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equipped with simple radially working mixing systems with various types of impellers. To improve the performance of such reactors, this company has developed the Varioblade (photo), which is a flexible, modular impeller with an optimized split between axial and radial flow components by different shapes of the upper and lower impeller parts. Compared to standard frame- or blade-type impellers, the blend times — especially in the mid-viscous range — can be improved by up to 50%, says the company. The Varioblade is not a close-wall-clearance system, but operates in the center of reactors, typically with coils, where radial flow components are required. The positioning of the three elements — outer blade, inner blade and bottom anchor — can be varied. Therefore, this impeller can handle different mixing-task combinations with varying viscosities up to 50,000 cP. — *Ekato Group, Schopfheim, Germany*
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A new mixing impeller for medium-viscous systems

Multi-product reactors with enhanced heat-transfer requirements are often