

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Media Relations  
Ken Gordon  
+1 614-790-1832  
kdgordon@ashland.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Ashland to bring European Modar<sup>®</sup>  
resins production in-house**

BARENDRECHT, Netherlands – Ashland Performance Materials, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), has announced it will transfer the European production of its Modar<sup>®</sup> modified acrylic resins into its wholly-owned manufacturing facility in Sauveterre, France.

The decision comes after a recent announcement by Ashland's joint venture with Süd-Chemie (Ashland-Avèbène) to close a facility where Modar resins were being manufactured for the European market. Additional inventories of Modar resins are being manufactured and will be available to adequately supply customer demand during the transition period. The closure, which takes effect at the end of July, represented an opportunity for Ashland to bring Modar resin production to its company-owned facilities.

"This decision strengthens our ability to supply Modar resin products to the EMEA markets," said Stefan Osterwind, commercial director, Europe, Ashland Performance Materials. "With the transition of production in-house, we will now have even greater oversight of quality control processes and service levels provided to our customers. As a global leader, we are constantly looking at the future needs of the composites industry, and our goal is to efficiently deliver the best quality product to our customers in this region and around the world."

Ashland expects the transfer of production in-house to be completed by this fall. Modar resins, which are used primarily for the mass transit and rail industries, provide

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engineers and building architects with the ability to meet strict low-flame, low-smoke/toxicity construction requirements. Modar resins are available in a variety of formulations for optimum performance in numerous processes, including contact molding, filament winding, and pultrusion and infusion applications.

Ashland Performance Materials is the global leader in unsaturated polyester resins and epoxy vinyl ester resins. In addition, it provides customers with leading technologies in gelcoats, pressure-sensitive and structural adhesives, and metal casting consumables and design services.

Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH) provides specialty chemical products, services and solutions for many of the world's most essential needs and industries. Serving customers in more than 100 countries, it operates through five commercial units: Ashland Aqualon Functional Ingredients, Ashland Hercules Water Technologies, Ashland Performance Materials, Ashland Consumer Markets (Valvoline) and Ashland Distribution. To learn more about Ashland, visit [www.ashland.com](http://www.ashland.com).

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