

## Solvay Announces 50 Percent Capacity Increase for its Neolor® Product Line - a Unique Rare-Earth Based High Performance Pigment.

**Lyon, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015** – Significant kiln investment and process debottlenecking has enabled Solvay to increase capacity for its Neolor® product line by 50 percent. This extra-capacity allows Solvay to serve the fast growing market demand for high stability inorganic pigments.

Solvay Neolor® is a unique range of rare earth inorganic plastic coloration pigments providing color tones from light orange to red and deliver benefits such as:

**Exceptional Weather Resistance:** outstanding performance for outdoor applications such as power tools, lawn and gardening equipment, sporting goods, automotive parts, etc.

**Outstanding Thermal Stability:** suitable for powder coating and for use in high performance polymers processed at high temperatures of to 320°C.

Neolor® is a **unique soft crystal inorganic pigment** suitable for glass reinforced plastics as the mechanical properties of the glass fiber remain unchanged.

Plastic applications containing Neolor® are protected from accumulating high temperatures. An exceptional characteristic is the **excellent infrared reflection properties** especially noticeable in applications such as roofing tiles where this feature improves insulation properties. Neolor® can also be extremely efficient in powder coatings applications.

Neolor® pigments satisfy the requirements of the Directive 94/62-EC, and the Regulation of the ONEG regarding the content of heavy metal.

**SOLVAY Rare Earth Systems** is the world leader in rare-earth formulations required for automotive catalysis, luminescence and high-precision polishing. Used in small quantities, rare earths are essential "vitamins" for developing new technologies in general and green technologies in particular. With a view to diversifying its sources of supply and economizing this resource, the GBU has patented a process for recycling rare earths contained in energy-saving light bulbs, batteries and magnets.

As an international chemical group, **SOLVAY** assists industries in finding and implementing ever more responsible and value-creating solutions. Solvay generates 90% of its net sales in activities where it is among the world's top three players. It serves many markets, varying from energy and the environment to automotive and aeronautics or electricity and electronics, with one goal: to raise the performance of its clients and improve society's quality of life. The group is headquartered in Brussels, employs about 29,400 people in 56 countries and generated 9.9 billion euros in net sales in 2013. Solvay SA (**SOLB.BE**) is listed on **NYSE Euronext** in Brussels and Paris (Bloomberg: **SOLB.BB** - Reuters: **SOLB.BR**).

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