

## Press release

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### **RHODIA AND IFP JOIN FORCES TO OPTIMIZE OIL RESERVE EXTRACTION**

**Paris (France), April 24<sup>th</sup> 2009** - Rhodia and IFP have joined forces to launch a joint services and consulting offer targeting chemical Enhanced Oil Recovery activities for the petroleum industry. The objective is to offer oil companies solutions adapted to different operating conditions so as to maximize the oil production from reservoirs. For a large number of oil fields, this innovative approach could increase average oil extraction rates by 20%, currently estimated at 35%.

This new Rhodia / IFP service range will help operators' efficiency in the development of their Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) activities through a series of flexible solutions in different phases:

- Analysis of historical reservoir production data and proposing solutions;
- Laboratory development of chemical formulations optimized to meet oil field conditions;
- Development and optimization of demonstration pilots and implementation on field scale via simulation and monitoring tools;
- Assistance for pilot implementation and development through the operational phase;
- Large-scale supply of the chemical solutions defined.

As a pioneer of chemical EOR technologies in the 1990s, IFP contributes its internationally recognized expertise as well as its experimental and simulation know-how in the area of geosciences. The combination of its R&D expertise and industrial experience through subsidiaries and shareholdings (and in particular Beicip Franlab and PowerTec), makes IFP a preferred partner for oil companies.

As a supplier of chemical solutions for the oil industry, Rhodia brings its physio-chemical and formulation know-how applied to the oil industry and its R&D capacities through its Laboratory of the Future in Bordeaux (France). Furthermore, as a world leader in specialty surfactants, Rhodia can also meet oil companies' industrial needs.



As a chemical firm and leader in this sector, **Rhodia** is an international industrial group which is resolutely committed to sustainable development. The Group uses its quest for operational excellence and innovation to aid its customers' performance. Organised around six companies, Rhodia is a partner to the major players in the automobile, electronics, perfume, health, beauty, detergents, industrial products and consumer products markets. The Group reported turnover of €4.8 billion in 2008 and today employs around 14,500 people throughout the world. It is listed in the Euronext Paris Exchange.

**Rhodia Novcare's** strategy for the oil and gas markets is to provide its regional and global clients with high-performance, innovatory solutions to meet the complex technological challenges of petroleum production. Thanks to its industrial capacities throughout the world and its global R&D and technical support network, Rhodia Novcare is a leader in specialty surfactants, phosphorous derivatives, natural polymers, synthetic monomers and polymers and environmentally-friendly solvents. Rhodia has developed specific expertise adapted for the areas of oil, gas and water treatment: protection, surface modification, rheology, active delivery, improvement of formulations and processes, respect for health and the environment.

**IFP** is a world-class public-sector research, industrial development and training center, aimed at developing the technologies and materials of the future in the fields of energy, transport and the environment.

In order to fulfil its mission, one of the strategic priorities of IFP is to push back the boundaries of oil and gas exploration and production.

IFP prioritises the switch from invention to innovation, from patent for product, from research to industry. IFP is therefore a key industrial development actor with over 13,500 patents and the creation of around 30 companies which have become substantial sources of jobs and exports.

For more information, follow these links: <http://www.rhodia.com/> and <http://www.ifp.fr>

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