

Press Release

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Methacrylates

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Focus on Energy Conservation

The vodcast "This is what climate protection looks like" shows greenhouse operators using PLEXIGLAS® to save energy.

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Darmstadt, September 5, 2007. Anyone who builds his or her greenhouse with PLEXIGLAS® multi-skin sheets will save energy. This is vividly illustrated by the vodcast on the PLEXIGLAS® climate protection campaign, which can now be viewed at www.plexiglas-and-energy.com. The approximately 8-minute video shows how energy can be saved by using PLEXIGLAS® in greenhouses. It includes a testimony by Dutch plant breeder Teun van der Eijk about his experiences with his 100,000-square-meter (120,000-square-yard) greenhouses made of PLEXIGLAS®. A specialist illustrates how the efficient thermal insulation of the double-skin sheets works and how their high transparency promotes plant growth. A look around the globe reveals gardeners all over the world relying on PLEXIGLAS® to save energy. Tomorrow's credo is "energy efficiency."

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Rising energy prices are forcing more and more greenhouse operators to lower their heating costs. "Dutch gardeners, who have already done a lot of building with PLEXIGLAS®, are leading the way," says Michael Träxler, manager of Degussa's Acrylic Sheet Business Line. Meanwhile, other countries such as the United States, Japan, and Norway are following suit. This is why PLEXIGLAS® has experienced a boom in greenhouse construction in recent years. The boom can be attributed to the high thermal insulation property of PLEXIGLAS® double-skin sheets, which allows greenhouse operators to save energy while reducing CO₂ emissions. "With our campaign, we intend to show that, thanks to PLEXIGLAS®, climate protection goes hand-in-hand with a reduction of utility costs—and I mean worldwide", says Träxler.

The first step in the worldwide environmental campaign, entitled "This is what climate protection looks like," highlights saving energy through

thermal insulation, as can be achieved by using PLEXIGLAS® in greenhouses. Other applications, namely air-conditioning, lighting, and energy generation, will follow later in the year.

Degussa—a wholly owned subsidiary of the RAG Group—is the global market leader in specialty chemicals. Our business is creating essentials—innovative products and system solutions that make indispensable contributions to our customers' success. In fiscal 2006 around 36,000 employees worldwide generated sales of 10.9 billion euros and operating profits (EBIT) of more than 870 million euros.

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