

HEXIS S.A. are a key player in the market for the production and adhesive coating of films used for visual communication. The company celebrated 25 years of innovation in 2014!

The group's headquarters are in Frontignan, near Montpellier in Southern France. In France, HEXIS have commercial agencies with stock in Méry-sur-Oise (Paris region), Villeurbanne (near Lyon) and Hagetmau (south-west France) so as to optimise management of deliveries to our clients.

Our activity has grown by an average of 8% per year in the last 5 years. HEXIS produce more than 18 million m<sup>2</sup> of adhesive films per year, and in 2014 achieved a consolidated turnover of 75 million Euros, 50% of which was generated at an international level.

Our target for 2016/2017 is a turnover of 100 million Euros.

To achieve this, we are working on improving the quality of our products, processes and development of our production tools so as to extend our production capacity.

We have thus invested in a second production site in Hagetmau (south-west France). To date, €7.8M has already been invested and we are planning a second investment phase of €7M, starting in 2015.

The group employs 366 people around the world, including 267 in France.

The company specialises in high-performance cast PVC, PU and latex films. It also develops innovative product ranges for professionals in the fields of digital printing, signage, lettering, vehicle and textile markings.

Since HEXIS was created in 1989, the company has successfully defended its position as the French leader for signage and digital printing media against international competition.

The company's activity is divided into six major product categories:

- products designed for computer-assisted cutting
- films for full wraps
- films for textile marking
- media for large format digital printing
- surface protection
- anti-microbial protection

Their fields of application include billboards, decoration of premises and objects, signs, light-boxes, markings for vehicles (cars, trains, tramways, boats, airplanes...), objects and textiles, lamination etc.

Today, the adhesive film market is diversifying rapidly. Customised and tailor-made products concerning our high-technology films are increasingly common.

**HEXIS S.A.**

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New markets are also opening up, with the use of adhesive films in design, decoration, and both indoor and outdoor architecture.

At their headquarters in Frontignan, HEXIS have a production site of more than 12,000 m<sup>2</sup>, with 4 coating lines, three of which are dedicated to producing cast film and the fourth dedicated to adhesive coating.

HEXIS are currently finishing the work started in 2010 for a second industrial site in south-west France, with a surface of more than 25,000 m<sup>2</sup>. In addition to the security provided by the creation of a second production site, we will be able to triple our current turnover. This new site will have several production lines and will be fully operational in 2016.

In June 2005, HEXIS received its ISO 9001 certification for its quality management system.

Our R&D laboratory is very active in the development of our ranges of cast films (these include computer-assisted cutting and printable films), as well as in the development of major new products such as anti-microbial films – which makes it possible to combat the proliferation of bacteria in public areas, and films for textile marking, etc. HEXIS spend 3% of their turnover to R&D and employ 20 staff in their laboratory.

We have marketed adhesive films for several years now, with these films replacing paintwork offering surface protection on the carriages of high-speed and regional trains and tramways in France and abroad. Similarly, the carriages of underground trains in both Paris and London use HEXIS products, making possible both aesthetic coherence and protection against degradation.

The development of ecological product ranges continues, with the launch of a new generation of films made from aqueous emulsions (latex, PU, etc.). These PVC-free films have been designed for top-of-the-range visual communication. They satisfy even the strictest requirements of sustainable development. The new production technology with an aqueous base reduces by 70% the quantity of solvents used during the manufacturing process. These products comply with the regulations and do not contain chlorine, phthalates or heavy metals.

Constant innovation in the field of adhesives and cast films has always been the driving force of growth at HEXIS.

In 2010, HEXIS were selected as the Regional Winner of the INPI Innovation Trophies. The aim of these trophies is to reward companies showing particularly good economic growth and using industrial property rights in their development strategy.

At the FESPA Digital Exhibition in Geneva in 2009, HEXIS were awarded the "Planet Friendly" label by FESPA, recognising the company's positive contribution to ecologically responsible production.

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In 2012, the "Entrepreneur of the year prize" for the Mediterranean region, attributed by Ernst & Young and L'Express, was awarded to Michel Mateu for his innovative entrepreneurial spirit.

In 2014, at FESPA, HEXIS received two EDP Awards for HX190WG2 – a multi-layered cast film designed for digital printing, and HFLEX100P - a PVC-free flex film designed for textile markings. In order to accompany the development of their new films, HEXIS have created a training centre for professionals in the field of visual communication as a means of increasing the level of skill of their customers' staff, or of training them on how to apply various film types. The HEXIS Training Centre has been accredited by DIRRECTE (Regional Department of Enterprise), and HEXIS training courses can be considered as continuous professional training ([www.hexis-training.com](http://www.hexis-training.com)). In addition, travelling trainers offer worldwide on-site support on film application and colorimetry.

Thanks to this diversification and the considerable added value technical films represent, HEXIS have taken up the challenge of globalisation and today export half of their production all around the world through their 6 subsidiaries and around fifty distributors monitored by the export department.

Since 2007, one of the development strategies pursued by HEXIS is subsidiaries: creation, integration or external growth. HEXIS thus have subsidiaries in Germany (since 2007), Spain (since 2009), Italy (since 2009), Sweden (since 2011), the United States (since 1998), as well as in Guadeloupe, Martinique and French Guyana. HEXIS work in partnership with independent franchised companies in the Netherlands (Hexis Nederland), Switzerland (Hexis Swiss) and the United Kingdom (Hexis UK).

In France, the principle of local distribution – products going directly from the manufacturer to the transformer/installer – has proven its worth. The presence of a team of 12 sales representatives in the field maintains reactive, sustainable and close relationship with customers. The same method has been successfully applied in the countries in which HEXIS have subsidiaries.

At a time when the "Made in France" label is be promoted, HEXIS have been working hard for years to showcase the French know-how in their factories, thus generating and supporting employment on the French territory and contributing to environmental protection.

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