



PRESS INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OPTIMA CHEMICAL ACQUIRES MANUFACTURING ASSETS IN WEST VIRGINIA

Norwalk, Connecticut, June 30, 2015 – Charles Hinnant, President and Owner of Charkit Chemical Corporation and its sister companies, Optima Chemical Company and Arran Chemical, announced that on June 12, 2015, Optima Chemical acquired manufacturing assets in Belle, West Virginia from The Chemours Company (“Chemours”), a wholly owned subsidiary of DuPont.

In making the announcement, Mr. Hinnant stated that the acquisition now gives Optima a second manufacturing site, gaining the additional capacity that has been needed for some time.

“Acquiring these assets means increased manufacturing capacities for Optima, helps facilitate Optima’s growth and further strengthens our manufacturing partnership with Chemours and DuPont.”

West Virginia Governor Earl Ray Tomblin commented, “West Virginia has a long tradition of manufacturing excellence that continues today and will well into the future. Our workers are the best in the world, and we are pleased Optima recognizes that the Mountain State is a great place to do business.”

Mr. Hinnant explained that there are two distinct chemical units within the newly acquired facility: one with FIFRA registration, allowing Optima to manufacture and offer agriculture intermediates immediately; and another that is not currently in use, which can provide capabilities similar to those available from Optima’s plant in Douglas, Georgia. The Belle facility features Hastelloy manufacturing equipment, bulk capabilities and rail and barge service.

Gene Williams, President of Optima, has named Doug Cochran, Optima’s Vice President of Business Development, as designated leader of the startup integration with responsibility for this

new Optima plant. Mr. Williams said there is a possibility that key personnel may be moving from the Douglas facility to support the operation in Belle, West Virginia.

Mr. Cochran said, “The acquisition situates Optima in the Kanawha Valley, known as an important area for chemical manufacturing. We conducted a careful evaluation of facilities, workforce, infrastructure, safety and environmental culture and local and state government relationships before making the transaction. After doing so, we are confident that the facility offers a unique set of capabilities and equipment that will allow Optima to better serve existing customers and to attract new customer looking for the capabilities we are now able to offer.”

In conclusion, Mr. Hinnant stated, “Optima Chemical has given us good reason to be proud. Since its founding in 1997, it has been on a steady path of growth, serving an increasing number of clients that are representative of an expanding range of industries. Their Georgia facilities have frequently been cited for safety and environmental excellence by the Georgia Department of Labor and the Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates.”

Chemours is on track to be spun off on July 1, 2015. DuPont has announced its plans to separate Chemours through a spin off on July 1, 2015; as a result, Chemours anticipates becoming an independent, publicly traded company on the same date. For more information about Chemours, visit Chemours.com.

For more information about Optima Chemical, please contact Doug Cochran by email at dcochran@optimachem.com.

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Optima Chemical offers a wide variety of Organometallic, Organosilanes, Organophosphines, Metal Hydrides and Grignards to complement its well-established Boronic Acid product lines. These products are in line with customer needs and provide synergy with Optima’s business of custom and contract manufacturing. Optima continues to focused on the core business of custom manufacturing and support services for advanced intermediates and fine chemicals to several industries including Pharmaceutical, Nutraceutical, Bioscience, Personal Care, and Food/Flavors. We are a full service contract/custom synthesis manufacturer offering services over a comprehensive range of scale from grams to metric tons. Our expertise resides in Organometallic reactions including Grignard chemistry, alkali metal reactions, and other water/oxygen sensitive chemistries.



Reactor bays in one of the newly acquired buildings

Belle of the ball

Optima Chemical has expanded into West Virginia with its recent acquisition

Optima Chemical, a global supplier of speciality chemicals, toll services and custom manufacturing headquartered in Douglas, Georgia, has just completed the acquisition of a portion of the facilities at the Chemours plant in Belle, West Virginia.

This gives the company a second manufacturing site and expands its capabilities and facilities, as well as enabling it to expand geographically. With many years of close association with DuPont, and now continuing with Chemours as well, the acquisition of the facilities allows Optima to strengthen and continue the ties with these two important partners.

The purchase includes two distinct production assets. One has registration under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide & Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), allowing Optima to manufacture and offer agrochemical intermediates immediately. The other is similar to the facilities in Douglas, with Hastelloy, 316SS and glass-lined reactors. The equipment also includes a Hastelloy centrifuge and dryer.

Both facilities have room for expansion, and growth at the site is expected. A capable, well trained workforce in West Virginia contributes to the attractiveness of the facility for both Optima and its customers'.

With strong expertise in many water and oxygen sensitive reactions, such as Grignards, organometallic compounds of lithium, sodium and potassium, phosphorous chemistry, Friedel-Crafts reactions, alkali metal reactions, and organosilanes, Optima is well versed in handling hazardous chemicals safely.

The Georgia facilities have frequently been cited for safety and environmental excellence by the Georgia Department of Labor and by SOCMA. The safety and environmental performance of the Belle facilities is expected to continue the standard of excellence established in Georgia. Of course, we also handle less hazardous chemicals to the same standard.

Rail and barge service is available at the Belle site, as well as other transportation modes. The plant, located near Charleston, West Virginia, is close to many of the facilities that use the products Optima manufactures.

This proximity combines with the quick response time of Optima to provide significant time benefits to customers. The additional transportation options allow selection of the optimal transportation method, balancing speed and cost.

The Kanawha Valley in West Virginia has a long and proud history of outstanding chemical companies and facilities including DuPont, Dow,

Union Carbide, Bayer, Rhône-Poulenc, Diamond Shamrock and others.

As the home of the former Union Carbide research centre, many new chemicals were first produced in the valley, along with many new chemical innovations. It is our hope that we can develop strategic partnerships with these and other local chemical manufactures in the valley.

Optima has a history of solid growth from its founding in the mid-1990s. Over the last five years, the company has experienced significant growth. We feel that this is a direct result of our commitment to provide quality products and services to our customers, who have by expanding their business with us.

The acquisition of the Belle facilities provides Optima with capabilities that will be instrumental providing additional services and products for our customers, allowing the company to continue to grow.

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