Dedicated to building a model of sustainable chemistry
€10,213 million of net sales

119 industrial sites and a presence in 52 countries

14.4 tons of CO₂ emitted

26,000 employees

100% of Group entities have deployed the Solvay Way initiative.

0.97 occupational accidents at Group sites per million hours worked*

* MTAR: Medical Treatment Accident Rate
Solvay, asking more from chemistry

Solvay is an international chemical Group that assists its industrial clients 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, including energy and the environment, automotive and aeronautics, electrical and electronics. Solvay’s chemists seek to bring sustainable responses to the challenges facing our planet.

The Group is headquartered in Brussels and employs about 26,000 people in 52 countries. In 2014, it generated 10.2 billion euros of net sales. Solvay SA is listed on Euronext in Brussels and Paris.
Our presence

A GEOGRAPHICALLY BALANCED PRESENCE

With its geographic diversification, Solvay achieves almost half of its net sales in high growth zones.

NORTH AMERICA

23% of net sales
3,450 employees
28 industrial sites
2 major R&I centers

LATIN AMERICA

11% of net sales
3,050 employees
10 industrial sites
1 major R&I center

EUROPE

34% of net sales
13,500 employees
52 industrial sites
8 major R&I centers

ASIA-PACIFIC AND REST OF THE WORLD

32% of net sales
6,000 employees
29 industrial sites
4 major R&I centers
Present in diverse markets, we support industries right along their value chains with a clear ambition and objective: to be a source of progress and competitiveness for our customers and consumers by providing them with innovative and sustainable solutions, adjusting their expectations of today and tomorrow.

For Solvay, chemistry provides many solutions to meet the challenges facing our planet today.

For Solvay, chemistry is able to provide many of the solutions to global challenges. These include demographic changes that disrupt lifestyles and balances, accelerated innovation cycles driven by the ultrarapid dissemination of new technologies, resource scarcity, and the increasing demand for sustainability.
Consumer goods and healthcare

We support our customers in developing competitive and differentiating products and services. **Consumer goods:** our intelligent textiles and personal care solutions improve consumer well-being. We also offer specially adapted solutions for cleaning products. **Health:** we develop a unique range of thermoplastics for implantable and non-implantable medical devices. We also manufacture sodium bicarbonate for effervescent tablets.

**Sustainably improved quality of life**
Agro, feed and food

Our solutions help crop and livestock farmers and food processors to produce high quality and responsibly products.

**Agri-food:** our aromas and polymers contribute to safer and healthier food.

**Animal feed:** our silica and sodium bicarbonate-based solutions are references on this market.

**Agriculture:** our environment-respecting formulations protect crops and improve their performance.

**Needs met, resources optimized**
Automotive and aeronautics

We help manufacturers meet the challenges of sustainable mobility.

**Lighter vehicles:** our high performance plastics replace metal in many applications.

**Propulsion efficiency:** our products improve the motor longevity.

**Vehicle electrification:** we contribute to the emergence of hybrid and electric vehicles.

**Green technologies:** our catalytic materials and our highly dispersible silica limit polluting emissions and fuel consumption.

Sustainable mobility, reduced emissions

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Energy and environment

We offer proven expertise in the field of energy performance and develop renewable energy.

**Oil and gas:** our solutions based on guar, and on surfactants increase yields and limit the environmental impact of drilling.

**Alternative energies:** our products and technologies contribute to the storage and production of renewable energies.

**Energy and CO₂ management services:** we support industry in controlling its air emissions, in soil remediation, and in water treatment and purification.

Natural environment protected, resources preserved
Building and construction

Our Solvay high-performance solutions take part in the development of safe, healthy and sustainable housing.

**High energy performance:** our solutions, including those based on soda ash, contribute to the energy efficiency of housing.

**Protection and safety:** our corrosion-resistant, UV-resistant and flame-retardant materials contribute to the safety and longevity of buildings.

**Efficient use of resources:** our high-performance plastics ensure the robustness of water supply systems and drinking water quality.

*Sustainable, energy-efficient housing*
Electricity and electronics

Our miniaturization technologies and our leading edge materials advance mobile electronics. Energy efficiency is our priority. 

**Design and connectivity:** we serve the markets for smartphones, cameras and flat screens, along with OLED technologies. 

**Safety:** our flame retardant products are at the forefront of electrical safety. 

**Sustainable solutions:** our phosphors based on rare earths ensure the success of low energy light bulbs. 

**Process efficiency:** our hydrogen peroxide is a the reference for semiconductor manufacturers. 

Increased connectivity, enhanced energy efficiency

Industrial applications

We accompany manufacturers in their thrust for innovation. 

**Industrial coatings and protection:** we are developing biobased and biodegradable alternatives for this market. 

**3D printing, inks and adhesives:** we offer additives and components for water-based inks, 3D printing polymers for prototyping. 

**Metal and surface treatment:** our solutions display exemplary performance and environmental profiles. 

**Protecting industrial equipment:** our materials are resistant to corrosion and extreme conditions. 

More value, reduced environmental impact
2014 brought us significantly closer to reaching our ambitions for 2016. The Group’s performance has demonstrated the pertinence of these levers and its ability to manage them. Our growth levers – dynamic portfolio management, organic growth, innovation for more sustainable chemistry, and a strong culture of excellence – have once again created value, in line with the objectives set for them. Responsiveness to opportunities and challenges, a culture of excellence, and commitment to progress are now part of our DNA.
Our transformation

AN IMPORTANT STAGE TOWARDS ACHIEVING OUR AMBITIONS FOR 2016

Solvay is transforming its business profile and plucking the first fruits of an organization focused on excellence and innovation.

