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Abstracts

In Dec. 2014, the European Bioplastics held the 9th European Bioplastics Conference in Brussels, in which China was confirmed again for its important role in the production of bio-based materials. In fact, in this month, China also launched a large quantity of demonstration bases for bio-based materials. In particular, the bio-based material industrial parks in Changchun and Weifang cities gradually began operation.

PLA still captured wide attention in China. In Dec., leading PLA enterprises like Hisun, SUPLA and COFCO Biochemical all announced their plans to newly establish PLA plants and to put them into operation in 2015. Meanwhile, foreign enterprises such as NatureWorks intended to expand its PLA production capacity in 2015. Therefore, CCM took both the international environmental protection trend and advantages of homemade PLA into consideration, to figure out the reasons why positive attitude was held towards PLA and whether PLA would face outbreak in 2015.

In addition, CCM made an analysis on the challenges faced by China's bio-based material industry, from the perspective of RMB exchange rates. Regarding the fluctuated RMB appreciation against USD, the exports of bio-based materials would encounter obstacles. Moreover, the raw materials for bio-based materials, starch mainly comes from Thailand and Vietnam. However, the RMB against Thai Baht and VND saw depreciation. This would bring cost pressure to the production of bio-based materials. Then, how will the changes of currency exchange rate impact the development of domestic bio-based material industry?

Even though the bio-based material industry is drawn back by the changes of RMB exchange rates, related bio-based material enterprises and R&D institutes are still striving for the bio-based monomers, hoping to make breakthroughs in the

development. Of this, bio-based PDO is regarded as the most potential monomer. Thanks to the establishment of bio-based demonstration bases and the industrial clusters, bio-based PDO boasts great potential. What about the industrial scale of bio-based PDO in China? How will it go forward?

Also, CCM continued to pay attention to the imports, exports and prices of raw materials for bio-based materials, including corn, cassava chip and potato starch. Quantitative analysis was adopted to show the supply & demand changes of starch, key raw materials for bio-based materials and to make short-term prediction.

The above hot topics in China's bio-based materials market will be explored and reported by CCM in detail in this e-journal, Bio-based Materials China News 1412. Please pay attention.

The USD/RMB exchange rate in this issue is USD1.00=RMB6.1369 on 1 Dec., 2014, sourced from the People's Bank of China. All the prices mentioned in this issue include the VAT except some specified.

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COMPANIES MENTIONED

Nanyang Zhongju Tianguan Low Carbon Technology Co., Ltd.; Zhejiang Hisun Group Co., Ltd.; Shenzhen Ecomann Bio-technology Co., Ltd.; Guangzhou Kingfa Sci & Tech Co., Ltd.; COFCO Biochemical (Anhui) Co., Ltd.

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