

Solvay opens biotechnology laboratory in Brazil to boost innovation in sustainable chemistry from biomass

Brussels, Belgium / Paulinia, Brazil, June 2, 2015 --- Solvay today opened in Brazil its first fully dedicated Industrial Biotechnology Laboratory (IBL) to boost the development of innovations and solutions based on sustainable chemistry, used in a growing range of end-markets.

The fully integrated laboratory in Paulinia will chiefly focus on researching new processes and molecules derived from biomass, which is mostly plant or vegetable based and abundantly available in Brazil with its favorable climate and vast surface.

“With this laboratory Solvay can further nourish its innovation portfolio, using renewable resources, with tailored solutions to meet sustainability demands from customers in multiple end-markets,” said Louis Neltner, Solvay's Research & Innovation Group General Manager. *“Thanks to Brazil's wide variety of biomass, competitive agricultural businesses and biotech expertise the country has all the required conditions to develop and grow products and solutions based on renewable resources.”*

The laboratory's highly qualified researchers will work jointly with the Group's Global Business Units in Solvay's research and innovation centers worldwide as well as with external partners including public and private institutions. Research programs in place include notably projects in flavors, fragrances, surfactants, cellulose derivatives and solvents.

For many decades now Solvay has been developing products and solutions based on bio-sourced raw materials such as ethanol and glycerol. Its growth and innovation strategy responds to society's challenges in dealing with the scarcity of resources amid growing industrialization, urbanization and an increasing number of consumers.

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As an international chemical group, [SOLVAY](#) 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 aerospace 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 26,000 people in 52 countries and generated 10.2 billion euros in net sales in 2014. Solvay SA ([SOLB.BE](#)) is listed on [EURONEXT](#) in Brussels and Paris (Bloomberg: [SOLB.BB](#) - Reuters: [SOLB.BR](#)).

[Lamia Narcisse](#)
Media Relations
+33 1 53 56 59 62

[Caroline Jacobs](#)
Media Relations
+32 2 264 1530

[Maria Alcon](#)
Investor Relations
+32 2 264 1984

[Geoffroy Raskin](#)
Investor Relations
+32 2 264 1540

[Edward Mackay](#)
Investor Relations
+32 2 264 3687

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