

## Press release

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### RHODIA BOOSTS ITS GLOBAL PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF HIGHLY DISPERSIBLE SILICA

**Lyon, France – February 22, 2011** ----- Rhodia is investing in its Chicago Heights (USA) and Collonges-au-Mont-d'Or (France) plants to increase its Highly Dispersible Silica production capacities by 32,000 tons per year.

Start ups are respectively planned in the fourth quarter 2011 and the first quarter 2012.

These projects will supplement Rhodia's recently inaugurated Qingdao (China) plant which has a capacity of 72,000 tons per year. Combined, these three investments will increase Rhodia's Highly Dispersible Silica capacity by over 40%.

*"These expansions will ensure that globally we will be there for our customers to meet future demand for fuel efficient tires around the world "*, commented Tom Benner, President of Rhodia Silica.

Certified by all the world's leading tire companies and marketed under the brand name Zeosil®, Rhodia's Highly Dispersible Silica is used principally in the production of fuel efficient tires. Rhodia's technology decreases the tread's rolling resistance, resulting in a five to seven percent reduction in fuel consumption by light vehicles.

*Rhodia is an international chemical company resolutely committed to sustainable development. As a leader in its businesses, the Group aims to improve its customers' performance through the pursuit of operational excellence and its ability to innovate. Rhodia is the partner of major players in the automotive, electronics, flavors and fragrances, health, personal and home care markets, consumer goods and industrial markets. The Group employs around 13,600 people worldwide and generated sales of €4.03 billion in 2009. Rhodia is listed on Euronext Paris.*

*Rhodia Silica is the inventor and leading global provider of highly dispersible silica, which finds its main application in the production of fuel-saving tires. Rhodia's silica is also used in a wide range of other key markets such as industrial applications, personal care and nutrition.*

For more information, please visit our [website www.rhodia.com](http://www.rhodia.com)

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