

# TU Bergakademie Freiberg

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## SINOPEC visited Institute of Energy Process Engineering and Chemical Engineering (IEC)

18 Mar 2019



The SINOPEC Delegation and staff members of IEC after the Signing of the "Memorandum of Understanding" at IEC, seated l.t.r. Mr. Ruisheng Zhang, Prof. Bernd Meyer, Mr. Xianghong Cao, Mr. Guo Zhou, Mr. Wangzhong Kang. Photo: TU Bergakademie Freiberg

**China's leading petroleum and chemical corporation SINOPEC discussed strategic collaboration on technology development for a circular carbon economy.**

From 11 to 13 March, ten high-level experts and specialists from diverse business units from SINOPEC visited the [Institute of Energy Process Engineering and Chemical Engineering \(IEC\)](#) at the TU Bergakademie Freiberg. This visit builds on on-going exchanges between SINOPEC and IEC which was initiated in 2017 during the first visit by Prof. Dr.-Ing. Bernd Meyer and Dr. rer. pol. Roh Pin Lee to SINOPEC's headquarters in Beijing.

SINOPEC is a super-large petroleum and petrochemical enterprise group which is established by the state in 1998. It is the largest oil and petrochemical product supplier and the second largest oil and gas producer in China, the largest refining company and the second largest chemical company in the world after BASF.

During this visit to Freiberg, SINOPEC and IEC had intensive discussions about a strategic collaboration in the field of gasification technologies to facilitate the transformation from a linear to circular carbon economy. A key result from the visit is the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) by both parties. Prof. Meyer emphasized, "The visit by SINOPEC is a recognition of IEC's leading international role in R&D for carbon conversion technologies. The MoU builds a foundation for a new level of industry collaboration with our institute to bring IEC's innovations onto the international market."

The intensification of exchanges with SINOPEC is the result efforts to build up an international network to promote a transition in the chemical industry towards cleaner and sustainable production. Dr. Roh Pin Lee, head for technology assessment at IEC and research group leader of the BMBF-funded research [STEEP-CarbonTrans](#) stated, "This represents a big step in internationalizing our [national network for a circular carbon economy](#) which was initiated together with the [Fraunhofer Institute for Microstructure of Materials and Systems IMWS](#) in January 2019 in Espenhain. Our goal is to bring together key actors from chemical, energy and waste sectors to jointly develop and implement solutions to address the carbon dilemma and the global waste crisis."

During their visit, the Chinese guests were highly impressed with TU Bergakademie Freiberg's rich history as the German resource university. TU-Rector Prof. Klaus-Dieter Barbknecht personally welcomed the Chinese guests and honored their visit with an entry in the university's Honorary Book.

Following the meetings and technical tours of IEC's extensive pilot plant facilities, SINOPEC also visited the Abfallwirtschaftsverband Chemnitz (AWVC) for a first-hand impression of how waste separation and feedstock preparation for combustion and gasification are carried out in a modern residual waste treatment plant.



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