



2 million euros in aid for synthetic diamond production at Heyaru in Lommel

On the proposal of the Flemish minister Muyters, the Flemish government grants 2 million euros in aid to Heyaru Engineering NV. The company wants to develop synthetic diamonds in Lommel.

The synthetic diamond industry is still quite young and even completely new in Flanders. However, synthetic diamonds are used for more and more applications. Only 2% of natural diamonds have the necessary hardness to be used in industrial and technological applications such as optics, telecommunications or energy. Synthetic diamond therefore fills an important gap there. The limited number of suppliers active today cannot meet current demand and the global market is expected to grow by as much as 82% in the period 2016-2025.

Flemish Minister of Economy and Innovation Philippe Muyters : “ *Heyaru, which today already produces synthetic diamonds on a small scale in India, wants to open its first European branch in Lommel . The production facility will immediately become the central hub for the group for both the production of synthetic diamonds and the research into new techniques and applications. The company is investing more than 24 million euros for this. For such an important development, the Flemish government is happy to contribute with 2 million euros in support. ”*

In a first phase, this project will create fifteen jobs. However, Heyaru has the ambition to grow over the next five to ten years to a production facility with several hundred reactors and 120 to 150 employees.

Flemish minister Muylers: *“Heyaru's investment not only brings new jobs. The company also wants to contribute to the development of a Flemish knowledge cluster around synthetic diamonds. An important part of the project therefore consists of setting up our own research and development center in collaboration with our Flemish knowledge institutions. Heyaru's presence can also be an important attraction for other companies. A good thing for the future of the Flemish economy.”*

Economy & Innovation

Jan Haegeman

Muyters cabinet

✉ jan.haegeman@vlaanderen.be

☎ 0477511914

ABOUT FLEMISH MINISTER PHILIPPE MUYTERS

🌐 www.philippemuyters.be

✉ kabinet.muyters@vlaanderen.be

☎ +32 2 552 61 00

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