



Press release

AkzoNobel
Tomorrow's Answers Today

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AkzoNobel intensifies R&D activities with BASF

Amsterdam, the Netherlands, March, 2010 - AkzoNobel and BASF have strengthened a partnership agreement signed last year which places greater focus on long-term R&D activities.

The original key supplier agreement, signed in May 2009, secured BASF as a preferred supplier to AkzoNobel. This business relationship has now been intensified, with both companies agreeing to evaluate potential joint R&D activities in the following areas:

- Fast, energy-efficient curing
- Energy managing surfaces
- Functionalized surfaces (self-healing, self-cleaning, self-assembling)
- Digitization (from pigments to measurement)
- Metal pre-treatment

These areas of mutual interest are based on sustainability and environmentally-friendly products. The related framework of the cooperation is currently being developed.

Ton Geurts, AkzoNobel's CPO, said: "By teaming up with a key supplier like BASF, we not only strive to secure cutting-edge market and business positions today, but the partnership should also bring AkzoNobel 'greater good' solutions and offerings to help differentiate ourselves to serve the customers of tomorrow."

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Note to editors

AkzoNobel is proud to be one of the world's leading industrial companies. Based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, we make and supply a wide range of paints, coatings and specialty chemicals - 2009 revenue totaled €13.9 billion. In fact, we are the largest global paints and coatings company. As a major producer of specialty chemicals we supply industries worldwide with quality ingredients for life's essentials. We think about the future, but act in the present. We're passionate about introducing new ideas and developing sustainable answers for our customers. That's why our 57,000 employees - who are based in more than 80 countries - are committed to excellence and delivering Tomorrow's Answers Today™.

Safe Harbor Statement

This press release contains statements which address such key issues as AkzoNobel's growth strategy, future financial results, market positions, product development, 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, 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 latest Annual Report, a copy of which can be found on the company's corporate website www.akzonobel.com.