

## **Akzo Nobel agrees to sell 50 percent stake in Flexsys**

**Arnhem, the Netherlands, December 15, 2006 — Akzo Nobel has reached an agreement in principle to sell its 50 percent stake in rubber chemicals business Flexsys to joint venture partner Solutia Inc. Financial details were not disclosed.**

The proposed deal also includes the sale of Akzo Nobel's toll manufacturing operation for Flexsys at the company's Kashima site in Japan.

"The recent realignment of our Chemicals portfolio concentrated our focus on core business," explained Leif Darner, Akzo Nobel's Board member responsible for Chemicals. "Our stake in Flexsys no longer fitted in with our future growth plans and this deal will enable Solutia to build the business as the sole, dedicated owner."

Formed in 1995, Flexsys is the leading global supplier of chemicals to the rubber industry, employing around 1,000 people worldwide. Sales in 2005 totaled approximately USD 600 million.

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### **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 more than 62,000 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 full year will be published on February 15, 2007.

Internet: [www.akzonobel.com](http://www.akzonobel.com)

### **Not for publication – for more information**

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### **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](http://www.akzonobel.com).

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

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