

Press release

Leverkusen, Germany, 8 April, 2018

Heraeus successfully defends fundamental patents against third party challenge in China

German technology group Heraeus has successfully defended its two patents CN101263568B and CN101263569B which cover methods for producing electrolyte capacitors before the Patent Reexamination Board of the Chinese State Intellectual Property Office.

“Heraeus appreciates very much the right decisions made by the China IP Office, and is committed to enforce its patents against violation, to support its customers against counterfeit capacitor production”, as stated firmly by Senior Vice President Bernd Stenger.

Heraeus is the technology leader in the field of conductive polymers and maintains a portfolio of more than 50 patent families to protect its important inventions made in the field of solid state capacitors, conductive coatings and other applications related to organic electronics.

By introducing the product CLEVIOS K, a waterborne conductive polymer based on Polyethylenedioxythiophene (PEDOT), to the market Heraeus has opened the door for new designs of tantalum and aluminum capacitors. Within the last decade the capacitor’s performance regarding capacitance, electrical serial resistance and high stability even under harsh environmental conditions could be continuously leveraged. In parallel the processes to produce capacitors were facilitated to allow customers to increase product output.

Heraeus’ fundamental patents granted in China on the production of electrolyte capacitors by employing conductive polymer dispersions with particle sizes of 1 – 100 nm were challenged recently by a Third Party. The Patent Reexamination Board of the Chinese State Intellectual Property Office rejected these invalidation actions and the patents were maintained as originally granted.

About Heraeus

Heraeus, the technology group headquartered in Hanau, Germany, is a leading international family-owned company formed in 1851. With expertise, a focus on innovations, operational excellence and an entrepreneurial leadership, we strive to continuously improve the businesses of our customers around the world.

We create high-quality solutions for our customers and strengthen their long-term competitiveness by combining material expertise with technological know-how. Our ideas are focused on important issues such as the environment, energy, health, mobility and industrial applications. Our portfolio ranges from components to coordinated material systems which are

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used in a wide variety of industries, including the steel, electronics, chemical, automotive and telecommunications industries.

In the 2016 financial year, Heraeus generated revenues without precious metals of €2.0 bn and a total revenue of €21.5 bn. With approximately 12,400 employees worldwide in more than 100 subsidiaries in 40 countries, Heraeus holds a leading position in its global markets.

In 2016, the Foundation for Family Businesses named Heraeus as one of the “Top 10 Family Businesses” in Germany.

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