

Brussels, 17 January 2012, at 8:15 am (Brussels time)

APPOINTMENT AT SOLVAY'S TOP IN 2012

The Board of Directors of Solvay SA announces today that upon proposal of Christian Jourquin, Solvay's CEO, his mandates as Chairman of the Executive Committee and as member of the Board of Directors will end on 10 May 2012.

As announced previously, Jean-Pierre Clamadiou, Deputy CEO of Solvay, will succeed Christian Jourquin upon the latter's retirement. In this context, Jean-Pierre Clamadiou will be proposed for appointment to the Board of Directors of Solvay at the annual shareholders meeting on May 8th, 2012.

Christian Jourquin's decision is motivated by the progress achieved in the integration of Rhodia into the Solvay group that was launched after the successful completion of Solvay's acquisition of Rhodia on September 16th, 2011. "I'm extremely pleased with the tempo of the integration and the fact that the assumptions considered at the time of the offer will be confirmed. The promises of success for the new Group are remarkable and I'm convinced that Jean-Pierre Clamadiou will make them come through in the best interest of all stakeholders", said Christian Jourquin.

SOLVAY is an international chemical Group committed to sustainable development with a clear focus on innovation and operational excellence. Its recent acquisition of specialty chemicals company **Rhodia** created a much larger player, which is realizing over 90% of its sales in markets where it is among the top 3 global leaders. Solvay offers a broad range of products that contribute to improving the quality of life and the performance of its customers in markets such as consumer goods, construction, automotive, energy, water and environment, and electronics. The Group is headquartered in Brussels, employs about 30,000 people in 55 countries and generated EUR 12 billion in sales (pro forma) in 2010. Solvay SA is listed on NYSE Euronext (**SOLB.BE** - Bloomberg: **SOLB.BB** - Reuters: **SOLBt.BR**).

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Ce communiqué est également disponible en français – Dit persbericht is ook in het Nederlands beschikbaar.