AMI closes down its melamine production in Italy
Reorganization of melamine business to boost profitability

06.03.2007 - Within the scope of a reorganization of its global melamine operations, AMI Agrolinz Melamine International closed down its melamine production facilities at Castellanza, Italy, as of 01st March 2007, in an effort to enhance the group's profitability.

Castellanza had been the smallest production site of the AMI Group and achieved losses. The unfavorable cost situation of the production operations and the disadvantageous size of the plant eventually forced AMI to close down the melamine production, according to the company.

What is more, inconvenient site structures such as the lack of backward integration of the Castellanza site into the ammonia and urea operations hamper the profitable production of melamine.

AMI had been operating these production facilities near Milan since the beginning of the Nineties. The melamine plant's annual production capacity amounts to about 50,000 tons. After shutting down its melamine production at Castellanza, AMI is now putting out a yearly total of 160,000 tons of melamine at its Linz (AUT) and Piesteritz (GER) sites.

The shutdown of the Italian melamine production affects about 100 of the 145 staff members employed at Castellanza. These staff members will be supported under a social compensation plan coordinated with the labor unions.