

Duisburg, June 18, 2025

Our force majeure declaration of September 11, 2024 / Zinc sulphate production

Dear ladies and gentlemen,

As you know, our zinc sulphate plant was destroyed by a fire on September 10, 2024. We immediately informed our customers that we will not be able to continue production at our zinc sulphate plant until further notice due to this major incident. Since then, we have worked with our customers to find individual alternative solutions and assisted them in solving the problem.

In the meantime, we have analysed the situation in detail. With the involvement of competent external consultants, we have finally concluded that rebuilding our zinc sulphate plant is not an option for us. Firstly, it would have taken several years to rebuild the plant, not least due to the limited availability of components and service providers. Secondly, the approval situation under public law with regard to a new construction of the zinc sulphate plant would have entailed uncertainties that we were ultimately neither able nor willing to accept.

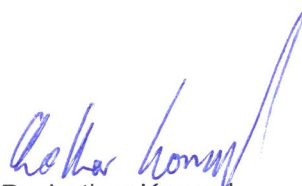
To create clarity and a perspective for us, our employees, and particularly our business partners soon, we have therefore decided with a heavy heart to refrain from building a new zinc sulphate plant. Any other decision would have entailed several years of uncertainty and an uncertain outcome. We wanted to avoid such a situation, especially in the interests of our long-standing partners.

We are very sorry to have to inform you of this news but thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Tilo Horstmann
Geschäftsführer



Dr. Lothar Konrad
Geschäftsführer