

# We create substantial connections



Competence and credibility make SYNTHOPOL a valuable advisor and partner

# Expertise with a personal approach

Fulfilling our customers' requirements by offering maximum flexibility – that is the foundation of SYNTHOPOL's success. Since the company was established in 1957, we have built up a solid reputation as an internationally recognised specialist in the development and production of synthetic resins.

In order to ensure we retain our leading position, it is crucial that our employees identify with the company and remain faithful to its aims. Our workforce embodies the comprehensive specialistexpertise and huge depth of experience that we have built up over more than half a century.

Our success is also made possible by a management team that recognises and encourages the potential of our employees, and whose clear and lean structure enables efficient decision-making processes. We are able to remain true to what we are: grounded, trustworthy, innovative and open.

Our competence – combined with the credibility, honesty and personal approach of a family business – makes SYNTHOPOL a valuable advisor and partner. That is why more and more processors of synthetic resins are turning to us for products and services they can rely on.

Today and in the future.



DR. JUR. GÜNTER KOCH SYNTHOPOL Germany Owner



**DR. HENNING ZIEMER** SYNTHOPOL Germany Managing Director





# Innovation made in Germany

### WE DELIVER AT SHORT NOTICE AND PLAN FOR THE LONG TERM

The need for guidance combined with fair, high-quality specialist advice and cooperative alliances allows SYNTHOPOL to play to its strengths – and provides an excellent opportunity to further enhance existing customer relationships and build new ones on that basis.

SYNTHOPOL's development team consists of a large number of chemists, application engineers and laboratory technicians.

In the laboratories, where SYNTHOPOL moved in 2000, the team develops optimum product solutions for and with our

customers. Each and every product developed undergoes comprehensive application testing. For example, our resins are applied to a vast range of test surfaces and tested for physical and mechanical characteristics such as hardness, elasticity and flexural and tensile strength.

Artificial weathering equipment simulates strong solar radiation and tropical temperatures. Corrosion protection values are determined by means of a salt spray test and condensed moisture test. Measurements made in the outdoor weathering station and measurement studies conducted in Florida also complement our application testing.

Creating substantial connections: a fundamental principle of chemistry and the foundation of SYNTHOPOL's success

at global player standards and s	rsonal approach, customer focus short decision-making processes
of special requests and absolute reliability custo	-term thinking, lasting relationships with staff, omers and suppliers, comprehensive environ- cal and quality management
	tion, trustworthiness and the grounded oach of a family business

# Elements of our success

### **ATTENTIVENESS**

Attentiveness is the essence of our work. We understand and shape our products down to the molecular level. We apply that same attentiveness to processes, work organisation and our relationships with customers and staff, enabling us to discover and unlock potential for improvement day by day.From the big picture to the smallest details.

### AGILITY

Fast responses are crucial to our success: flexible logistics and just-in-time delivery, rapid and precise solutions for individual customer requirements, innovative products for a wide range of applications and environments. And the forward-looking utilisation of new possibilities and market trends.

### SECURITY

Our customers can depend on the quality and durability of our products – and on our service, our knowledge and the safety and environmental friendliness of our processes. We understand how important our work is both to our customers and to everyone who uses the end products created on the basis of that work. We meet this responsibility conscientiously, as we do our responsibility towards society and the environment.

#### **STRENGTH OF PURPOSE**

In a market environment with huge opportunities, SYNTHOPOL sets itself realistic, meaningful and ambitious goals and invests continuously in research, development, production and environmental protection. Based on the strengths of the present, we develop and grow together with our customers.

#### PERSONAL APPROACH

Humanity, respect and trust are essential to our company. The synergy between our dedicated employees makes SYNTHOPOL unique – and is fundamental to customer satisfaction and long-term partnerships.

KNOW-HOW

We are committed to considering environmental factors also during production

# Maximum reliability

Production is at the heart of our company. A large number of reactors with capacities of 1 to 25 cubic metres work continuously on the manufacture of synthetic resins. All fully automated and incorporating the latest process technology with sophisticated, computerised process control.

We are committed to considering environmental factors during the production process. Much of our equipment reduces harmful emissions to a minimum, conserves resources, recovers energy, offers a high level of safety, and much more.

