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ATMOWELL® - The game changer in barn construction

SKW Piesteritz receives Innovation Award for new product

SKW Piesteritz has received the silver "Innovation Award EuroTier" from the German Agricultural Society (DLG) for the innovative ATMOWELL® technology. ATMOWELL® significantly reduces the release of ammonia in naturally ventilated cattle barns, thereby improving air quality. By reducing the annual emission load of livestock farms, the innovation supports farmers in achieving their environmental and sustainability goals, making it a game changer in barn construction.

Excessive ammonia concentrations in the air damage sensitive natural areas and affect the health of humans and animals. Naturally, agricultural animal stables represent a relevant source for the release of ammonia. The following biological degradation process is essential here: the urea excreted by the animals in their urine is converted into ammonia by the enzyme urease on the stable floor. This is where the innovative ATMOWELL® technology for ammonia reduction comes in, which SKW Piesteritz has developed in cooperation with BETEBE and the Institute for Agricultural Process Engineering (ILV) at the Kiel University. In addition to the ATMOWELL® product formulation, it includes a dosing-mixing-filling unit and BETEBE's SmartScraper manure robot with integrated spraying device for a safe and targeted application.

ATMOWELL® is a urease inhibitor suspension that has been specially developed for the use in animal barns. Dr. Carola Schuster, Head of R&D at SKW Piesteritz, explains the principle: "The active ingredient, a scientifically tested urease inhibitor, blocks the binding sites of the urease enzyme that are relevant for the breakdown of urea. This significantly delays the degradation of urea. The result is a significant reduction in the release of ammonia by up to 58 percent. The ATMOWELL® technology therefore works directly where urine and urease meet in the barn." In addition to lowering undesirable environmental influences outside the barn, the reduced ammonia concentration results in a better quality of barn air and thus a potential improvement in animal welfare and working conditions.

"With the ATMOWELL® technology, in cooperation with our partners, we have developed a practical measure to reduce ammonia, which enables farmers to reconcile environmental protection and increased animal welfare requirements," explains Antje Bittner, Managing Director of SKW Piesteritz. "The required technology can be installed in existing and new buildings and makes a valuable contribution to reducing the ammonia emission load at the farm site." Retrofitting is possible with manageable effort and without major restrictions to the production

process. The use of the urease inhibitor is documented in a tamper-proof manner via digital internal storage. Farmers also benefit from competent specialist advice and comprehensive service: "The ATMOWELL® technology requires appropriate approval as an ammonia reduction measure for cattle farms. We support customers accordingly after individual consultation, e.g. by providing the relevant documents for coordination with the responsible authority."

Further information on ATMOWELL® technology can be found at www.atmowell.de

The "Innovation Award EuroTier" of the German Agricultural Society (DLG) is one of the leading awards in the international agricultural sector. It honors innovations for practical use and underlines the importance of modern animal husbandry for agriculture. All companies exhibiting at EuroTier are eligible to participate. After intensive information and discussion, a neutral commission decides which products receive the gold or silver award. The silver medals will be awarded at the DLG stand at EuroTier on November 12, 2024.

Further information can be found at www.eurotier.com/de/awards/innovation-award

About SKW Piesteritz

SKW Stickstoffwerke Piesteritz GmbH (SKW Piesteritz) is a subsidiary of AGROFERT, a.s., Prague. SKW Piesteritz's product portfolio includes industrial and agrochemical products. It is the largest producer of ammonia and urea in Germany and one of the largest manufacturers of AdBlue®, a denitrification agent for diesel-powered vehicles. SKW Piesteritz has an efficient industrial and application research department, is a founding member of the Agrochemical Institute Piesteritz, an affiliated institute of the Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, and has access to application-oriented basic research. SKW Piesteritz employed an average of over 860 people in 2023 and generated sales of around EUR 717 million. Please consult our website for further information www.skwp.de.

About AGROFERT, a.s.

AGROFERT, a.s. is a Czech group with companies in the basic materials industry, chemicals, renewable energies, agriculture and forestry, agricultural trade, food production and media. In Germany, AGROFERT, a.s. owns various subsidiaries such as SKW Piesteritz and the bread manufacturer Lieken. The turnover of AGROFERT, a.s. amounted to around CZK 211 billion in 2023, generated by around 32,000 employees. Please consult the corporate website for further information www.agrofert.cz.