Press Release

Solvay to raise hydroquinone capacity in Europe by 20%

Lyon, FRANCE March 26, 2019 --- Solvay is raising its European capacity of hydroquinone by 20%, enhancing the security of supply on three continents and to meet increasing demand for diphenol inhibitors used as additives by the monomer industry.

This capacity expansion at its plant in Saint-Fons, France is accomplished by debottlenecking the existing unit and follows a recent capacity increase in Zhenjiang, China. The project should be fully operational in Q2-2019.

"Solvay is committed to serve its customers' long-term growing needs in all major regions and this new capacity increase in Europe will allow to continue to reliably supply our full range of monomer inhibitors," said Peter Browning, President of Solvay's Aroma Performance GBU.

Hydroquinone is key to process safety, transport and storage for monomer inhibition but also as a monomer itself in Polymer and Coatings applications.

The Saint-Fons Specialities plant in France is one of the 3 plants that makes up Solvay's global inhibitor production network across Europe, North America and Asia, producing Hydroquinone; MEHQ (Monomethyl Ether of Hydroquinone); TBC (tertiary butyl-catechol) and PTZ (phenothiazine).

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Solvay is an advanced materials and specialty chemicals company, committed to developing chemistry that addresses key societal challenges. Solvay innovates and partners with customers worldwide in many diverse end markets. Its products are used in planes, cars, batteries, smart and medical devices, as well as in mineral and oil and gas extraction, enhancing efficiency and sustainability. Its lightweighting materials promote 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 62 countries. Net sales were €10.3 billion in 2018, with 90% from activities where Solvay ranks among the world's top 3 leaders, resulting in an EBITDA margin of 22%. 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. *Financial figures take into account the planned divestment of Polyamides.*

Solvay Aroma Performance is a global leading producer of diphenols, and the world's largest integrated producer of vanillin for food, flavors & fragrances industries. Aroma Performance also produces a wide range of synthetic intermediates, used in monomers and polymers, pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals and electronics markets. Aroma Performance global business unit operates facilities on 3 continents - in Saint-Fons (France), Baton Rouge (USA) and Zhenjiang (China).

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