

## Press Release

### **BIPSO further strengthens environmental protection and opens state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant at its Singen site**

- Plant is considered a lighthouse project for water protection and circular economy in the region
- Investment of more than 1.5 million EUR in latest environmental technology standards
- Wastewater treatment through reverse osmosis technology

*Singen, Germany, 30 June 2022* - BIPSO sets the course for sterile contrast media production according to the latest environmental standards. At its Singen site, the company officially commissioned its state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant with an opening ceremony. With an investment volume of more than 1.5 million EUR, BIPSO is expanding the production site into a lighthouse project for environmental protection and circular economy in the pharmaceutical industry. The mayor of the city of Singen, Bernd Häusler, praised BIPSO's commitment as pioneering for water protection in the region.

With the wastewater treatment plant, BIPSO is investing in state-of-the-art technology for the treatment of industrial wastewater. The plant is used for the collection and multiple concentration of first cleaning waters accrued in the sterile production of contrast media. By using the so-called reverse osmosis technology, BIPSO reduces the input of contrast agent trace substances into the wastewater system by up to 97%, which corresponds to a reduction value of 15 to 16 tonnes per year.

*"The new plant is a commitment to our responsibility for the protection of the environment in the Singen region and at the same time underlines our ambition for innovative pharmaceutical production," says Dr Reinhard Adam, Managing Director of BIPSO GmbH. "With the reverse osmosis, BIPSO is focusing on sustainability in two respects. In addition to improving wastewater treatment, we use the concentrated wastewater for iodine recovery and reuse. In this way, we contribute to raw material security and the sustainable use of iodine as a natural resource."*

Bernd Häusler, mayor of the city of Singen, emphasises: *"We are pleased that BIPSO is continuing to invest in the Singen site. With the wastewater treatment plant, the company sets a benchmark for innovative and active environmental protection."*

At its Singen site, BIPSO produces contrast media, which are essential medicines for improving diagnostics, biomedical imaging and care for patients affected by diseases of various types and severity. Contrast media are frequently used in medicine for computer tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

In addition to the significant investments in regional water protection, BIPSO, together with its parent company Bracco, has been actively engaged in the stakeholder dialogue "Federal Strategy on Trace Substances" since 2018 initiated by the Federal Ministry for the Environment to promote innovative solutions for wastewater treatment at national level.

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### **About BIPSO**

BIPSO GmbH produces contrast media used in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computer tomography (CT). With over 350 employees in Singen, it is the most important production site for the parent company Bracco, based in Milan, Italy, and one of the biggest contrast agent production facilities worldwide. The products from Singen are supplied to more than 100 countries around the world. The tradition of contrast agent production in Singen goes back to the Byk-Gulden company in the 1980s until, after a few changes of ownership, the Singen-based company became a permanent part of the Bracco Group in 2011 under the name BIPSO GmbH.

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