OCI Global and Röhlm announce pioneering production of Methylmethacrylate (MMA) using bio-ammonia

- OCI Global is supplying Röhlm with ISCC PLUS certified bio-ammonia in an industry first for Methylmethacrylate production
- OCI Global’s bio-ammonia can achieve a GHG reduction of >70% compared to conventional grey ammonia
- The partnership demonstrates OCI Global and Röhlm’s environmental leadership in the ammonia production and downstream manufacturing industries and allows MMA and PLEXIGLAS® production from renewable biobased feedstocks

Darmstadt, November 15, 2023. OCI Global (Euronext: OCI), the world’s third largest nitrogen fertilizer and ammonia producer, is supplying Röhlm, a leading manufacturer of methacrylates, with bio-ammonia for the production of methyl methacrylate (MMA), an important precursor for PLEXIGLAS® - the world’s most popular brand of acrylic glass.

This week, OCI Global delivered a shipment of bio-ammonia to Röhlm in a pioneering step to help reduce the carbon footprint of essential and everyday products that rely on MMA, including compounds for cars, airplane windows, building, glazing and dental products. The partnership demonstrates the viability of lower carbon ammonia in industrial processes, supporting downstream decarbonization to other industries and ultimately end consumers.

The delivery of OCI Global’s bio-ammonia to Röhlm was witnessed by His Majesty King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands as part his tour of hydrogen projects in the region, demonstrating the hydrogen corridor connecting Port of Rotterdam to other regions and inland ports, such as duisport, to supply hydrogen products into Europe.

OCI Global is the only producer of ISCC PLUS certified bio-ammonia in Europe and the US today. OCI’s bio-ammonia uses biomethane from waste and residues of biological origin as well as biodegradable fraction of industrial and municipal waste as feedstock. The result is a GHG reduction of >70% compared to conventional grey ammonia production, which uses a fossil-based feedstock.¹

Ahmed El-Hoshy, CEO, OCI Global said: “OCI is already leading the industry in scaling up the supply of renewable and lower carbon ammonia and methanol at our nine facilities globally, in the US and Europe and, through Fertiglobe, our strategic partnership with ADNOC, the MENA region. This delivery of our bio-ammonia shows our pivotal role in developing the hydrogen corridor to enable the supply of lower carbon ammonia across Europe, from the Port of Rotterdam. Through partnerships with other industry leaders like Röhlm, we’re able to continue to make first-moves and prove the case for lower carbon products in existing value chains, and we’re excited about the opportunity we have ahead of us to work with other industrial customers to do this. The industrial sector represents around 20% of the global ammonia market today. By converting this sector to lower carbon ammonia, we can help to create a future that allows for the continued production of essential downstream products in a sustainable way”.

Hans-Peter Hauck, COO at Röhlm said: “Röhlm as a global manufacturer of methylmethacrylate products such as PLEXIGLAS® is committed to its ambitious climate agenda and targets to achieve a GHG reduction of 30% by 2030. Ammonia is a central feedstock for the manufacture of these methacrylic products such as PLEXIGLAS®.

¹ This benchmark considers an ammonia carbon footprint of 2.66 kgCO2e/kg.
Press Release

OCI and Röhm have shared values around sustainability and breaking new ground in their respective sectors. Earlier this year, OCI Global announced it had begun supplying bio-ammonia in the food and drinks sector, supporting the production of lower carbon wheat and barley malt. OCI is also tripling capacity at its ammonia import terminal in Rotterdam in readiness for increased demand for lower carbon ammonia to support new markets, such as use as a shipping fuel and in the power sector.

Röhm produces MMA at its European sites in Worms and Wesseling as well as in the USA and China. At its Bay City site in Texas, the company is currently building a MMA plant, where it will introduce its new production technology LiMA that will enable the manufacture of methacrylate monomers with a significantly lower product carbon footprint and improved environmental impact. In addition to new production technologies, Röhm also introduced an environmentally-friendly product range “pro Terra” that is based on recycled high-performance materials with a reduced carbon footprint.

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About OCI Global
We are a global leader in nitrogen, methanol and hydrogen, driving forward the decarbonization of the energy-intensive industries that shape, feed and fuel the world. OCI’s production capacity spans four continents and comprises approximately 16.8 million metric tons per year of hydrogen-based products including nitrogen fertilizers, methanol, biofuels, diesel exhaust fluid and melamine. OCI has more than 4,000 employees, is headquartered in the Netherlands and listed on Euronext in Amsterdam.

Learn more about OCI at www oci-global.com. You can also follow OCI on LinkedIn.

About Röhm
With 3,500 employees and 13 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, Mexico, and South Africa has 90 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 on the European, Asian, African and Australian continent under the registered trademarks PLEXIGLAS® and PLEXIMID®, in the Americas under the registered trademarks ACRYLITE® and ACRYMID®.

Learn more about Röhm at https://www.roehm.com