From vision to impact: How ADIPRO champions sustainability

As a global leader in lubricant additive manufacturing, ADIPRO understands that its responsibility stretches well beyond industry leadership and customer satisfaction. Its identity, vision and values are rooted in a long-term want for a greener and more sustainable planet, with a commitment to a carbon net zero goal by 2040.

"Given the unique nuances of our industry and our specific type of work, we are clear on our responsibility to contribute to a healthier, more sustainable planet," says Umesh Amarnani, Managing Director of ADIPRO. "ADIPRO applies its core values – evolving, agile, reliable, transparent and heartful – to all its work, but with special focus on unique sustainability efforts that create reach to a variety of demographics."

ADIPRO is a global leader in the manufacturing of lubricant additive components and packages, dedicated to driving innovation, sustainability and excellence in meeting the industry's highest standards. The heart of their work lies in ADIPRO Global Technology Centre (AGTC), a state-of-the-art global research and development centre headquartered in Mumbai, India.

In addition to AGTC in Mumbai, ADIPRO is home to ADIPRO Africa Technology Centre (AATC), based in Lagos, Nigeria. AATC drives innovation and supports company operations across Africa. ADIPRO also houses offices in the United States, the United Kingdom and Hong Kong, allowing for a more universal and holistic understanding and approach to both its business and its overall sustainability goals.

The threads of ADIPRO's innovative and state-of-the-art approach are seamlessly woven into its CSR branch, Evolve Charity Trust, which tackles climate change through several unique initiatives focused on girl children, education, mental wellness and reforestation projects.

"Our corporate responsibility and CSR pillar in ADIPRO is an integral part of the business strategy," explains Umesh. "To drive our vision for sustainability, ADIPRO has adopted initiatives to reduce carbon emission in scope 1, 2 and 3. We have changed our power source from diesel to gas and national grid. We have also partnered with Forests By Heartfulness (FBH), a reforestation initiative based in Hyderabad, India; we have committed to planting approximately 6,000 trees on 7.14 acres of land in India."

Additionally, ADIPRO engages in waste management, air pollution management, and water resource management. ADIPRO was audited in February 2025 by ECOVADIS to demonstrate its transparency and accountability to sustainability initiatives.

To reduce carbon emission, ADIPRO has also focused on the education of Nigeria's girl children and on the mental wellness of children around the world.

"Through Evolve, we provide educational materials and school supplies to underprivileged girl children," adds Umesh. "By encouraging more young girls to attend school and by enabling them with the supplies to do so, we can decrease the rates of unwanted pregnancies, leading to a reduction of our collective carbon footprint and creating long-term impact on reducing the effects of global warming."

Alongside its partnership with FBH, Evolve has also partnered with its parent organisation, Heartfulness, which offers meditation practices free of charge to encourage relaxation, focus, resilience and inner balance.

"By reducing thought pollution through meditation, we can encourage individuals to be more grounded in the qualities of the heart," explains Amarnani. "When we lead with those qualities of the heart, it will become easier to objectively understand how to resolve any of our global issues, but especially climate change.

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The evolution of Africa's lubricants and additive manufacturing market

Dapo Keshinro PhD, *Sales Director, Adipro*

Africa is a diverse and rapidly developing continent, home to over 1.4 billion people and a wealth of natural resources. With rising urbanisation, expanding industrial activity, and a growing middle class, many African economies are experiencing sustained growth. This progress has had a direct impact on the lubricants industry, which is closely linked to key economic indicators such as GDP, industrialisation, and vehicle density.

Traditionally dominated by multinational oil companies, Africa's lubricants market is now evolving, with an increasing number of local blending plants emerging across the continent. Countries like Nigeria, South Africa, and Egypt are leading the way, representing the largest and most dynamic markets. As local manufacturing gains momentum, the continent is witnessing a shift toward greater self-reliance, affordability, and innovation in lubricant production.

Historically, the lubricants industry in Africa was dominated by International Oil Companies (IOCs). These global giants established their presence long before many African nations gained independence, securing market dominance throughout the 20th century. Their long-standing brand recognition, extensive supply networks, and technological edge allowed them to monopolise the lubricants space for decades.

However, the tide has been shifting over the past few decades. The rise of communication technology, improved access to education, and the accumulation of wealth have empowered several African nations to build their own lubricant blending facilities. These facilities range from government-owned operations to joint ventures with IOCs and entirely privately owned entities. With lubricant blending and formulation technology becoming increasingly accessible and reproducible, many countries across the continent are witnessing a surge in the establishment of blending plants.

Beyond blending facilities, two primary raw materials are essential in the production of lubricants: base oils and additives. Base oils are derived from petroleum refining, while additives are produced through specialised chemical processes. For many years, the global lubricant additive market was controlled by just four major manufacturers. But in the last two decades, increased demand and broader market access have paved the way for new players to enter the African additives supply chain.

Nigeria and other neghbouring nations also benefit. These neighboring nations benefit from the ECOWAS Trade Liberalization Scheme (ETLS), which enables duty-free trade within the region. This has allowed Adipro to ensure shorter lead times, better product customisation, and proximity to its R&D and testing centers—advantages that international competitors cannot easily match.

Despite these achievements, the journey has not been without challenges. Locally producing additives in Nigeria requires substantial investment, not just in production but also in state-of-the-art testing facilities. Regulatory hurdles, market acceptance, supply chain disruptions, logistics inefficiencies, and currency devaluation have posed significant barriers. Additionally, the market growth remains sluggish in certain segments, which has impacted profitability projections.

In conclusion, Africa's lubricants industry is undergoing a transformation, fueled by industrial growth, increasing motorisation, and a shift toward local production.

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