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Arkema opens a new powder coating resins unit in India

Arkema will inaugurate a new first-class polyester resin manufacturing facility in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra on February 13, 2019. This new facility also includes a dedicated laboratory to provide both application development and technical support. The facility will help Arkema better serve customers in the fast growing powder coating market throughout India, as well as the Gulf Region and surrounding countries.

"The Navi Mumbai facility significantly extends our global footprint for this product and allows us to better meet local demand in India and Southeast Asia, where we see strong growth and demand," Marc Schuller, Executive Vice President, Coating Solutions and Industrial Specialties for Arkema, explained. "India is one of the fastest growing markets in the world for these products. This facility will offer formulators in the region reliable supply and the resources they need to easily develop high-performance low-VOC powder coating products."

The new facility will produce polyester powder resins marketed under the REAFREE® trade name. REAFREE® polyester resins are primarily used to develop low-VOC powder coatings for a wide range of industrial and architectural applications. They are highly versatile and can be formulated to provide benefits such as superior scratch resistance, flow and leveling, and rheology control.

Arkema's manufacturing site in Navi Mumbai also produces alkyd and acrylic solutions and oil-free polyester resins, as well as reactive polyamide resins. In addition to the new facility in Navi Mumbai, Arkema produces REAFREE® polyester resins and runs powder coating R&D laboratories at its facilities in Sant Celoni, Spain and North Kansas City, Missouri, USA. From these three plants, Arkema can meet customer needs anywhere in the world.

This US\$15 M investment supports the Group's ongoing commitment to remain a leading global supplier to the coating industry, providing customers with all the benefits of cutting-edge technology, local manufacture, and strong technical support.

REAFREE® is a registered trademark of Arkema Inc.

A designer of materials and innovative solutions, Arkema shapes materials and creates new uses that accelerate customer performance. Our balanced business portfolio spans high-performance materials, industrial specialties and coating solutions. Our globally recognized brands are ranked among the leaders in the markets we serve. Reporting annual sales of €8.3 billion in 2017, we employ approximately 20,000 people worldwide and operate in close to 55 countries. We are committed to active engagement with all our stakeholders. Our research centers in North America, France and Asia concentrate on advances in bio-based products, new energies, water management, electronic solutions, lightweight materials and design, home efficiency and insulation. www.arkema.com

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