

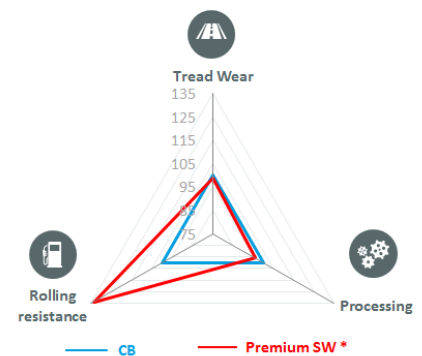
## Solvay unveils remarkable boost in energy saving tire performance in cars with launch of Premium SW

**Hanover, February, 15<sup>th</sup> 2017** --- Solvay is launching its breakthrough innovation Premium SW, a new Highly Dispersible Silica (HDS) which boosts the performance of energy saving tires on passenger cars, reducing fuel consumption and CO2 emissions.

Premium SW improves the durability and safety in Ultra High Performance Tires by up to 25 percent and raises the rolling resistance performance and durability of Fuel Efficient Tires by as much as 15 percent.

Moreover, tests with Premium SW on truck tires have so far shown a remarkable 30 percent improvement in rolling resistance compared to carbon black truck tires, while the tread wear is the same.

*"Premium SW is a breakthrough from the rich Silica innovation pipeline and part of Solvay's commitment to provide solutions that promote sustainable mobility. Premium SW meets all of the tire industry's strict safety and performance requirements and greatly contributes to car makers meeting their sustainability objectives in lowering fuel consumption and CO2 emissions,"* said An Nuyttens, President of Solvay's Silica Global Business Unit.



\* Based on lab indicators, optimized formulation



Tire makers are demanding in ensuring that a tire meets a combination of criteria, requiring minimum rolling resistance, maximum durability and optimum wet grip. Premium SW hits all these requirements, addressing safety and performance without compromise.

Solvay as a true global player is making Premium SW available from multiples sites, consistently with its business continuity management policy.

The unveiling took place at the Tire Technology Expo in Hannover, Germany.

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[SOLVAY SILICA](#), a global business unit of the Solvay group, is the inventor and leading global provider of highly dispersible silica, which finds its main application in the production of energy-saving tires. With nine manufacturing sites and four R&I laboratories on as many continents, Silica also offers a range of applications in personal care, such as toothpastes and exfoliating beads, in animal nutrition, high-performance membranes and in rubber reinforcement.

An international chemical and advanced materials company, **Solvay** assists its customers in innovating, developing and delivering high-value, sustainable products and solutions which consume less energy and reduce CO2 emissions, optimize the use of resources and improve the quality of life. Solvay serves diversified global end markets, including automotive and aerospace, consumer goods and healthcare, energy and environment, electricity and electronics, building and construction as well as industrial applications. Solvay is headquartered in Brussels with about 30,900 employees spread across 53 countries. It generated pro forma net sales of € 12.4 bn in 2015, with 90% made from activities where it ranks among the world's top 3 players. Solvay SA (**SOLB.BE**) is listed on Euronext in Brussels and Paris (Bloomberg: **SOLB.BB** - Reuters: **SOLB.BR**).

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