

Solvay enhances energy efficiency and competitiveness of Bulgaria soda ash plant

Brussels, October 3rd, 2014 --- Solvay will bolster competitiveness of its world class soda ash factory in Devnya, Bulgaria, by improving its energy efficiency.

The measure is part of the competitiveness breakthrough plan that Solvay's Global Business Unit Soda Ash & Derivatives launched last year and which is on track to deliver its €100 million cost-improvement target already by the end of 2015.

The Devnya plant, Solvay's biggest synthetic soda ash production plant in Europe, will be equipped with a new high-tech steam boiler, whose energy efficiency will reduce CO2 emissions and bolster the site's environmental performance.

"This investment shows Solvay's commitment to this business," said Christophe Clemente, President of Solvay Soda Ash & Derivatives Global Business Unit. *"Our breakthrough actions, including energy efficiency measures, and our goal to increase profitability of our soda ash business will ensure the security and quality of supply to our customers over the long-term."*

With the soda ash breakthrough competitiveness plan Solvay aims to re-affirm its position as one of the global leaders in the business, optimizing its European synthetic soda ash production while at the same time reinforcing its trona assets in the United States.

 [FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @SOLVAYGROUP](https://twitter.com/SOLVAYGROUP)

Solvay Soda Ash and Derivatives is a world leader in its sector, with soda ash serving the glass, detergent and chemical markets and with sodium bicarbonate and trona serving the food, animal feed, flue gas cleaning and healthcare markets. The unit has 12 industrial sites worldwide, more than 4,000 employees and serves 90 countries.

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

Véronique LAMARCHE
Communication
+ 33 1 40 75 80 13

Arturo GUTIERREZ
HR & Communication Director
+ 33 1 40 75 84 60