But nothing is so good that it cannot be improved upon. That is why we always remain alert and continually work according to optimisation principles, which enable us to raise our production standards even further.



# SYNTHOPOL EXPERTS



## "Our expertise means we can significantly shorten the development time of individual products."

#### THOMAS EHLERS

Chemical lab assistant in R&D laboratory, acrylate/UV resin development

I have been at SYNTHOPOL since starting my training as a laboratory technician in 1990. I have worked in the same department as I do now since 1993. In R&D, we are organised in small teams that often consist of just a chemist and a laboratory technician, which is not only a pleasant way to work, but is also good for developing ideas, working things out and finding solutions.

R&D staff develop products in the laboratory and are also involved in the scale up from the laboratory to production. That means we oversee the products at every stage: from laboratory development, through the production process and finally to quality control. We understand our systems very well and are aware of their capabilities in production. We incorporate this into the development of products. Combined with our experience in tackling challenges, it ultimately allows us to significantly shorten the development time of a new product in certain circumstances.

As a mid-sized company of a manageable size, we also have the advantage of being able to respond to customer requirements individually, especially at the development stage. New products are often developed in partnership with customers.



## "Building and maintaining customer trust is a great challenge that I look forward to every day."

PETRA KUJAWSKI

Office-based sales for North and East Germany, Bavaria

I have been at SYNTHOPOL since my training 30 years ago. I now work in the sales office taking care of customers and "my" field sales staff, whom I am in contact with every day.

I am always pleased when I have the opportunity to meet our customers and contacts in person – it strengthens our relationship and helps us respond to their needs better. That often means questions like "Why can't containers be supplied?" or "Why does the customer only want small quantities of a certain product" no longer arise.

The customer receives a quick reply from us and can be sure that we are dealing with their request. Our communication channels and official processes are short and that makes us more flexible than larger companies, which is a very important thing for me. We all pull together as a team. Large and small customers are valued equally here and they know who they can get in touch with so they don't have to keep explaining what they need. Mutual trust is built up slowly and is a valuable foundation that needs to be consistently developed and maintained.



"We supply the customer with quality products that are packaged exactly as they require and on time."

> KAI WIESE Deputy warehouse and logistics manager

I have been at SYNTHOPOL for 18 years now – what I really like is that the company is continuously modernising itself and doesn't stand still. Employees' own ideas are incorporated into the planning of improvements and are implemented if they are viable. It makes you feel good to be part of this family-run company and to have their backing.

Essentially, the whole site is my office as everything that comes in and goes out passes through our logistics department. We are responsible for safe and proper storage and for loading hazardous materials. We also ensure that we maintain our flexibility as a supplier through to the very end. Thanks to our large warehouse facilities, customers can order goods today and receive them tomorrow.

One way or another, we give the customer quality products in the exact packaging they require and on time, of course. We make sure of it.



## "Our resins are very versatile and can be used for a multitude of applications."

#### INES MARQUARD

Application engineer, acrylate resins/UV resins/saturated polyester resins

I trained as a chemistry laboratory assistant at SYNTHOPOL in 2001 and then returned to SYNTHOPOL after finishing my degree. My job is very varied and nowhere else can offer me that.

Discussing customers' requirements with them is an important element of my work. For that reason it is essential to speak to customers personally, either on the telephone or face-to-face, in order to find solutions. As I deal with lots of applications, my knowledge of one application can be transferred to the others. Our resins are very versatile and can be used for a multitude of applications. This knowledge allows us to act quickly and flexibly.

It's true that you feel attached to the product, and so you are happy for the customer when they successfully achieve what they planned with our resins and can corroborate our good laboratory results. Days like that are wonderful!



## "We continually pursue improvements in workplace and plant safety."

SIRIN MEHMET CELIKTEN Chemistry technician in the production department

I have worked at SYNTHOPOL for over 26 years now and feel very fortunate to be employed in a family business like this. We are supported across all the departments, there is a high level of trust between employer and employee and the company looks after its own people.

Since I have worked here, scarcely a day goes by without a change of some sort. There have been lots of improvements in workplace and plant safety in particular over the last few years, and also in work procedures. We continually pursue improvements, and employees can play their part by contributing their own ideas. Safety is a priority here, as chemistry also means remaining flexible in order to cope with challenges on a daily basis.

