

Akzo Nobel invests in expansion of its building adhesives business

Arnhem, the Netherlands, November 15, 2000 – Akzo Nobel will invest in the construction of a new factory for powder-based building adhesives in Rosendahl, Germany. The investment is an integral part of an ambitious business expansion plan for the company's building adhesive activities.

Trading mainly under the name of SCHÖNOX®, the site in Rosendahl produces a specialized range of tile and floor adhesives, as well as leveling compounds for customers all over Europe. Total capacity of the site will be 180,000 tonnes, an increase of 50%.

"Our building adhesives business has shown a very successful development, and the current facility in Rosendahl is already running flat out", said Rudy van der Meer, Akzo Nobel's Board Member responsible for Coatings. "The investment is vital to support further growth in this attractive market segment not only in Western, but also in Eastern Europe."

"Schönox is part of Akzo Nobel's building adhesives business, which also markets the Cégécol® brand in France and the Casco® brand in the Nordic countries", said Jan Andersson, General Manager Akzo Nobel Decorative Coatings International. "Schönox products are cut out for the professional user, e.g. tilers and floor and parquet layers. We want to expand on Schönox' current market penetration and also introduce the name in the Nordic countries as specialized professional brand for powder-based products."

The new factory in Rosendahl will be one of the most state-of-the-art factories for powder-based adhesives in Europe. Start-up will be in the first quarter of 2002.

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Note for the editor

Akzo Nobel, based in the Netherlands, serves customers throughout the world with healthcare products, coatings and chemicals. Consolidated sales for 1999 (excluding Acordis) totaled some EUR 12 billion (USD 13 billion, GBP 8 billion). Currently, the Company employs 68,000 people in 75 countries.

Financial results for the year 2000 will be announced on February 23, 2001.

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