









Aksa Akrilik makes a debut to the world of High-Technology Textile Products with its new product Mithra

Aksa Akrilik announced that the first unit of Mithra production plant which will be commissioned as from 2025 will have an investment budget of USD 20 million. The company will make production for defense and maritime industries thanks to its Mithra investment.

As Turkey's only and the world's leading producer of acrylic fiber with almost 300 customers in more than 50 countries in 5 continents, Aksa Akrilik has made a strategic decision to invest in an "Ultra High Molecular Weight Polyethylene Fiber" (*Mithra*) product for the use of different industries including defense industry. Mithra product which will be produced in Türkiye for the first time is produced by a limited number of countries in the world.

Announcing the decision to invest in the product which was developed as a result of new generation R&D initiatives, Mr. Cengiz Taş, Director and General Manager of Aksa Akrilik, said "We have started an investment in a new plant which will engage in production of high-technology, value added technical textile products to be launched under Mithra brand. The plant will have a starting capacity of 350 tons per year and increase its capacity gradually over the years. According to the feasibility studies, we anticipate that the first unit of the production plant which will be commissioned as from 2025 will have an investment budget of USD 20 million".

UHMWPE Fiber is among defense industry matters that should be "prioritized"

UHMWPE Fiber is critical in that it was named among the defense industry matters that should be nationalized and prioritized, with specific focus on producing it through national technology as promptly as possible, according to the "Composite Road Map" created by Turkish Sectretariat of Defense Industries.

Emphasizing that Mithra investment is triggered by a technology developed as a result of internal studies carried out for almost five years, Cengiz Taş, General Manager, said "We aim to launch Mithra for several uses such as soft armors and hard armors in defense industry, fishery nets as well as halyards and chains for vessels and sails in maritime industry, crane cables and heavy industry performance ropes".

15 times and 40 per cent stronger than steel and para aramid by weight respectively

Mithra stands out as a thermoplastic product with the highest available impact resistance which is 15 times stronger than steel by weight and 40 per cent stronger than para aramid by weight. While offering up to 35 per cent lighter weight for Soft Armor products (bulletproof vests etc.) without compromising performance when compared to other raw materials, this advantage rises to 75 per cent for Hard Armor products (tank protection, helmet protection etc.). Helmets made of Mithra are 25 per cent lighter than equivalent products.

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