We have many customers, large and small, all around the world from Mexico to Australia. And we have the same motto for all of them: quality, flexibility and zero tolerance for errors. We are personally committed to this.



## "Our flexibility is unbeatable – customers can rely on that in this volatile market."

#### ANDREAS HOLSTEIN

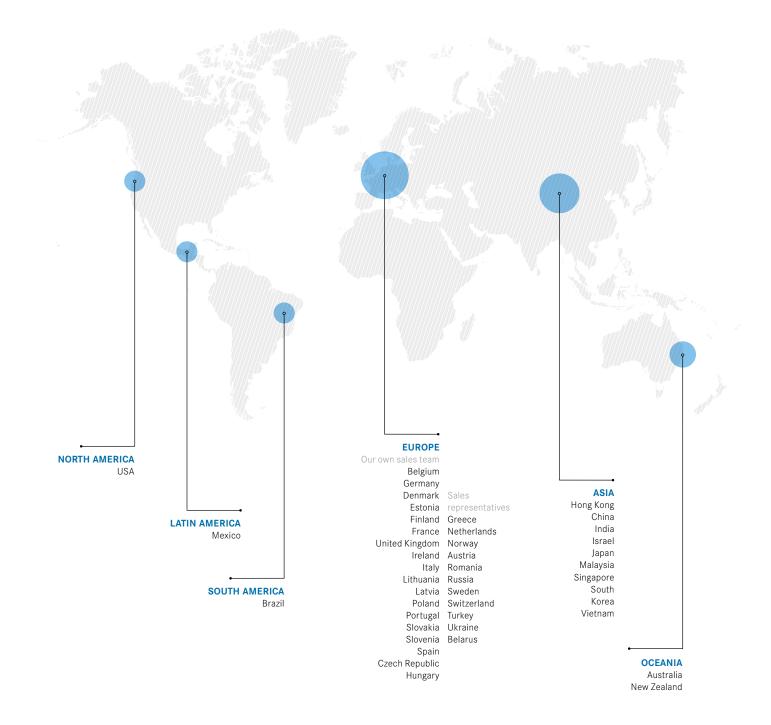
Field sales coating resins, West Germany and Belgium

As a member of the field sales staff, I see myself as an information provider for customers. It is my responsibility to find out at first hand what our customers need and what they have. Our market is always on the move. Products change constantly, there is a demand for innovations – and we try to meet these needs accordingly. We can do that much more flexibly than the competition, and that is our advantage. This flexibility is essentially unbeatable.

But for me, one of the most important things is that I can rely on my company and my colleagues. Having this trust, this support at all levels clearly demonstrates that SYNTHOPOL is not just a family company, but also a company with a family-like atmosphere. It was just the same when I started here 30 years ago.

Our customers put their trust in us. When customers approach me with their requests, they know they are in good hands and matters will be dealt with quickly.

# From Hamburg-Buxtehude to the rest of the world



SYNTHOPOL operates internationally while remaining strongly rooted in its home region – a strong brand, made in Germany

In these times when products are becoming increasingly similar, quality standards are almost identical and companies operate globally, customers find themselves struggling to differentiate. As a dependable and reliable partner, SYNTHOPOL can capitalise on the trust between us and our customers. This trust allows us to position and differentiate ourselves in the market.

Wherever our customers are, we follow them to ensure we are there for them. SYNTHOPOL operates internationally while remaining strongly rooted in its home region – a strong brand, made in Germany. We take advantage of opportunities for growth both inside and outside Europe, support our customers in the international arena and help them achieve success. As a family company with global operations, we do this by building on our own distribution team as well as on our growing network of sales partners.

All contact details are updated and organised by country on our website at www.synthopol.com



# Quality, environment and safety

The various standards of quality, environmental sustainability and safety in the production and processing of our products are, in addition to economic factors, the cornerstones of our activities at SYNTHOPOL.

We have implemented an integrated management system which includes plant safety, occupational health and other topics in addition to quality and the environment.

