

Colombes, May 12th 2009

Arkema announces restructuring of its North American operations

Arkema announced today the restructuring of its North American activities.

Staff reductions within Arkema Inc., its subsidiary headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at its Canadian affiliate in Oakville and at production sites in Louisville and Carrollton (Kentucky), Mobile (Alabama), Memphis (Tennessee), Birdsboro and Bristol (Pennsylvania), combined with significant cost-cutting and process-efficiency improvements, will improve its cost basis by \$ 40 million (€ 30 million) in 2010 and achieve a total annual savings of \$ 50 million (€ 37 million) by 2012.

“These cost-cutting measures further strengthen Arkema and its North American operations,” said Bernard Roche, president and chief executive officer of Arkema Inc., *“both to maintain its competitive edge in the current economic downturn and to grow once the economy rebounds.”*

These restructurings of Arkema’s operations in North America are part of an overall \$ 740 million (€ 550 million) cost-cutting plan for the entire Group implemented since 2006.

A global chemical company and France’s leading chemical producer, Arkema consists of three business segments: Vinyl Products, Industrial Chemicals, and Performance Products. Present in over 40 countries with 15,000 employees, Arkema achieved sales of 5.6 billion euros in 2008. With its six research centers in France, the United States and Japan, and internationally recognized brands, Arkema holds leadership positions in its principal markets.

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