

# Modernisation of a Fertiliser- and Basis Chemicals Industrial Plant



**BOREALIS.** *Pörner successfully finished major project at the Linz location*

**VIENNA.** After decades of operation the fertiliser and basic chemicals plant at the Linz location needed a modernization through state-of-the-art technology in order to safeguard productivity for the future. In October 2010 Pörner Austria was contracted by Borealis for the engineering and implementation for the largest modernisation project at the Linz plant.

The most important parts of the fertiliser production, being the ammonia and urea plant, as well as the necessary utilities, were furnished with new equipment, components and new system controls.

Because of the significant project size the revamp was split into 78 packages respectively sub-projects, an enormous complexity for the engineering-, procurement- and installation

operations. In peak times the work force at site reached 350 people.

Borealis commissioned Pörner with the general planning and management (EPCM contract) of the project. The services included project management, basic and detail engineering, procurement and purchasing services, as well as site management.

Pörner also served as safety representative.

Although many of the works were performed in the operating plant, they were completed without any Reportable Incidents (accidents) - a formidable record.

## Two successful turnarounds

Project high lights were both



turnarounds in summer 2012 and 2013. All intended erection and pre-commissioning tasks were executed within only a few weeks – a challenge for all contractors and subcontractors involved, but particularly for the project management and the coordinating project teams. Both turnarounds proceeded suc-

cessfully because of the careful planning.

Close cooperation between owner and contractor, and a high-level of flexibility are the important ingredients for the success of such an extensive rebuild. There had to be made decisions constantly together with the All interest groups,

project-, operation- and turn-around teams of Borealis, were challenged by continual decision making, time scheduling and work synchronization, and last but not least all 78 packages subprojects fell in line neatly.

## The result

It was the largest contract Borealis had ever awarded to Pörner. All units of this complex project work as intended and produce successfully. This confirms the excellent cooperation between client, general planner, suppliers and subcontractors to elevate the fertilizer- and basic chemicals production units at the Linz location to state-of-the-art technology.

(Gerhard Vlcek) ■