

Press Release

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DSM to drive sustainability value of its European coating resins portfolio by withdrawing specific chemical from products

Royal DSM, a global science-based company in Nutrition, Health and Sustainable Living, is eliminating alkylphenol-ethoxylates, commonly known as APEOs, from its European coating resin product lines, as it looks to offer a leading and sustainable portfolio of coating resins within Europe. The decision is in line with EU-wide legislation prohibiting the sale and import of products containing APEOs from January next year. DSM will be working side by side with customers and partners to ensure all parties are fully compliant, and ready for a brighter future.

The withdrawal of APEOs from its European portfolio is the latest step in DSM's ambitious sustainability strategy for its Coating Resins business, which includes eliminating chemicals of high concern (CoHC) from all coating resins products by 2025. The European phase-out of APEOs is therefore an important step forward in DSM's ambition to eliminate CoHCs from all of its coating resins products by 2025, and to develop the most sustainable product portfolio in the industry by 2030. Since this strategy was unveiled in March 2019, DSM has also begun optimizing the preservative package for many of its key products and phasing out the use of methyl-2-pyrrolidone, commonly known as NMP.

DSM's decision follows the addition of APEOs to the list of chemicals subject to authorization under EU REACH legislation. Due to the change in regulation, the sale and import of APEO-containing products will be prohibited in the EU from January 4, 2021. The ban applies to both branched and linear APEOs. DSM will cease production of APEO-containing products in Europe from December 1, 2020, and customers will be asked to place their final orders of the affected products by September 1, 2020.

Martin Vlak, Managing Director, DSM Coating Resins: *"Over the coming months, we will be working closely with our customers and partners as we remove APEO-containing products from our European portfolio, by helping them to make the transition to the many APEO-free alternatives DSM offers. Our approach resonates with our wider efforts to offer a clean and sustainable portfolio, and to lead the industry toward a more sustainable future that will mean brighter lives for all."*

DSM – Bright Science. Brighter Living.™

Royal DSM is a global, purpose-led, science-based company active in Nutrition, Health and Sustainable Living. DSM's purpose is to create brighter lives for all. DSM addresses with its products and solutions some of the world's biggest challenges while simultaneously creating economic, environmental and societal value for all its stakeholders – customers, employees, shareholders, and society at large. DSM delivers innovative solutions for human nutrition, animal nutrition, personal care and aroma, medical devices, green products and applications, and new mobility and connectivity. DSM and its associated companies deliver annual net sales of about €10 billion with approximately 23,000 employees. The

company was founded in 1902 and is listed on Euronext Amsterdam. More information can be found at www.dsm.com.

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Forward-looking statements

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