

**"We are asked to contribute to the sector's consolidation"**

*(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, November 18, 2007)*

Some days ago, Lanxess AG announced that it would take over Brazil-based synthetic-rubber producer Petroflex. Following this first major acquisition placed by Lanxess AG, the company announced that it would continue its course towards expansion by means of M&As. Among the takeover targets envisioned by the company is also Degussa, part of Evonik. But the state government of North-Rhine Westphalia failed to back this move. Lanxess's CEO, Axel Heitmann, again denied the rumour that Lanxess wanted to take over Clariant. He stated that the company spun off from Bayer AG would soon be able to pay a higher dividend.