Press Release

Solvay celebrates 75 years in Paulínia (São Paulo) and increases investment aligned with ‘green chemistry’

The chemical complex is now called the São Francisco Industrial Complex and is ready to welcome new companies and start ups aligned with sustainable chemistry

Paulínia - SP, December 14, 2017 – The Solvay Group, which is celebrating 75 years of industrial pioneering in Paulínia (São Paulo), foresees new investment to make the industrial complex the company’s most complete ‘green site’ in the world.

The latest investment, of R$ 30 million, will double production capacity of sustainable solvent Augeo, made from a renewable source, used in various applications in paints and varnishes, leather, wood, domestic cleaning products and air fresheners.

In addition, the company has started production of high performance silica (HDS) used in green tires, which reduce fuel consumption and CO2 emissions, and is setting up a bioenergy project that will convert gas boilers to run on biomass.

In line with its commitment to sustainability, the Solvay Group has had a greenhouse gas abatement unit in Paulínia for ten years whose uninterrupted operation has made a significant contribution to meeting Brazil's carbon emission reduction targets. The total greenhouse gas abated by this Solvay unit is equivalent to taking a fleet of one million vehicles a year out of circulation.

At its Research and Innovation Center installed at the complex the company has set up an Industrial Biotechnology Laboratory, whose exclusive focus is research into new molecules obtained from biomass and their transformation into innovative and sustainable products.

"These are initiatives and investments that show the strategy we have established for Paulínia: to boost its growth and to do so in tune with sustainable chemistry," says José Borges Matias, president of the Solvay Group in Latin America.

New identity for the future of Chemistry - To mark the new phase of activities in Paulínia, in addition to investments the company has decided to adopt a new identity for the chemical complex, which will now be called the São Francisco Industrial Complex, in reference to its origins as Fazenda São Francisco.

Acquired in December 1942 by Rhodia, which has belonged to the Solvay Group since 2011, this was initially used as a sugarcane plantation to make ethanol used in the company's chemical plant in Santo André (São Paulo). The production of oxygenated solvents began in 1958 with ethanol. This was the complex's first industrial unit for chemical products. Over the decades, the industrial complex was expanded with a dozen Solvay production units (phenol and derivatives, oxygenated solvents,
precipitated silicas, chemical intermediates, polyamide intermediates), and it was
opened to other renowned chemical and agrochemical companies.

The new São Francisco Industrial Complex identity has a dual purpose. On the one
hand, it allows the clearer communication to people outside the company about what
there is in Paulínia. "Although it is known as a 'Rhodia site,' what we have is a complex
that houses not only Solvay units, but those from several other companies as well. The
name 'industrial complex' helps to better identify who these companies are, their
activities and their responsibilities," says the president of the Solvay Group in Latin
America.

The second objective for the new identity is to attract other companies to the complex,
particularly companies and startups aligned with the concept of green chemistry.
Solvay and other company units occupy only one million square meters of the total 15
million square meters at the site. Another two million square meters are given over to
preservation areas. "In addition to the availability of space, we have a platform of
utilities, maintenance, laboratory, restaurant and transportation services and so on -
that is, an important support structure for other companies to use," says José Matias.

To mark these changes, a logo for the São Francisco Industrial Complex has been
designed. It has the image of a green leaf, symbolizing sustainability, and a black base,
representing the solidity of the site. The new visual identity is already being used on
posts at the main entrance and at the truck entrance (including the names of all the
companies at the complex), as well as on some signs. In short, what the new visual
identity indicates is that the chemistry of the future is being developed there.

About the Solvay Group
Solvay is a multi-specialty chemical company, committed to developing chemistry that
addresses key societal challenges. Solvay innovates and partners with customers in diverse
global end markets. Its products and solutions are used in planes, cars, smart and medical
devices, batteries, in mineral and oil extraction, among many other applications promoting
sustainability. Its lightweighting materials enhance cleaner mobility, its formulations optimize the
use of resources and its performance chemicals improve air and water quality. Solvay is
headquartered in Brussels with around 27,000 employees in 58 countries. Net sales were €
10.9 billion in 2016, with 90% from activities where Solvay ranks among the world’s top 3
leaders. Solvay SA (SOLB.BE) is listed on Euronext Brussels and Paris (Bloomberg: SOLB.BB
– Reuters: SOLB.BR) and in the United States its shares (SOLVY) are traded through a level-1
ADR program. In Brazil, Solvay also operates under the Rhodia brand.

Information for the press:
About Rhodia and the Solvay Group in Brazil
Roberto Custódio - roberto@pexpress.com.br
Marcela de Paula – marcela@pexpress.com.br
Tel. (+55 11) 3284 5164 or mobile (+55 11) 999 33 8148