

SOLVAY RECEIVES THE 2019 PIERRE POTIER PRIZE FOR S-BOOST **A ground-breaking solution for sustainable and environmentally friendly agriculture**

Paris, 29 May 2019 — Today, in the presence of Agnès Pannier-Runacher, Secretary of State for Economy and Finance, Solvay was awarded the Pierre Potier Prize medal* in the Products category for AgRho® S-Boost, an innovative, root-boosting seed treatment based on a biodegradable formulation that ensures rapid growth and healthy plants.

The truly innovative technology behind S-Boost makes use of a renewable raw material to stimulate plant growth and aid in the development of root systems to improve crop resilience and increase yields by around 3 percent. The S-Boost formulation is based on a molecule derived from the processing of plant extracts and does not contribute to fossil fuel depletion on our planet, an assurance of sustainability.

“Just 10 years after being recognized for our innovative [RHODIASOLV™](#) green solvents, Solvay and Global Business Unit (GBU) Novecare are yet again recipients of the prestigious Pierre Potier Prize. We are proud to receive this honor, which acknowledges our innovation responding to the environmental and societal needs of our planet,” said Jean-Christophe Castaing, Solvay Novecare Research and Development (R&D) Expert. “S-Boost is a response to two important challenges; first, making agriculture more respectful of the environment and second, reducing economic challenges encountered each season by farmers and thereby ensuring greater income stability.”

Solvay previously has been awarded the Pierre Potier Prize:

- In 2015, for its BiFor-Safe® innovation, a solution based on sodium bicarbonate and mineral salts for effective protection against certain parasites and improved hygiene in farm buildings;
- In [2016](#), for its Move4earth™ innovation for transforming technical textile waste into high-quality recycled plastics.

** Created in 2006 by the Ministry for the Economy, Finance and Industry, and now sustained by the Maison de la Chimie Foundation and France Chimie, the Pierre Potier Prize highlights and rewards Chemistry initiatives encouraging sustainable development and the development of eco-responsible approaches in the sector. Awarded by a panel of key figures in research, industry and ministries, this prize has become an important benchmark for business support organizations.*

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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 24,500 employees in 62 countries. Net sales were €10.3 billion in 2018, 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**) is listed on Euronext Brussels and Paris Bloomberg: **SOLB.BB** - Reuters: **SOLB.BR**, and in the United States its shares (**SOLVY**) are traded through a level-1 ADR program. (*Financial figures take into account the planned divestment of Polyamides*).

Solvay Novecare is a worldwide leader in specialty surfactants and a major player in polymers and guar. Solvay Novecare engineers and develops formulations that provide consumer products and state-of-the-art industrial applications with specific functional qualities designed to modify fluid behavior and deliver cleansing, dispersal, gelling, moisturizing, penetrating, softening or texturizing properties. These formulations are used in shampoos, detergents, paints and lubricants as well as in crop protection, mining and energy production and stimulation.

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This press release is also available in English. - Dit persbericht is ook in het Nederlands beschikbaar.