

Colombes, 19 November 2021

ARKEMA ACCELERATES ITS INVESTMENTS IN BATTERIES

In the presence of Thierry Le Hénaff, Chairman and CEO of the Group, Arkema today inaugurates the Christian Collette Center of Excellence dedicated to batteries at its Pierre-Bénite Research Center. On this occasion the Group will announce a 50% increase in its Kynar® PVDF fluoropolymer production capacities at its Pierre-Bénite site in order to address the fast-growing demand for materials for lithium-ion batteries. Arkema now aims for sales of at least one billion euros in batteries by 2030.

In a context of rapidly accelerating growth in electric mobility around the world, but also for stationary uses, renewable energy storage and electronics, improvements in battery performance, including greater energy density and shorter charging time, greater autonomy and lighter weight of vehicles, today represent key R&D areas to meet the challenge of energy transition.

Thanks to its recognized expertise and unique offering of innovative, durable and high-performance materials, Arkema is ideally positioned at the heart of the battery ecosystem to support its customers and partners in the clean mobility revolution. Arkema is thus one of the world's leading suppliers of high value-added solutions: PVDF for binders and separator coatings, lithium salts to improve cell performance, smart adhesives for cell-to-cell bonding, and bio-based polyamide 11 to cool battery lines.

This Center of Excellence dedicated to batteries for clean mobility is equipped with state-of-the-art design and analysis equipment, including a dry room and an electrode coating line. It draws on the scientific and technical complementarity of the Pierre-Bénite Research Center's researchers. This Center of Excellence, which will help accelerate the development of advanced materials and processes for future generations of more efficient, safer and more compact batteries, was partly financed by the *Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes*.

Alongside this platform, a pilot line dedicated to the pre-industrialization of the next generations of electrolytes for the batteries of the future is already operational.

This new Center, named the Christian Collette Center of Excellence for Batteries, in honor of the Group's R&D Vice President who passed away last April, is inaugurated in the presence of numerous customers, partners, and representatives of the State, the Region and the City.

The teams will conduct research with the Group's academic partners (CNRS, CPE in Lyon, LEPMI in Grenoble and ENSCM in Montpellier), as well as with partners in the battery ecosystem, with which strategic agreements have been concluded (start-ups, manufacturers, gigafactories).

To support the exponential growth in demand for lithium-ion battery cell materials in Europe, Arkema also announces a 50% expansion of its Kynar® fluoropolymer production capacity at its Pierre-Bénite site. These polymers are used as separator coatings or as cathode binders. New innovations and product ranges will also be offered, such as Kynar® CTO, the new Kynar® PVDF made from renewable sources. This new extension should come on stream in the first quarter of 2023.

This investment benefited from State support as part of the "*France Relance*" plan.

These projects are perfectly aligned with the Group's strategy aimed at accelerating its growth by fully leveraging its unique positioning in high-stakes markets such as batteries, and at offering its customers and partners innovative, high-performance and breakthrough materials to help build a sustainable world.

Building on its unique set of expertise in materials science, **Arkema** offers a portfolio of first-class technologies to address ever-growing demand for new and sustainable materials. With the ambition to become in 2024 a pure player in Specialty Materials, the Group is structured into 3 complementary, resilient and highly innovative segments dedicated to Specialty Materials -Adhesive solutions, Advanced Materials, and Coating Solutions- accounting for some 82% of Group sales in 2020, and a well-positioned and competitive Intermediates segment. Arkema offers cutting-edge technological solutions to meet the challenges of, among other things, new energies, access to water, recycling, urbanization and mobility, and fosters a permanent dialogue with all its stakeholders. The Group reported sales of around €8 billion in 2020, and operates in some 55 countries with 20,600 employees worldwide.

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