

Colombes, October 22<sup>nd</sup> 2013

## Inauguration of new Sumitomo Seika plant on the Arkema Carling site

**Yusuke Ueda, Sumitomo Seika CEO, and Marc Schuller, Arkema Executive Vice President, have today inaugurated the new Sumitomo Seika superabsorbent plant on the Carling site (Moselle, France) in the presence of the local and regional authorities.**

**This major investment, made in partnership with Arkema, will enable Sumitomo Seika to meet increasing demand for superabsorbents in Europe.**

Announced jointly by Sumitomo Seika and Arkema in the spring of 2011, the investment will raise the overall superabsorbent production capacity of the Carling facility to 47,000 ton/year.

The construction of this new plant boasts the latest technological advances of Sumitomo Seika in the field of superabsorbents. Production effectively came on stream in the summer, and the plant, inaugurated today, is now fully operational.

SAPs, or superabsorbents, are manufactured from acrylic acid and are mostly used in high-growth market segments such as babies diapers, adult incontinence articles, and female sanitary products.

The operational launch of this new production plant on the Carling platform further consolidates Arkema's position on the site, which now ranks among the world's leading production facilities for acrylic monomers.

*Since 2008, when it took over Arkema's superabsorbent business, Sumitomo Seika has been marketing, from the Carling site, an extensive range of superabsorbents under the tradename AQUAKEEP™.*

*A global chemical company and France's leading chemicals producer, **Arkema** is building the future of the chemical industry every day. Deploying a responsible, innovation-based approach, we produce state-of-the-art specialty chemicals that provide customers with practical solutions to such challenges as climate change, access to drinking water, the future of energy, fossil fuel preservation and the need for lighter materials. With operations in more than 40 countries, some 14,000 employees and 10 research centers, Arkema generates annual revenue of €6.4 billion, and holds leadership positions in all its markets with a portfolio of internationally recognized brands.*

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