



Press release

September 27, 2010

AkzoNobel broadens its leadership team

AkzoNobel is to broaden its leadership team in order to accelerate sustainable growth. This decision should be considered in the context of new strategic ambitions – due to be announced tomorrow at a Capital Markets Day in London.

A nine-strong Executive Committee will be established comprising the current Board of Management members and four new leaders.

Joining AkzoNobel to form part of the new Executive Committee is **Marjan Oudeman**. Once named as one of the Wall Street Journal's Women to Watch in Europe, Oudeman previously worked for Tata Steel Limited, where she was Divisional Director of Strip Products. She will be responsible for Human Resources and Organizational Development. Also joining the new leadership team will be **Graeme Armstrong** (Research, Development & Innovation), **Sven Dumoulin** (General Counsel) and **Werner Fuhrmann** (Supply Chain/Sourcing).

"With this enhanced leadership team in place, we will be better positioned to deliver the best innovations, world class sustainability performance, the most efficient supply chains and the most engaged employees, while maintaining the highest standards of integrity in our actions," explains CEO Hans Wijers.

"The new set-up will position us to better drive a common agenda across AkzoNobel and enable us to set clearer priorities in managing change."

The broadening of the leadership team coincides with several management changes within the company's businesses (see below for details). The members of the Executive Committee will officially take up their positions on January 1, 2011.

AkzoNobel Executive Committee

Hans Wijers, CEO

Keith Nichols, CFO

Leif Darner, Performance Coatings

Tex Gunning, Decorative Paints

Rob Frohn, Specialty Chemicals

Marjan Oudeman, HR and Organizational Development

Graeme Armstrong, Research, Development & Innovation

Sven Dumoulin, General Counsel

Werner Fuhrmann, Supply Chain/Sourcing

Business unit changes

Richard Stuckes, currently managing director of Decorative Paints UK, Ireland and South Africa, will be appointed as Managing Director AkzoNobel Decorative Paints Europe. He will run the entire AkzoNobel Decorative Paints business in Europe.

Frank Sherman, currently Managing Director of Surface Chemistry, will focus on his role as Country Director for AkzoNobel in North America, based in Chicago. Frank has been instrumental in setting up the North American leadership team and will continue full-time in that role. On April 1, 2011, after leading Surface Chemistry through a restructuring for more than seven years, he will step down from the MD role.

Bob Margevich, at present Managing Director of Functional Chemicals based in Amersfoort, the Netherlands, will be appointed Managing Director of Surface Chemistry, based in Chicago. After three years in Functional Chemicals, Bob will return to the United States to lead Surface Chemistry from April 1, 2011.

Jan Svärd will be appointed Managing Director of Functional Chemicals, effective March 1, 2011, based in Amersfoort, the Netherlands. Jan is currently managing the Pulp and Paper Chemicals business,

Ruud Joosten, currently Managing Director of Decorative Paints Northern and Eastern Europe, will be appointed Managing Director of Pulp and Paper Chemicals effective February 1, 2011, based in Gothenburg.

Knut Schwalenberg will be appointed Managing Director of Industrial Chemicals, effective January 1, based in Amersfoort, the Netherlands. He will succeed Werner Fuhrmann, who has been appointed to AkzoNobel's new Executive Committee, with responsibility for Supply Chain/Sourcing.

Peter Tomlinson, currently Director EMEA at Marine and Protective Coatings, will become Regional Director AkzoNobel Middle East, effective October 1, 2010, initially in parallel to his current role.

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AkzoNobel is the largest global paints and coatings company and a major producer of specialty chemicals. We supply industries and consumers worldwide with innovative products and are passionate about developing sustainable answers for our customers. Our portfolio includes well known brands such as Dulux, Sikkens, International and Eka. Headquartered in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, we are a Global Fortune 500 company and are consistently ranked as one of the leaders on the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes. With operations in more than 80 countries, our 55,000 people around the world are committed to excellence and delivering Tomorrow's Answers Today™.

Not for publication – for more information

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