Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.—expanding rapidly

PPG silica pigment unit will be built at cost of $10 million

(Reprinted from the June 22, 1966, Lake Charles American Press)

Plans to construct a silica pigment production unit at its chemical complex here have been announced by the chemical division of Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.

Approximately 70 new permanent jobs will be created by the expansion, the company said. Along with other projects, construction jobs are expected to reach 400 at the PPG complex.

Initially, two pigment grades, HI-SIL 233 and HI-SIL 404, will be produced at the new facility according to Joseph Neubauer, vice president and general manager.

Construction will begin immediately and production is scheduled for early 1968 on the plant which will cost approximately $10 million.

Bernard J. Walker will be project engineer on the new addition.

Ronald Kasper will act as operations representative.

PPG has been producing a variety of silica pigments at its Barberton, Ohio, plant since 1948.

HI-SIL 233, first marketed in 1946, has found constant use in the rubber industry since its inception. The pigment aids in decreasing show-through where printing on one side of a sheet can be seen on the opposite side.

The Lake Charles plant of PPG chemical division has been undergoing almost continuous expansion for the past several years. Units currently under construction are an ethyl chloride plant and a vinyl chloride monomer plant, with approximately 250 construction workers on the job at the present time. The new unit will swell this total to around 400 at the peak.