

Arkema launches its global program: *Start-up Connect* for responsible innovation

This new program invites start-ups specializing in advanced materials from around the world to join forces with Arkema to establish a privileged research collaboration and benefit from the Group's support and technological experience. By providing technical or financial support for these innovations, *Start-up Connect* will be a strategic component of Arkema's development within an ecosystem of responsible innovation.

The [Start-up Connect initiative](#) will combine the dynamism of small, agile, and innovative organizations with Arkema's unique expertise in specialty materials to develop the innovations of tomorrow. Arkema will provide these start-ups with its international reach, its in-depth knowledge of markets and applications, and its ability to develop safe and high-performance chemistry. The Group will offer access to the scientific and technical resources of its 15 R&D centers in France, the United States, and Asia, facilitating the pooling of expertise, innovation, and economic development at the heart of these areas.

The strategic partnerships defined within *Start-up Connect* may range from technical collaboration to financial support, expertise, or mentoring.

Arkema has chosen to devote the vast majority of its innovation partnerships to sustainable growth. To achieve this, the innovations that are selected must be linked to Arkema's innovation platforms: natural resource management, lightweight materials and design, new energies, electronics solutions, and home efficiency and insulation.

"Our materials provide concrete solutions to societal and ecological issues, but the major challenges of tomorrow cannot be addressed by our teams alone, regardless of their talent. Our *Start-up Connect* program must therefore attract innovators from all over the world to work on solving these challenges alongside our researchers. In doing so, we want to create an impetus, a momentum, to bring transformative projects to maturity," explains Christian Collette, Arkema's R&D Vice President.

Building on its unique set of expertise in materials science, Arkema offers a portfolio of first-class technologies to address ever-growing demand for new and sustainable materials. With the ambition to become in 2024 a pure player in Specialty Materials, the Group is structured into 3 complementary, resilient and highly innovative segments dedicated to Specialty Materials -Adhesive solutions, Advanced Materials, and Coating Solutions- accounting for some 80% of Group sales, and a well-positioned and competitive Intermediates segment. Arkema offers cutting-edge technological solutions to meet the challenges of, among other things, new energies, access to water, recycling, urbanization and mobility, and fosters a permanent dialogue with all its stakeholders. The Group reported sales of €8.7 billion in 2019, and operates in some 55 countries with 20,500 employees worldwide. www.arkema.com

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