

Arkema Inc. receives regulatory approval to market its carbon nanotubes in the United States

Arkema now has received EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) approval for commercial sales of its *Graphistrength*[®] multiwall carbon nanotubes (CNTs) in the United States.

This approval gives the green light to Arkema Inc., Arkema's US subsidiary, to assist its existing and prospective customers in the US currently conducting research and application tests involving CNTs with their commercial development on a larger scale. This should boost worldwide sales of Arkema's *Graphistrength*[®] masterbatches, which are already available in Europe and Asia.

Since it first began producing CNTs in 2006, Arkema has sought to develop, under the trademark *Graphistrength*[®], a whole range of high added-value masterbatches designed to optimize the performance of CNTs in polymer matrices (thermoplastic, elastomer and thermoset). *Graphistrength*[®] products offer outstanding performances: in product manufacture, they are easy to use in traditional compounding processes, and they ensure excellent dispersion of CNTs in many polymer matrices, thereby delivering remarkable electrical and mechanical properties.

In September 2009, Arkema announced the construction of a 400 ton/year CNT pilot production plant in France, confirming its global commitment to CNTs on a semi-industrial scale. The plant is due to come on stream early 2011.

A global chemical company and France's leading chemicals producer, Arkema consists of three businesses: Vinyl Products, Industrial Chemicals, and Performance Products. Arkema reported sales of 4.4 billion euros in 2009. Arkema has 13,800 employees in over 40 countries and 7 research centers located in France, the United States and Japan. With internationally recognized brands, Arkema holds leadership positions in its principal markets.

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