

Solvay Recognizes Surging Demand for Specialty Polymers in India

Significant Growth Potential for High-Performance Polymers in Key Market Sectors

GANDHINAGAR (Gujarat) India Feb. 5, 2015 – Solvay welcomes the opportunity of the 9th PlastIndia Plastics Exhibition & Conference at Gandhinagar (Gujarat) to showcase its comprehensive portfolio of high-performance specialty polymers for use in a wide range of industries actively shaping the flourishing economy and future of the Indian sub-continent. Solvay has the widest range of specialty polymers and offers a one-stop-shop solution to the demanding applications across India's diversified domestic and export markets.

Recently, the company's product portfolio has been extended with Solvay's acquisition of the Ryton® polyphenylene sulfide (PPS) business. This will help address a growing demand for high-performance specialty polymers with exceptional thermal stability, uncompromising chemical resistance and high flowability in particular for precision-critical automotive and electronic applications.

Solvay Specialty Polymers' products meet the highest standards of quality and consistency. Available from 18 manufacturing sites around the globe, the offering is backed by over 2,900 patents, more than 50 proprietary technologies and a force of almost 500 research and innovation specialists across all regions and which now includes Solvay's new and dedicated Research & Innovation Center at Savli (Gujarat).

"India has a rapidly growing plastics industry determined to meet a surging demand for high-performance products throughout many important application areas, from automotive, transportation and electronics to packaging, coatings and construction," says Amlan Das, Head of Sales and Marketing India for Solvay Specialty Polymers.

"Furthermore, in response to rising demands throughout Asia, Solvay has decided to increase its production capacity for KetaSpire® PEEK materials at its facility in Panoli (Gujarat). The site also manufactures Veradel® PESU resins and related monomers, and has recently earned Responsible Care® certification from the Indian Chemical Council," Das added.

With an upwardly mobile middle class of 400 million people, the country's per capita GDP of currently well over US\$1,500 is expected to double by 2020¹. Solvay offers its Indian customers an extensive range of advanced specialty polymers to succeed and gain a competitive edge in this dynamic environment.

The company's Spire® family of ultra-polymers, including KetaSpire® polyetheretherketone (PEEK) and AvaSpire® polyaryletherketone (PAEK), combines excellent strength and stiffness with high fatigue, wear and chemical resistance under thermally demanding service conditions. Typical applications are medical devices for repeated sterilization as well as load-bearing and tribological components, such as bearings and thrust washers. With a heat resistance of up to 275°C, Torlon® polyamide-imide (PAI) resins extend this property profile to some of the harshest environments, for instance in oil and gas exploration.

For use in healthcare, Solviva[®] biomaterials meet and exceed the highest industry standards for biological safety and sterilization, including gamma irradiation, ethylene oxide and steam. The family includes Zeniva[®] PEEK, one of the most bio-stable polymers available for surgical implants.

Within the sulfone polymers offering from Solvay, Radel[®] polyphenylsulfone (PPSU) provides superior impact and chemical resistance even over polysulfone and polyetherimide resins, whereas Veradel[®] polyethersulfones (PESU) excel in high heat deflection temperatures up to 204°C and inherent high flame retardancy. Applications span from plumbing valves to baby bottles, from water purification membranes to sterilizeable trays and cases.

The fluorinated and partially fluorinated material solutions from Solvay Specialty Polymers cover a wide range of resins, elastomers, coatings and fluids for some of the most demanding applications across all industries. Examples include curable Tecnoflon[®] fluoroelastomers (FKM) with best-of-class thermal performance and high chemical resistance for O-rings, gaskets, hoses and cables; Algoflon[®] polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) dispersions and powders for low-friction coatings, porous filtration membranes and protective linings; melt-processable Solef[®] polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) polymers and Halar[®] ethylene chlorotrifluoroethylene (ECTFE) resins with outstanding chemical and weathering resistance as well as purity, typically required for chemical distribution lines, photovoltaic back and front sheets, and semiconductors; Hyflon[®] and Hylar[®] fluoropolymer (PFA/MFA[®] and PVDF) coatings combining outstanding thermal and chemical resistance with excellent surface properties for wide uses in electrical and electronics, food and chemical processing, automotive and architecture; and Fomblin[®] perfluoropolyether (PFPE) fluids with unmatched chemical resistance for oils and greases in automotive and electronics, Galden[®] PFPE heat transfer applications for electronics and solar energy as well as Solvera[®] PFPE for water and grease resistant paper packaging.

Further specialty polymers complementing the extensive portfolio include semi-aromatic Amodel[®] polyphthalamide (PPA) resins for metal replacement automotive under-the-hood applications, and Ixef[®] polyarylamide (PARA) compounds for delicate medical instruments as well as drinking water applications; high-barrier Ixan[®] and Diofan[®] polyvinylidene chloride (PVDC) copolymers and powders for pharmaceutical and food packaging applications, corrosion resistant coatings, ink and varnish formulation; and cross-linkable (XLPE) Cogegum[®], Polidan[®] and Polidiemme[®] compounds for wire and cable applications requiring broad chemical resistance over a wide temperature range.

During this year's PlastIndia Exhibition at the Mahatma Mandir Convention Centre in Gandhinagar (Gujarat) from February 5 to 10, Solvay Specialty Polymers will be exhibiting in Hall 10, Stall (Booth) 10R-B3. Polymer and market specialists from Solvay will be available to discuss important trends and innovative solutions with particular focus on India's industry needs.

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Responsible Care[®] is a registered service mark of the American Chemistry Council.*

¹ www.plastindia.org/UI/Pages/bgggest-business-opportunity-of-2015-opens-its-doors.aspx

¹ www.statista.com/statistics/263776/gross-domestic-product-gdp-per-capita-in-india/

About Solvay Specialty Polymers

Solvay Specialty Polymers manufactures over 1500 products across **more than** 35 brands of high-performance polymers – fluoropolymers, fluoroelastomers, fluorinated fluids, semi-aromatic polyamides, sulfone polymers, aromatic ultra-high performance polymers, high-barrier polymers and cross-linked high-performance compounds – 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

About Solvay

As an international chemical group, Solvay (www.solvay.com) assists industries in finding and implementing ever more responsible and value-creating solutions. Solvay generates 90% of its net sales in activities where it is among the world's top three players. It serves many markets, varying from energy and the environment to automotive and aeronautics or electricity and electronics, with one goal: to raise the performance of its clients and improve society's quality of life. The group is headquartered in Brussels, employs about 29,400 people in 56 countries and generated 9.9 billion euros in net sales in 2013. Solvay SA (**SOLB**) is listed on NYSE Euronext in Brussels and Paris (Bloomberg **SOLB:BB** – Reuters: **SOLB.BR**).

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