

measures to boost efficiency and improve its infrastructure. These measures include investments in the double-digit million euro range to increase capacity for BDO operations at its Geismar, LA, USA, site, and for PolyTHF operations at the Caojing, China, site. Part of the announced capacity increase will also be a BDO and a PolyTHF plant located

at Korla, China. As recently announced, these plants will be built by two joint venture companies established by BASF and **Xinjiang Markor Chemical Industry Co. Ltd.** The plants will be capable of manufacturing annually 100,000 t of BDO and 50,000 t of PolyTHF and are expected to begin operations in 2015.



### 10 years Sonderhoff USA Corp.

On 9 August 2013, **Sonderhoff USA Corp.** celebrated its tenth anniversary with an open house event for customers, suppliers, partners, friends, and colleagues. Since its establishment in 2003 as part of the global Sonderhoff group, the company in Elgin, IL,

USA, has developed successfully. It has steadily promoted the previously little known FIP (foam in-place) technology in the USA, which is the process of fully automatic application of liquid seals to produce housing gaskets. The company presently supplies major

suppliers in the automotive, electronics, and packaging industries with **Fermapor K31** foam seals and the **Fermadur** potting compounds for sealing door modules, headlamps, brake lights, filters, drum packaging, electrical enclosures, and switch cabinets. Adding to these are further applications in the printing industry, for household appliances, and for lighting. As a system supplier, the company also sells its own two-, three-, or four-component mixing and dosing

machinery for this technology. According to Sonderhoff USA, more than 70 mixing and dosing systems have been put into operation in the USA, Mexico, and Canada. The company offers US customers the additional service of contract manufacturing for foam gasket, gluing, and potting applications on the parts of the OEMs and their suppliers. This service ranges from prototypes, to pilot runs and small batches, to full-scale series production.

### IAC and Feltex Automotive establish JV

**International Automotive Components (IAC)** has formed a joint venture with **Feltex Automotive**, a South Africa-based supplier of automotive flooring,

acoustics, and trim components. The joint venture, **IAC-Feltex Pty Limited**, marks IAC's initial entry into the growing South African automotive region, which is ex

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