

New chemicals plants represent landmark for Akzo Nobel

Arnhem, the Netherlands, September 26, 2006 – When Akzo Nobel officially opens its two new chemicals plants in Delfzijl today it will mark the completion of the company's biggest ever chemicals investment in the Netherlands.

The construction of the chlorine and monochloroacetic acid (MCA) facilities—which involved the relocation of activities from Hengelo—saw the company commit a total of approximately EUR 200 million to the project, an outlay which has also signaled the end of Akzo Nobel's regular Dutch chlorine transports.

Supported by a EUR 65 million contribution from the Dutch government which was approved by the European Commission, today's official opening at Delfzijl will be attended by a number of guests, including the Dutch State Secretary for the Environment, Pieter van Geel.

"This is a landmark occasion for Akzo Nobel given that structural chlorine transports by rail have now ended," said CEO Hans Wijers ahead of the ceremonial event. "However, it would not have been possible without the full support of the authorities, with this project offering concrete proof of what can be achieved through a successful public/private partnership."

Added Leif Darner, Akzo Nobel's Board member responsible for Chemicals: "Investing in these new facilities emphasizes our strong commitment to supporting our refocused chemicals activities. The new Delfzijl MCA plant is one of the largest of its kind in the world and will benefit from having a key raw material—chlorine—supplied on-site by our second new factory, which uses state-of-the-art membrane cell technology and is the first of its kind in Europe."

All the chlorine produced by the new facility will be carried downstream by pipeline to several users at the chemical park in Delfzijl. The largest user will be the new MCA plant. MCA is used as an intermediate in the manufacture of a number of products, including pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and agrochemicals, as well as having applications in the oil, mining and detergent industries.

- - -

Note for the editor

Akzo Nobel is a Global Fortune 500 company and is listed on both the Euronext Amsterdam and NASDAQ stock exchanges. It is also included on the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes and FTSE4Good Index. Based in the Netherlands, we are a multicultural organization serving customers throughout the world with human and animal healthcare products, coatings, and chemicals. We employ around 62,440 people and conduct our activities in four segments – human and animal health, coatings and chemicals – subdivided into 13 business units, with operating subsidiaries in more than 80 countries. Consolidated revenues for 2005 totaled EUR 13.0 billion. The financial results for the third quarter will be published on October 18, 2006.

Internet: www.akzonobel.com

Akzo Nobel nv
Velperweg 76
P.O. Box 9300
6800 SB Arnhem
The Netherlands
Tel +31 26 366 43 43
Fax +31 26 366 49 40

Not for publication – for more information

Akzo Nobel nv

Corporate Media Relations, tel. +31 26 366 43 43

Contact: Tim van der Zanden

Safe Harbor Statement*

This press release may contain statements which address such key issues as Akzo Nobel's growth strategy, future financial results, market positions, product development, pharmaceutical products in the pipeline, and product approvals. Such statements should be carefully considered, and it should be understood that many factors could cause forecasted and actual results to differ from these statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, price fluctuations, currency fluctuations, progress of drug development, clinical testing and regulatory approval, developments in raw material and personnel costs, pensions, physical and environmental risks, legal issues, and legislative, fiscal, and other regulatory measures. Stated competitive positions are based on management estimates supported by information provided by specialized external agencies. For a more comprehensive discussion of the risk factors affecting our business please see our Annual Report on Form 20-F filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, a copy of which can be found on the company's corporate website www.akzonobel.com.

* Pursuant to the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act 1995.