



Solvay expands its US-based sulfone polymers business

The multi-year plan will address strong customer demand growth in life science applications, with first steps to include significant capacity increases for Solvay's Udel® PSU and upstream integration in DCDPS monomer.

Alpharetta, Ga., February 21, 2021

Solvay announces an ambitious expansion plan for its U.S.-based sulfone business, which focuses on polymer solutions for various critical life science applications, as part of its ongoing commitment to build capacity in this field to support a growing global customer base.

The full scope of the multi-year expansion plans will ultimately touch all of Solvay's sulfone polymers including [Udel® polysulfones \(PSU\)](#), [Veradel® polyether sulfones \(PESU\)](#) and [Radel® polyphenyl sulfones \(PPSU\)](#)¹. The first major investment steps will include a capacity increase for Udel® PSU of over 25% by 2024 at the company's production site in Marietta, Ohio, with much of this increase expected online by early 2023. Likewise, to strengthen Solvay's leading position in the market, production capacity for dichlorodiphenyl sulfone (DCDPS) — an important common building block used in all sulfone polymers — will also be expanded by more than 25% by 2024, resulting in capacity increases at the company's Augusta, Georgia site by end of 2022.

"This new multi-year program marks an important step in our strategy for future growth and affirms our number one position in the U.S. sulfone polymers market," says Carmelo Lo Faro, president of Solvay's Materials segment. "Essentially, the expansions will address the growth potential of our sulfone products in high-performance life-saving and life-sustaining areas, such as [healthcare](#), [water purification](#) and [pharma processing](#)."

Key application market segments to benefit from these investments include hemodialysis, medical instruments and pharmaceuticals — in both development and production, and water purification, where Solvay expects strong double-digit growth in terms of global demand. Moreover, high-performance sulfone polymers also play a growing role in residential and commercial heating and plumbing systems.

¹ Udel®, Veradel®, Radel® are registered trademarks of Solvay.



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Solvay Marietta plant © Solvay

Solvay has announced a major expansion plan to boost its production capacity for sulfone polymers in support of a growing global customer base in life-saving and life-sustaining application markets. First steps in this initiative will add more than 25% of capacity for both Udel® polysulfones (PSU) and basic dichlorodiphenyl sulfone (DCDPS) at the company's production sites in the United States by 2024.



Solvay Augusta plant © Solvay



About Solvay

Solvay is a science company whose technologies bring benefits to many aspects of daily life. With more than 21,000 employees in 64 countries, Solvay bonds people, ideas and elements to reinvent progress. The Group seeks to create sustainable shared value for all, notably through its Solvay One Planet roadmap crafted around three pillars: protecting the climate, preserving resources and fostering a better life. The Group's innovative solutions contribute to safer, cleaner, and more sustainable products found in homes, food and consumer goods, planes, cars, batteries, smart devices, health care applications, water and air purification systems. Founded in 1863, Solvay today ranks among the world's top three companies for the vast majority of its activities and delivered net sales of €9 billion in 2020. Solvay is listed on Euronext Brussels and Paris (SOLB). Learn more at www.solvay.com.

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