

## **Dragon Plant: Interview with Mike Olosky**

**Mike Olosky, Corporate Senior Vice President Adhesive Technologies Research & Innovation, in his former position as President of Henkel Asia-Pacific, on the occasion of the Dragon Plant opening.**

### **What were the key steps on the way to making this ambitious plan a reality?**

“Our people joined forces to bring this factory to life together. Progress was steady: We selected the site in March 2011 and held our groundbreaking ceremony in August of the same year. We then began construction, and by November 2012 we had installed the roof on our main building. The Dragon Plant is a 50-million-euro investment, and our customers are very impressed when they see it. Ultimately, everything can be traced back to our new strategy. We need top class facilities, top class people from around the globe and best-in-class sustainability practices to achieve our goals for 2016.”

### **What contribution is the Dragon Plant making right now?**

“The Dragon Plant is now driving our global business forward, strengthening our customer relationships and giving our brands more power in the Asia-Pacific region. Customer audits gave us great opportunities to talk to customers about their needs. We adjusted our portfolio and now we’re providing the best possible adhesives, sealants and surface treatments for our customers in the automotive, packaging and aerospace industries, to name just three. We have innovative technologies that set us apart from other providers, and our efficient factory is driving down costs, increasing the profitability of our entire business, and opening up areas to leverage production and supply chain synergies.”

### **What role will it play in our future?**

“The Dragon Plant is a future-facing factory, because our strategy aims for long-term success in emerging markets. Innovation is our central focus. In January, we opened the Henkel Display Center, a research laboratory for screens and displays. We’re also building a new R&D center that will make Shanghai an innovation hub, attracting the top international talent and adding

new products to our portfolio. By 2015 we will have built Phase 2 of the Dragon Plant site, which will increase the range of products it can produce. We can also expand our 150,124-square-meter site by a further 50,000 square meters.”