from August 2, 2010

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