



News Release

Ashland opens “Composites research and development technical service center” in Shanghai

New center will streamline and efficiently manage the formulation and testing of composites materials while reinforcing commitment to innovation and sustainability.

Shanghai, China, Sept.4, 2018 – Ashland today opened a new Composites research and development technical service center in the Jinling Valley Sci-Tech Industrial Park, reinforcing the company’s commitment to innovation. The new center in Shanghai will leverage global talents and facilities to strengthen the company’s innovation and commercialization efforts and serve as the Asia Pacific technical center of Ashland’s Composites segment.

The new composites R&D technical service center will focus on combining existing chemistries knowledge with future technologies to solve customers’ most complex materials challenges. The center is nearly 1500 square meters and will house approximately 20 scientists and engineers who will lead R&D efforts on advancing technologies for markets such as transportation, construction, marine and infrastructure products, enhancing and driving closer partnerships with customers.

“Global demand is increasing for innovative materials that can meet and exceed the challenges from a variety of environments and applications,” said Andrew Johnston, group vice president, Composites. “As our customer base grows, the need to create, produce and test new chemistries, formulas and materials plays a critical role in the market cycle.”

He continued, “The new Composites R&D technical service center serves as the latest example of our long-term commitment to investing and growing in the Asia Pacific region. The addition of this new center reinforces our promise of **always solving™** for our customers in ways that enable customers to amplify the efficacy, refine the usability, add to the allure, ensure the integrity, and improve the profitability of their products and applications.”

“The new center will be an important part of our global network in research and development and will provide strategic and technical service for the Asia Pacific region. We will leverage our strong expertise in problem solving and in providing timely and professional service to the Asia Pacific market and local customers.” said by Dr. Darcy Culkin, global technical director, Composites.

Ashland is a global leader in unsaturated polyester resins, vinyl ester resins and gel coats. The Composites business manufactures and sells a broad range of general-purpose and high-performance grades of unsaturated polyester and vinyl ester resins, gelcoats and low-profile additives for the reinforced plastics industry. The products in the Composites business provide an array of functional properties including corrosion resistance, fire retardance, ultraviolet resistance, water and chemical resistance, high mechanical strength, impact and scratch resistance and high strength-to-weight ratios.

Reinforcing research and development expertise in Asia Pacific

“With the opening of our new center in Shanghai, Ashland will be able to expand and reinforce its global R&D expertise via local channels,” says Mike Chen, general manager, Asia Pacific Composites. “The center is designed to meet current and future needs of customers in the rapidly growing Asia Pacific region. It will bring our company and solutions closer and faster to them.”

More information about Ashland can be found at www.ashland.com.

REBRAND® 2018 Winner of Distinction

In February, Ashland was recognized as a 2018 Winner of Distinction by REBRAND®, the pioneer awards program for branding and the leading global resource for case studies on effective brand transformations, repositioning, revitalizing and redesign of existing brand assets to meet business goals. The REBRAND® 100 awards are not a “beauty pageant,” but rather they are based on bona fide business challenges and the brand strategy applied to accomplish the business objectives. Ashland was recognized this year among other prestigious winners such as COTY, Cadillac, Hewlett Packard, Siemens and more. For more information, please visit <https://rebrand.com/> and <http://www.ashland.com/pages/rebrand-100>

About Ashland

Ashland Global Holdings Inc. (NYSE: ASH) is a premier global specialty chemicals company serving customers in a wide range of consumer and industrial markets, including adhesives, architectural coatings, automotive, construction, energy, food and beverage, personal care and pharmaceutical. At Ashland, we are approximately 6,500 passionate, tenacious solvers – from renowned scientists and research chemists to talented engineers and plant operators – who thrive on developing practical, innovative and elegant solutions to complex problems for customers in more than 100 countries. Visit ashland.com to learn more.

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