



Progress beyond

Solvay increases US capacity to meet growing global demand for copper in e-mobility

The expansion will increase copper solvent extraction products capacity by 20 percent, providing security of supply for mining customers.

Brussels, December 2, 2021

Today Solvay announced plans to expand capacity at its Mount Pleasant, Tennessee facility (US), in response to growing demand from mining operations for its [ACORGA®](#) and ACORGA® OPT [copper solvent extraction](#) (SX) products. The market for copper is expected to surge over the next decade, driven by growth in construction, infrastructure, manufacturing and automotive applications.

According to the International Energy Agency, clean energy technologies will account for around 45% of copper demand in 2040 vs. 24% in 2020. In particular, copper plays an important role across the [electric vehicles \(EV\) value chain](#) as it is used in batteries, motors, inverters, wiring and in the charging infrastructure. Per Fastmarkets MB, the steep adoption of electric vehicles, which contain on average four times more copper than a combustion engine car, will see global refined copper demand for EVs rise by 21% per year until 2030, reaching around 2.5 million tons in 2030.

“This expansion offers greater security of supply for our customers as demand for our products grows,” explains Matthew Davis, global business director, Mineral Processing and Metal Extraction Products at Solvay. “Solvay looks forward to helping our mining customers meet the need for copper in vital applications, including electric vehicles, which are critical to clean mobility and a net-zero future.”

Solvay’s reagents help customers in the [mining industry improve productivity](#) and reduce operating costs while meeting complex metallurgical and sustainability challenges, such as the need to reduce freshwater use, energy use and reagent consumption. The investment comes as the company’s SX business continues to expand in all regions, benefiting from strong market dynamics and a recent string of new mine successes.

Solvay expects the new capacity, which expands on existing assets, to be commissioned by the end of 2022.



About Solvay

Solvay is a science company whose technologies bring benefits to many aspects of daily life. With more than 23,000 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.

Press contacts

Ron Sausa

+1 973 914 1693

ronald.sausa@solvay.com



Follow us on Twitter @SolvayGroup