

SCHOTT opens new glass melting tank in Gujarat with €25M investment

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SCHOTT AG, a global leader in pharmaceutical glass manufacturing, has inaugurated a new melting tank in its Gujarat-based facility with an approximate investment of €25 million. The new tank would help increasing the plant's production capacity by 10,000 tonnes to reach an annual capacity of 40000 metric tonnes.

SCHOTT AG has been a frontrunner in the global fight against Coronavirus, with commitment to provide its specialised pharma glass used for storing billions of COVID-19 vaccines. The melting furnace has been constructed within a span of one year, to enable a 25 per cent increase in the facility's overall production capacity, to support the pharma industry that is facing a huge demand surge for pharma packaging products.

Pawan Shukla, MD, SCHOTT Glass, India shared, "SCHOTT remains committed to ensure that there is adequate supply of its high-quality pharma glass for the Indian pharma industry. Moreover, as SCHOTT's manufacturing hub in Asia, we have taken up the responsibility to cater to our clients in India as well as in neighbouring countries."

The melting tank is a part of the company's commitment to invest over €47 million in its Indian facility, and to double its capacity of producing the highly specialised FIOLAX® tubing material for both domestic and export demands. Despite the pandemic induced lockdown, SCHOTT employees and engineers continued working at the Jambusar facility to enable the construction of the new tank in the defined timeframe.

The expansion has resulted in additional employment of over 120 skilled workforce, taking the overall count to 420 employees.

Norbert Osterhage, German Project Engineer and Expert for Melting Technology, who was overseeing the project, chose to stay in India during the lockdown to ensure that the melting tank is operational in time, especially now as quality glass vials and syringes have become need of the hour for COVID-19 treatment.

“Our Indian facility is an integral part of our pledge to cater to any requirement of the pharma industry in a sustainable manner,” said Dr Patrick Markschräger, Executive Vice President, SCHOTT AG, Business Unit Tubing.