

Press release

New Topsil plant officially opened today

It was a happy CEO, Kalle Hvidt Nielsen, who opened the doors to the new hightech silicon plant in Vinge, north of Copenhagen, this morning. The programme for the day offered a tour of the plant following the official opening by EU Climate Commissioner Connie Hedegaard. At the same time the official opening of Copenhagen Cleantech Park was celebrated.



The red carpet was rolled out in front of the plant this morning when about 120 invited guests came to celebrate Topsil's now officially opened silicon plant at Siliciumvej 1, Vinge, Frederikssund. On the visitor's list were key customers and business partners from Europe, USA and Asia.

"Thank you for coming – I'm glad to see so many of you," said Kalle Hvidt Nielsen in his welcoming speech, "and thank you to everyone who has helped us reach this target. Opening the world's first plant with the sole objective to produce ultra-pure silicon marks this day as very special to Topsil. At this plant, it is our product that has defined the framework and not the other way around. That is something very unique. We can't wait to get started."

It was EU Climate Commissioner Connie Hedegaard who cut the ribbon for the new plant and thus officially opened the new plant. Ole Find Jensen, Mayor of the Municipality of Frederikssund, also congratulated Topsil and was pleased that the company has chosen a location at Copenhagen Cleantech Park which is expected to expand in the coming years.

Kalle Hvidt Nielsen summarised the vision for the new plant:

"This new plant is the result of the continued development of technology and of the customers' ever-growing demands for the production," the CEO added. "With this new plant, we have met the challenge, because we expect to be a market contributor for many years to come. We offer an expertise that only few other global players can match. At the same time, we focus strongly on a few parameters that are key to our customers: We must remain competitive, deliver on time and we must continue to deliver world class quality."



He also took the opportunity to look back at the past couple of years that have been challenging, to the company and to the industry as a whole.

“The world has changed considerably since the beginning of 2010 when we decided to build our new plant,” said Kalle Hvidt Nielsen. “It has been a bumpy ride. However, it doesn't change the fact that the long-term mega trends are sustained: The growth economies still demand more and better exploitation of the energy. Across the globe, politicians and populations are focused on cleaner energy and sustainability. This means we must invest in transport and energy infrastructures and work to best exploit technology. To be able to do that requires ultra-pure silicon which we produce. Once the economy recovers, we will be on our marks and ready to capitalise on the full potential of the plant.”

TOPSIL AT A GLANCE

Since its foundation in 1958, Topsil has specialised in development and production of ultra-pure silicon. Silicon is sold to the global semiconductor industry for production of advanced, energy-optimising components used in, among other things, the electricity grid, wind turbines and high-speed trains where silicon is key in conducting and distributing electricity.

From 2010 to 2012, Topsil has invested about DKK 300 million in product development, new production facilities and new machinery and equipment in Denmark and Poland with a view to being strongly positioned as market growth resumes.

Topsil, which is listed on NASDAQ OMX Copenhagen A/S, is the first company to establish a plant in Copenhagen Cleantech Park. Revenue in 2011 was DKK 367 million.

