

Solvay to increase Tecnoflon® fluoroelastomer production to meet growing customer demand

Bollate, ITALY, Oct. 24, 2018 --- Solvay is set to increase the company's fluoroelastomer (FKM) production to support global customers' continuing strong demand for high performance sealing applications. End-use applications in hybrid and low emission internal combustion engines (ICE) and in the semiconductor industry are the key drivers of solid growth.

The recent addition of a brand new state-of-the-art FKM plant in Changshu, China considerably strengthened Solvay's manufacturing footprint which now stretches worldwide to include the USA, Europe and Asia. Production of specific FKM peroxide curable and bisphenolic terpolymer grades will be increased at Solvay's sites in Changshu and Spinetta Marengo, Italy. The combined production capacity – at current product mix – will be expanded by 30 percent by Q4 2019 to sustain the increasing needs of the company's Tecnoflon® FKM customers and end users.

"This unique footprint allows us to strategically manage and interchange manufacturing to be able to concentrate on increasing production where it is most needed. In turn, we will be able to maintain our renowned uninterrupted supply to fully anticipate the needs of our customers," said Mike Finelli, President of Solvay's Specialty Polymers global business unit.

Solvay's Tecnoflon® family of fluoroelastomers and perfluoroelastomers is recognised for its unmatched operational temperature range, chemical resistance and reliable performance in the most demanding of environments where high purity and long service life are essential. They are compatible with a wide variety of fluids, lubricants, fuels, chemicals and additives and are designed for challenging sealing applications in aggressive chemical and high heat environments such as those found in the automotive, aerospace, chemical processing industries, oil & gas, semiconductor and energy markets. Typical end use applications include O-rings, seals, gaskets, and complex molded parts.

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Solvay is an advanced materials and specialty chemicals company, committed to developing chemistry that addresses key societal challenges. Solvay innovates and partners with customers worldwide in many diverse end markets. Its products are used in planes, cars, batteries, smart and medical devices, as well as in mineral and oil and gas extraction, enhancing efficiency and sustainability. Its lightweighting materials promote cleaner mobility, its formulations optimize the use of resources and its performance chemicals improve air and water quality. Solvay is headquartered in Brussels with around 26,800 employees in 61 countries. Net sales were €10.1 billion in 2017, with 90% from activities where Solvay ranks among the world's top 3 leaders, resulting in an EBITDA margin of 22%. Solvay SA ([SOLB.BE](https://www.solb.be)) is listed on Euronext Brussels and Paris (Bloomberg: [SOLB.BB](https://www.solb.bb) - Reuters: [SOLB.BR](https://www.solb.br)) and in the United States its shares (SOLVY) are traded through a level-1 ADR program. *Financial figures take into account the announced divestment of Polyamides.*

Solvay Specialty Polymers manufactures over 1500 products across 35 brands of high-performance polymers – fluoropolymers, fluoroelastomers, fluorinated fluids, semi-aromatic polyamides, sulfone polymers, ultra-high performance aromatic polymers, and high-barrier polymers – for use in Aerospace, Alternative Energy, Automotive, Healthcare, Membranes, Oil and Gas, Packaging, Plumbing, Semiconductors, Wire & Cable, and other industries. Learn more at www.solvayspecialtypolymers.com.

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