

## Solvay doubles European kitting capabilities to meet composite industry demand

**Alpharetta, GA July 26th 2017** - Solvay is doubling its kitting capabilities for process materials in France to meet the increasing production rate of large composite parts such as aircraft wings or wind turbine blades.

The kitting facility in Toulouse primarily serves customers across Europe. The additional equipment, capacity and floor space will increase the site’s manufacturing rate of large vacuum bagging kits and 60 new jobs will be created over the next few years.

*“Solvay is reinforcing its position as a key partner to the industry, serving customers out of Europe and the U.S. Process materials are critical for our customers to successfully manufacture composite parts and we see that these high-value added products and services are an important component to driving the industrialization trend”,* said Carmelo Lo Faro, President of Solvay’s Composite Materials Global Business Unit (GBU).

Solvay has the most extensive [composite product portfolio](#), including prepregs, resin systems, adhesives and surfacing films, carbon fiber, textiles, tooling and [process materials](#) available as roll-stock or customized kits. In using kits, manufacturers benefit from reduced labor cost, total production time and waste, as well as better process control which improves the quality of parts and repeatability.

Solvay is ideally placed to support its customers thanks to its long standing expertise in design of complex kits and shaped bags as well as its in-house capability for co-extrusion and transformation of multi-layered plastic bagging films. With several kitting facilities including primary sites in [Santa Fe Springs](#), USA and [Toulouse](#), France, Solvay is able to efficiently supply its global customer base.

Solvay Santa Fe Springs, CA, USA site	Solvay Toulouse, France site
<p>This site manufactures large complex vacuum bagging kits for applications including aircraft wings and empennage or wind turbine blades. These kits include fully tailored, part specific cut shapes that can be combined with reusable/welded bags</p> <p>Those kits are aerospace qualified and used to manufacture components on major aircraft programs. The site’s know-how and experience enable Solvay to partner with global customers to develop solutions that meet their quality, rate and cost targets.</p>	<p>This site is focused on the fabrication of large complex vacuum bagging kits but also elastomeric reusable bags. Complex kits include fully tailored, part specific cut shapes that can be combined with reusable/welded bags.</p> <p>Solvay’s reusable bags are manufactured from high performance silicone rubber compound. These bags are manufactured to exact customers’ requirements and not only save time when compared to traditional consumable lay-up but also decrease material waste and risk of operator error.</p> <p>The site’s consultancy and design expertise combined with its kitting manufacturing site (opened in April 2015) enable Solvay to deliver tailored kits to its customers, enabling them to focus on their core activities.</p>

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Solvay's new Global Business Unit Composite Materials is a global provider of technologically advanced lightweighting material solutions that enable our customers in the aerospace, automotive and other demanding industries to design, develop and efficiently manufacture high-quality, high-performance and complex composite structures. Composite Materials has the most extensive product portfolio, including prepregs, resin systems, adhesives and surfacing films, carbon fiber, textiles, tooling and vacuum bagging consumables, thanks to its leadership in advanced materials science, chemistry and application engineering. Solvay Composite Materials combines the former Cytec Aerospace Materials and Industrial Materials businesses.

**About Solvay**

Solvay is a multi-specialty chemical company, committed to developing chemistry that addresses key societal challenges. Solvay innovates and partners with customers in diverse global end markets. Its products and solutions are used in planes, cars, smart and medical devices, batteries, in mineral and oil extraction, among many other applications promoting sustainability. Its lightweighting materials enhance 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 27,000 employees in 58 countries. Net sales were € 10.9 billion in 2016, with 90% from activities where Solvay ranks among the world's top 3 leaders. 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.

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