

<b>Subject</b>		<b>Schaffhausen</b>
DSM Composite Resins investigates plant expansion		<b>Date 13.06.08</b>
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### **DSM Composite Resins plans large investment to increase capacity**

DSM Composite Resins has embarked upon an extensive engineering study that could lead to a large expansion to its manufacturing facilities in Compiègne, France.

DSM Composite Resins is increasing its focus on innovation and specialty products. If the plant expansion gets the go-ahead from the engineering study, the capacity will be expanded by up to 20,000 tonnes per year, particularly for specialty products.

Global trends towards products with lower weight and better mechanical properties which reduce environmental impact are driving the composites industry to manufacture these specialty products. The plant expansion will increase output of specialty products, such as DSM's new Turane resins.

The goal is to produce specialty resins that will accommodate market growth, both in existing applications like automotive and in innovative applications like windmill blades and municipal sewer systems relining. "DSM sees continued strong growth in demand for its Unsaturated Polyester Resin (UPR) products, specifically for its high performance and Hybrid materials," says Boudewijn Morelissen Business Director for Composite Resins Europe, "With this investment DSM highlights its commitment to supporting our customers' growth by increasing this specialty capacity and creating enhanced capabilities to produce next generation composite materials. These products offer higher performance, are more sustainable, and are made from non oil-based raw materials."

The expansion of production capacity for Vinyl esters and the new generation of Vinyl ester hybrids (like Turane) are the result of DSM's drive for innovation - offering the industry new specialty products that lead to higher performance and durability.

In the initial engineering study the company will conduct additional research, planning and create detailed estimates of final expenditure. Contact with local authorities is ongoing to ensure proper integration of this project in the region where the Compiègne Site is located.

After final approval - which is expected in Q4 2008 -, the expansion will be completed by late 2009/ early 2010.

Gerard van Binsbergen, Global Manufacturing Director DSM Composite Resins says, "this is a complex and challenging project because we are renovating a large section of one of our major sites while simultaneously maintaining normal operations. We are committed to making this project a success."

### **About DSM**

DSM - the Life Sciences and Materials Sciences Company Royal DSM N.V. creates innovative products and services in Life Sciences and Materials Sciences that contribute to the quality of life. DSM's products and services are used globally in a wide range of markets and applications, supporting a healthier, more sustainable and more enjoyable way of life. End markets include human and animal nutrition and health, personal care, pharmaceuticals, automotive, coatings and paint, electrics and electronics, life protection and housing. DSM has annual sales of almost EUR 8.8 billion and employs some 23,000 people worldwide. The company is headquartered in the Netherlands, with locations on five continents. DSM is listed on Euronext Amsterdam. More information: [www.dsm.com](http://www.dsm.com).