

# Total Corbion PLA announces successful start-up of pilot plant in Rayong, Thailand

Total Corbion PLA, global technology leader in Poly Lactic Acid (PLA) and lactide monomers, announces that it has successfully started up its 1 kTpa PLA pilot plant in Rayong, Thailand. The pilot plant started up in December 2017 and over the past two months has produced a broad range of Luminy® PLA resins.

“Our customers have been looking forward to testing and validating our Luminy® PLA resins” says Senior Marketing Director, Francois de Bie. “With the successful start-up of the pilot plant, Luminy® PLA from the pilot plant is now available for customer sampling”. In addition, the pilot plant is being used to train operators and to get a head start on the required product certifications and regulatory needs. In future, Total Corbion PLA will also be able to use the pilot plant for product development.

With the start-up of the pilot plant, Total Corbion PLA is gearing up to become a world scale producer of PLA: on the same site, Total Corbion PLA's Lactide plant is being expanded to 100 kTpa and a 75 kTpa PLA polymerization plant is under construction. “Since ground breaking in November 2016, the project has amassed more than 2.2 million safe working hours to date”, says Simon Goldney, Plant Director. “The PLA polymerization plant is on track to deliver its first commercial quantities of PLA during the second half of 2018.”

Upon completion, Total Corbion PLA's production facility in Thailand will produce a broad portfolio of Luminy® PLA neat resins: from standard PLA to innovative, high heat resistant PLA, to satisfy customer requirements for a wide range of markets from packaging to consumer goods, fibers and automotive.

**For more information on how to make the switch to biobased PLA, or to obtain sample material for trials, please contact us.**

## END PRESS RELEASE

Accompanying logo and images can be downloaded here (link valid 7 days from publication date): <https://we.tl/is2ar1q2u4>

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### About Total Corbion PLA

Total Corbion PLA is a global technology leader in Poly Lactic Acid (PLA) and lactide monomers. PLA is a biobased and biodegradable polymer made from annually renewable resources, offering a reduced carbon footprint versus many traditional plastics. The Luminy® PLA portfolio, which includes both high heat and standard PLA grades, is an innovative material that is used in a wide range of markets from packaging to consumer goods, fibers and automotive. Total Corbion PLA, headquartered in the Netherlands, will start up a new production plant in Thailand in the second half of 2018. The company is a 50/50 joint venture between Total and Corbion. [www.total-corbion.com](http://www.total-corbion.com)



Photo 1. The first Luminy® biopolymer from Total Corbion PLA's pilot plant in Rayong, Thailand.



Photo 2. Luminy® PLA biopolymer ready for shipment to customers.



Photo 3. Quality inspection of Luminy® biopolymer pellets produced from Total Corbion PLA's pilot plant in Rayong, Thailand.

**About Total**

*Total is a global integrated energy producer and provider, a leading international oil and gas company, and a major player in solar energy with SunPower and Total Solar. Its 98,000 employees are committed to better energy that is safer, cleaner, more efficient, more innovative and accessible to as many people as possible. As a responsible corporate citizen, Total focuses on ensuring that their operations in more than 130 countries worldwide consistently deliver economic, social and environmental benefits.*

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**About Corbion**

*Corbion is the global market leader in lactic acid and lactic acid derivatives, and a leading company in emulsifiers, functional enzyme blends, minerals and vitamins. The company develops sustainable solutions to improve the quality of life for people today and generations to come. Corbion's solutions help differentiate products in markets such as food, home & personal care, pharmaceuticals, medical devices and bioplastics. In 2017, Corbion generated annual sales of € 891.7 million and had a workforce of 1,794 FTE. Corbion is listed on the Euronext Amsterdam.*

[www.corbion.com](http://www.corbion.com)

**Luminy®**

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Biobased • Compostable • Innovative

**Total Corbion PLA bv**

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