

Akzo Nobel divests Methylamines and Choline Chloride business to Balchem

Arnhem, the Netherlands, April 2, 2007 — Akzo Nobel has agreed to sell its European-based Methylamines and Choline Chloride (MACC) businesses to Balchem Corporation (NASDAQ: BCPC), New York (U.S.), a deal which completes the company's Chemicals divestment program.

Balchem Corporation's European subsidiary, Balchem, B.V., has entered into an agreement under which it will acquire the businesses—located in Marano Ticino, Italy—from Akzo Nobel Chemicals S.p.A. Financial details were not disclosed.

"We are confident that this transaction will be a positive step both for the business and its employees," explained Leif Darner, Akzo Nobel's Board member responsible for Chemicals. "This deal means that we have now completed the divestment program that we started in 2005 following the company's strategic realignment of its Chemicals portfolio."

Added Dino A. Rossi, President, CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Balchem: "This acquisition is very strategic for Balchem in many respects. It should provide many opportunities for Balchem's global growth plans, and it also adds a direct European presence, which we have not had previously."

Under the terms of the deal, the company's operations in Marano Ticino and approximately 80 employees will be transferred to the new owner. Unions and employee representative bodies have been informed and consultation procedures will commence shortly, where applicable. Regulatory approvals will be sought as and where appropriate.

Akzo Nobel MACC is one of the leading producers worldwide for choline chloride and a medium size producer for methylamines. Choline chloride is an essential nutrient for optimum animal growth. Methylamines are used as raw materials for the production of choline chloride and are also widely used in many chemical and industrial applications.

Balchem Corporation consists primarily of three business segments: ARC Specialty Products, Encapsulated/Nutritional Products, and BCP Ingredients. BCP Ingredients manufactures and supplies choline chloride and derivatives used primarily in the poultry and swine industries.

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Note for the editor

Akzo Nobel is a Fortune Global 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 61,880 people and conduct our activities in these four segments, with operating subsidiaries in more than 80 countries. Consolidated revenues for 2006 totaled EUR 13.7 billion. The financial results for the first quarter will be published on April 24, 2007.

Internet: 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. The 2006 Annual Report on Form 20-F will be available in the second quarter of 2007.

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