Press release

Solvay launches range of high thermal durability HSA Cerias for advanced Diesel Catalysts

Chengdu, 11 November 2014 - Solvay, a leader in high performance rare-earth based materials for automotive emissions control, launches a solution for advanced Diesel catalysts targeting compliance with the most ambitious emission limits.

Capitalizing on more than 20 years' experience in the innovation of rare-earth based materials for the abatement of automotive exhaust emissions; Solvay has developed a new generation of high surface area (HSA) Cerias displaying outstanding thermal durability. With more than 20% greater thermal stability than previous generations, Solvay's HSA Cerias impart unparalleled catalytic performance & thus enable catalyst makers and car manufacturers to meet demanding regulatory emission limits whilst simultaneously reducing CO2 emissions.

These properties are particularly relevant for the global reduction of noxious gases such as unburnt hydrocarbons (HC) and carbon monoxide (CO) as well as nitrogen oxides (NOx).

The capability of ceria to store NOx at low [exhaust gas] temperatures (< 200°C) is key in enabling compliance with the most demanding emission regulation limits such as Euro 6 in Europe or Tier2Bin5 in the US. However, compliance over the whole of the service life of the catalyst can only be achieved if the ceria shows outstanding thermal stability up to 900 °C.

Developed and manufactured in Asia using a proprietary process, Solvay's HSA Ceria is a core material in a very large majority of LNT (Lean NOx Traps) Diesel catalysts manufactured worldwide.

As a global innovation provider, Solvay RES has both manufacturing and R&D centers in Asia, Europe & the US. It is currently developing new HSA Cerias with enhanced performance and durability to help catalyst makers and car manufacturers meet the challenge of compliance with Euro6.c, Euro 7 regulations and the application of the RDE (Real Driving Emissions) cycle.

SOLVAY Rare Earth Systems is the world leader in rare-earth formulations required for automotive catalysis, luminescence and high-precision polishing. Used in small quantities, rare earths are essential "vitamins" for developing new technologies in general and green technologies in particular. With a view to diversifying its sources of supply and economizing this resource, the GBU has patented a process for recycling rare earths contained in energy-saving light bulbs, batteries and magnets.

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 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 is listed as **SOLB.BE** on **NYSE Euronext** in Brussels and Paris (Bloomberg: **SOLB:BB** - Reuters: **SOLB.BR**).

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