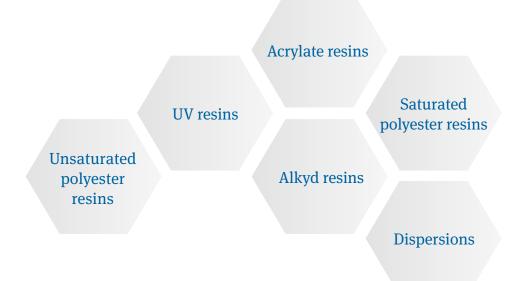
The quality management system has been certified according to ISO 9001 since 1995. The other elements of the management system meet the demands of respective standards, legislation and other regulations. An essential component of our management system is our staff; therefore every position within our organisation is included in the system and contributes to the process of continuous improvement.

All of our production, energy and environmental facilities are state-of-the-art and thus contribute towards ensuring a production process that guarantees the maximum quality of our products, and also protects the environment and our employees.

# Our product range

As one of Europe's leading specialists in synthetic resins, SYNTHOPOL develops and manufactures products that are significant components of our customers' solutions.

Every SYNTHOPOL product serves an important purpose. SYNTHOPOL products give varnished, painted and coated surfaces, lightweight structures and adhesive bonds stability, protection, structure and durability. SYNTHOPOL products combine a wide range of possible uses, outstanding flexibility in application and long-term stability in end products.





# Taking responsibility

As a company, we are an active part of society. We therefore believe we also have a responsibility to that society. We aim to take responsibility for ecological and social aspects in particular, i.e. for the environment and for the people who make us successful: our customers, our staff, our suppliers and everyone we work with in the public sphere.

For us, chemistry and the environment are one, which is why it is especially important to us to sustainably protect the environment. As part of our environmental management system, we have drawn up guidelines that represent our environment-related goals and principles, including our commitment to adhering to all relevant environmental regulations.

Our continuous improvement process (CIP) enables all our employees to participate actively in reducing our environmental impact. It is applied throughout our value creation process, for instance in the form of environmentally friendly and sustainable product development, e.g. recycling materials in our production processes, improving our environmental performance in terms of efficient energy use and reducing emissions by means of powerful exhaust air purification systems. Our responsibility also extends to our staff and their families. Humanity, respect and trust are essential values for our company. One of our main corporate goals is therefore to ensure the satisfaction of our employees, for whose safety and security we consider ourselves responsible.

For us, social responsibility means being able to offer our employees good, secure jobs. This includes providing our own training and support for junior members of staff. We continuously and successfully invest in training and development for all our staff; however, in view of demographic change, our main focus is on fostering the talents of young people.

We maintain ongoing exchange arrangements with universities and research institutions across Germany and with interested school pupils in our area. For many years, we have been sponsoring amateur sports projects, youth sports and other non-profit organisations locally. Finally, we believe that longterm, trust-based relationships with our suppliers are also part of our social responsibility, as is regular and objective communication with local and public organisations in our neighbourhood, with municipal and regional authorities, with the press and also with the business inspectorate and the fire brigade.



We train junior employees, which enables us to generate secure and sustainable jobs

## Our training

Training plays a crucial role in securing the future success of a company. Organisations that train junior staff and support their employees' continued professional development generate secure and sustainable jobs. For three decades, we have pursued the principle of successfully training junior staff, creating internships for students in partnership with universities and higher education institutions and continuously investing in further training and development for our employees.

At SYNTHOPOL, we believe that supporting junior staff and employees is both our social responsibility and our responsibility to Buxtehude as a business location. After all, the young people of today are the longstanding employees of tomorrow.

With us, they can take their first step towards a career in the colourful world of chemistry.

We provide training for the following roles:

Chemical laboratory assistant Chemical technician

Industrial administrator

# Understanding our customers' needs

As a globally networked family business with strong regional roots, SYNTHOPOL is big enough for complex tasks and flexible enough for fast, customised developments and individual service.

Our customers' variety of needs and requirements motivate us to provide optimum quality on competitive terms each and every day. This enables us to turn even our customers' most demanding challenges into opportunities. We know what matters to our customers and what benefits them. We listen. We take time to understand our customers' concerns and work with them to develop tailored, innovative solutions for market-compliant and successful products.

We combine these capabilities with our drive to establish longterm, personalised and trust-based customer relationships. Ultimately, the same principle applies to our products and to our customers: we create substantial connections.



### Head office

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