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Press release

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AkzoNobel reinforces its status as a global sustainability leader

AkzoNobel has again been recognized as one of the industry leaders on the prestigious Dow Jones Sustainability World Indexes (DJSI), reflecting the company's wholehearted commitment to improving its sustainability performance.

The latest listing – published today – reveals that AkzoNobel is in second place in the Chemicals supersector with a score of 87 percent, just 2 percent behind DSM in first place. It follows on from the company's second place on the ranking in 2008 and leading position in 2007.

"The importance we attach to our DJSI ranking has been firmly established and our ranking among the sustainability leaders in our industry is a welcome recognition for our efforts," said AkzoNobel CEO Hans Wijers. "Our motivation doesn't stem from topping rankings or winning awards. Doing business in a sustainable way is critical to our economic future and the success of our customers. So we will continue to improve and put even more energy into remaining at the forefront of transforming our industry sector into a provider of sustainable solutions"

Listed on the DJSI for the last five years, AkzoNobel has systematically reinforced its commitment to sustainability. This was emphasized late last year when 50 percent of the long-term incentive scheme for all executives was directly linked to the company's ranking on the influential DJSI index.

Other recent developments have included the introduction of a unique company-wide cradle-to-gate carbon emission reduction program and the integration of sustainability reporting into the AkzoNobel 2008 Report.

Regarded as one of the world's foremost sustainability indices, the DJSI World Index benchmarks the sustainability performance of leading companies based on environmental, social and economic performance, including forward-looking indicators.

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AkzoNobel is proud to be one of the world's leading industrial companies. Based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, we make and supply a wide range of paints, coatings and specialty chemicals - 2008 revenue totaled €15.4 billion. In fact, we are the largest global paints and coatings company. As a major producer of specialty chemicals we supply industries worldwide with quality ingredients for life's essentials. We think about the future, but act in the present. We're passionate about introducing new ideas and developing sustainable answers for our customers. That's why our 59,000 employees - who are based in more than 80 countries - are committed to excellence and delivering Tomorrow's Answers Today™.

Note to editors - not for publication

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