

## **Silicone centre at Oragadam on stream**

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Momentive Performance Materials, the world's second largest producer of silicones and silicone derivatives, on Thursday inaugurated its manufacturing and application development centre in Oragadam.

The new facility was inaugurated by Sate Industries Secretary M. F. Farooqui.

The new plant will produce silicone fluids and silicone elastomers for the Indian market as well as for Southeast Asia, Central Asia and Asian markets.

Addressing reporters here, Momentive Performance Materials Managing Director V. P. Nalian said the company would be investing around \$25 million in two phases. This unit would have around 150 employees by 2010.

Mr. Nalian said the company had closed down a least manufacturing unit in Bangalore and the employees numbering 30-40 had been absorbed.

The corporate office and the R&D centre would continue to operate from Bangalore.

"The inauguration of this facility in conjunction with our monomer and fishing net plant in Rayong, Thailand, will considerably enhance our capability to develop and manufacture products, create applications and service them in an effective manner. This will help our customers win in the automotive, telecom, construction, personal care and textiles segment," he said.