



# Press release

## Fire at AkzoNobel Plant in Morris

**Chicago, July 15, 2011** - On 14 July, 2011, at approximately 6:30 pm, a fire occurred at the AkzoNobel Surface Chemistry's manufacturing site in Morris, IL, US. The fire was confined to a high temperature boiler that provides heat to processing units at the plant. All personnel were safely evacuated and there were no injuries.

Fire departments from Morris, Minooka, Channahon, Coal City, Troy, Plainfield and Lyondell Basell responded to the site and extinguished the fire at approximately 7:50 pm. The fire did not shut down the entire facility and other parts of the plant continue to operate. The cause of the fire and extent of the damage are still under investigation.

### About Morris

The Morris plant is located about 45 miles southwest of Chicago in Aux Sable Township, Grundy County, Illinois. The plant began operation in 1973 and today employs 105 people and 35 contractors. Major product lines include fatty amines, and quaternaries amines.

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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 in the area of sustainability. With operations in more than 80 countries, our 55,000 people around the world are committed to excellence and delivering Tomorrow's Answers Today™.

**Surface Chemistry** is a business unit of AkzoNobel, employing over 1500 people in 50 countries. Based in Chicago, US, with regional marketing centers and R&D facilities in United States, Brazil, Singapore, India, China and Sweden, we are leading supplier of specialty surfactants and synthetic and bio-polymers additives. We serve a wide range of industries including home and personal care, agrochemicals, asphalt, mining, oilfield, and water treatment. In 2010, 45 percent of our global revenue (€847 million) came from eco-premium products

### Not for publication – for more information

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### 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](http://www.akzonobel.com).