

Imerys joins Springboard Initiative to help bring safe drinking water to developing countries

Imerys has joined the Springboard Initiative developed by nonprofit global-health leader PATH through a series of project grants from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Triggered by the terrible situation of nearly 2 billion people on the planet lack immediate access to safe drinking water, the Springboard Initiative is a global open-source platform aimed at offering improved water filter systems to people across the developing world. Through this initiative, PATH researched and developed the fundamental design for a universal, effective and affordable household water treatment and storage system for low-income families that will allow millions of people to enjoy a safe water supply.

Imerys is the world's leading supplier of filter aids serving the water, juice, beer, wine, food oils and pharmaceutical markets. Harnessing its mineral expertise, Imerys adopted PATH's fundamental design principles and completed an R&D program, to develop a new household water treatment and storage system that contains a new high performance filter cartridge.

This innovative filter cartridge, known as ImerPure™, meets international standards. It has been successfully tested in the field where it has demonstrated strong user acceptability and has been shown to deliver improved water filtration performance per unit cost. ImerPure™ offers a viable alternative to consumers in developing countries where certain existing filter technologies are ineffective.

Already well-established in emerging markets, Imerys has invested in a production facility in Gujarat, India. The plant is scheduled to begin production before the end of this year.

ImerPure™ filters will be marketed through partnerships with disaster relief organizations, social enterprises, non-government organizations and household goods manufacturers.

The world leader in mineral-based specialty solutions for industry, with €4.1 billion revenue and 16,000 employees in 2015, Imerys transforms a unique range of minerals to deliver essential functions (heat resistance, mechanical strength, conductivity, coverage, barrier effect, etc.) that are essential to its customers' products and manufacturing processes.

Whether mineral components, functional additives, process enablers or finished products, Imerys' solutions contribute to the quality of a great number of applications in consumer goods, industrial equipment or construction. Combining expertise, creativity and attentiveness to customers' needs, the Group's international teams constantly identify new applications and develop high value-added solutions under a determined approach to responsible development. These strengths enable Imerys to develop through a sound, profitable business model.

More comprehensive information about Imerys may be obtained from its website (www.imerys.com) under Regulated Information, particularly in its Registration Document filed with the Autorité des marchés financiers on March 17, 2016 under number D.16-0153 (also available from the Autorité des marchés financiers website, www.amf-france.org). Imerys draws the attention of investors to chapter 4, "Risk Factors and Internal Control", of its Registration Document.

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