



## **Röhm and OQ Chemicals Sign MoU to Build New 250kt/year Methyl Methacrylate Plant in the U.S.**

- **Röhm to expand global capacity for MMA significantly**
- **OQ Chemicals to integrate plant into own site, provide precursors and services**

Röhm and OQ have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to evaluate the construction of a new production plant for methyl methacrylate (MMA) on the U.S. Gulf Coast. The proposed facility has a design capacity of 250,000 tons of MMA annually. It will utilize Röhm's proprietary ethylene-based LiMA technology. Under the MoU terms, OQ Chemicals will integrate the plant into its existing site and provide raw materials, utilities, and site services to Röhm. The partners intend to commission the new plant in 2023, creating about 70 direct jobs.

"We welcome the opportunity to work together with Röhm, one of the global leaders in Methacrylate Chemicals. This new partnership offers significant growth potential for our oxo business. It will also strengthen our operations at Bay City as we will provide utilities and site services," comments Dr. Oliver Borgmeier, Managing Director of OQ Chemicals. "The new project aligns perfectly with our strategy of working with new partners to enhance value to our oxo business," adds Ahmed Al Jahdhami, OQ Chemicals Chairman and Downstream CEO.

"We are very pleased to have found in OQ a very competent and reliable partner. This project will strengthen the reliability of our supply chain towards our valued customers in the Americas and globally," says Dr. Michael Pack, CEO of Röhm. "Basic engineering for this C2-based technology has been under way for some time already and will allow us to decide on the final investment in the first half of 2021."

"The signing is an important step towards the realization of the so-called LiMA project," explains Ron Ayles, Managing Partner at the financial sponsor Advent International. "With its implementation, Röhm will strengthen their technological competence and further expand their leading market position. We are especially pleased to support this groundbreaking new technology and that we have found as partner our former portfolio company OQ Chemicals, that we have built a good understanding and trust with over the many years."

LiMA, an acronym for 'Leading in Methacrylates', is considered the most efficient MMA production technology developed to date. MMA is an essential precursor for the acrylic glass PLEXIGLAS® (branded in the Americas as ACRYLITE®). Other applications include protective screens for LCDs, adhesives, finishes, floor coatings, and dental products.

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### **About Röhm**

With 3,500 employees and 15 production sites worldwide, Röhm is one of the leading manufacturers in the methacrylate business. The medium-sized company with branches in Germany, China, the USA, Russia, and South Africa has more than 80 years of experience in methacrylate chemistry and a strong technology platform. Our best-known brands include PLEXIGLAS®, ACRYLITE®, MERACRYL™, DEGALAN®, DEGAROUTE® and CYROLITE®.

Polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA) products from Röhm are sold in the Americas under the registered trademark ACRYLITE®, on the European, Asian, African and Australian continent under the registered trademark PLEXIGLAS®.

More information is available at [www.roehm.com](http://www.roehm.com).

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### **About OQ Chemicals**

OQ is a global integrated energy company with roots in Oman. It emerged in late 2019 upon the integration of nine legacy companies, united to form a strong, efficient, and consolidated entity. OQ operates in 17 countries and covers the entire value chain in the hydrocarbon sector from exploration and production, to marketing and distribution of end-user products. OQ fuels and chemicals are sold in over 60 countries worldwide.

OQ Chemicals, a part of OQ, is a global manufacturer of oxo intermediates and oxo derivatives, such as alcohols, polyols, carboxylic acids, specialty esters, and amines. These products are used for the production of high-quality coatings, lubricants, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products, flavours and fragrances, printing inks, and plastics.

More information is available at [www.chemicals.oq.com](http://www.chemicals.oq.com).