

SOLVAY DOUBLES ITS WORLDWIDE PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF MEHQ (PMP OR PARA-METHOXYPHENOL) TO CONTINUE SATISFYING ITS WORLDWIDE CUSTOMERS' INCREASING NEEDS

Lyon, France, December 16, 2013 ---- Solvay Aroma Performance, the world leader of MeHQ (Methyl Hydroquinone or also referred to as PMP for para-methoxyphenol), a strategic molecule for monomer and agro markets, has decided to double its worldwide production capacity to continuously support the growth of its customers and the related markets in the next few years.

The global demand for MeHQ (PMP) is driven by high and sustained growth of markets such as specialty polymers (superabsorbents...), paint, construction, automotive, consumer goods and agrochemicals.

"As the worldwide manufacturer of MeHQ with leading positions in Europe, Americas and Asia, Aroma Performance is determined to continue investing in this strategic product to support its customers' growth in monomers and agro products", says **Remi Rothea**, worldwide Performance Solutions Business Director.

This very significant capacity increase illustrates Solvay's commitment to serve and develop the MeHQ markets, especially in the fast growing Asian countries.

A recognized global player, Solvay is a trusted partner with its comprehensive range of stabilizers for monomers that provides high-quality technical support and service to its customers, particularly with its international expertise laboratories in Asia and Europe.

<u>SOLVAY AROMA PERFORMANCE</u> is the reference on the market for monomer stabilizers and polymerization control elements used in the petrochemical industry, and for polymers intended for such end markets as the construction, automotive and consumer goods markets. Offering the complete range of diphenol based inhibitors Solvay Aroma Performance provides high tech related services, in particular via its international expertise laboratories based in Shanghai and Lyon.

As an international chemical group, <u>SOLVAY</u> assists industries in finding and implementing ever more responsible and value-creating solutions. The Group is firmly committed to sustainable development and focused on innovation and operational excellence. Solvay serves diversified markets, generating 90% of its turnover in activities where it is one of the top three worldwide. The group is headquartered in Brussels, employs about 29,000 people in 55 countries and generated 12.4 billion euros in net sales in 2012. Solvay SA (<u>SOLB.BE</u>) is listed on <u>NYSE EURONEXT</u> in Brussels and Paris (Bloomberg: <u>SOLB.BB</u> - Reuters: <u>SOLBt.BR</u>).

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