Growth
STRENGTHENED POSITIONS SERVING OUR CLIENTS

In 2014, we speeded up the transformation of our business portfolio and strengthened our positions as a provider of high performance solutions in markets with potential for sustainable growth. We continued to develop our growth drivers through targeted acquisitions and with selective increases in our production and Research & Innovation capacity in the most dynamic regions of the world. In this way, the acquisitions of Erca and Dhaymers in Brazil strengthen Novecare’s presence in the dynamic cosmetics and detergents market, while that of RYTON® PPS opens new perspectives for Specialty Polymers in the automotive sector.

Innovation
INVENTIVENESS AND PASSION CLOSE TO OUR MARKETS

Focused on responses to the challenges of sustainable development, innovation occupies a leading role in our value creation strategy. Our innovation structure is based on 15 major Research and Innovation centers across four continents, including 9 interconnected multi-activity centers. Added to this is an open collaborative network involving our customers, academia and start-ups. These resources and the expertise of our 1,950 researchers give us the capacity to support both incremental innovation and very long term breakthrough projects.

Excellence
A THRUST FOR IMPROVED PERFORMANCE

Founded from the outset on an entrepreneurial business model, our organization promotes the deployment of a culture of excellence. More than 120 continuous improvement programs were implemented this year. The search of excellence in all areas contributed 300 million euros to Group REBITDA in 2014. The strong involvement of employees ensures the durability and strength of the approach.

“Stronger and more powerful, Solvay is configured to anticipate and adapt with agility to future developments in its markets.”

Jean-Pierre Clamadieu, Chairman of the Executive Committee
Chief Executive Officer
RYTON® PPS

The acquisition of RYTON® PPS (polyphenylene sulfide) activities has accelerated the repositioning of the Group in high-growth, high-margin businesses. It is enriching our range of high performance polymers, enabling the Specialty Polymers business to offer the widest range of resins in the industry. This acquisition also strengthens our ability to attract new customers.

CROP PROTECTION

Urea, the most widely consumed fertilizer worldwide, partly evaporates on contact with the ground. Our new eco-friendly solvent-based formulations avoid these losses. These solutions are already marketed in Europe, the United States and Canada under the AGRHO® NH4 PROTECT®, AGRHO® N PROTECT® B, AGRHO® N50 names; registration in other countries including China is under way.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The SOLWATT® energy efficiency program reduced the Group’s energy costs by almost 10% in 2014. Among the 57 sites involved in the program, that of Belle-Étoile (France) has set itself the target of reducing its energy costs by 11%.
Deployed in 2013, Solvay Way, our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) tool, gives concrete shape to our commitment to build a model of sustainable chemistry. This is one of the few in the industry to incorporate the requirements of the international ISO 26000 standard on the social responsibility of organizations. Rooted in the everyday reality of our various businesses, Solvay Way capitalizes on our historical culture of social responsibility, safety at work, social dialogue. From manager to operator, Solvay Way involves all Group players, pushing each entity to evaluate itself against the reference framework and to introduce concrete, measurable progress.

PROGRESS THROUGH CONTINUOUS ACTION
Solvay Way’s priorities are to attain excellence in safety, occupational health and hygiene, and to achieve an increasing share of sales with products that meet the challenges of sustainable development. Additional priorities include the need to improve technology and process performance, to reduce the Group’s environmental footprint, to pursue a rich and balanced social dialogue, and more generally to create value in a responsible manner.

CONCRETE INITIATIVES
In 2014 all entities undertook their second self-assessment and introduced progress plans. Furthermore, 80% of our product and innovations portfolio has been assessed against sustainability criteria, using the Sustainable Portfolio Management (SPM) method. Finally, in the context of a global CSR agreement signed with trade union federation IndustriALL Global Union, the first annual multi-production site evaluation mission took place in India.

Our culture
SOLVAY WAY, TRACING THE PATH TO SUSTAINABLE PROGRESS

The way we live and consume is upsetting global balances. For Solvay, the knowledge and tools that Chemistry possesses assign the Group a fundamental role in this process: that of accompanying and influencing trends, while respecting the environment and living beings.
Overview of our activities

A DIVERSIFIED AND EVER BETTER PERFORMING PORTFOLIO

Our activities are divided into five Operating Segments, with business models that respond to specific growth dynamics and competitiveness challenges.

ADVANCED FORMULATIONS
(Activity: Novecare, Coatis, Aroma Performance)
2014 net sales: € 2,854 million
REBITDA: € 426 million
Among Solvay’s growth engines, Advanced Formulations’ activities are characterized by their high innovation capacity and low capital intensity. In line with major societal trends, their offering contributes primarily to promoting the consumer, environmental, and energy markets.

ADVANCED MATERIALS
(Activity: Specialty Polymers, Silica, Rare Earth Systems, Special Chemicals)
2014 net sales: € 2,762 million
REBITDA: € 709 million
With their innovative capacity, their global presence, and their long-term partnerships with customers, the Advanced Materials Segment’s activities provide a competitive advantage to manufacturers searching for ever less energy-intensive and less polluting functionalities. The Segment’s activities are growth drivers that contribute to the Group’s performance through their leadership in markets with high entry barriers and their high return on investment.

PERFORMANCE CHEMICALS
(Activity: Soda Ash & Derivatives, Peroxides, Acetow, Emerging Biochemicals)
2014 net sales: € 2,944 million
REBITDA: € 724 million
The success of this business Segment, which operates in mature, robust markets, is based on economies of scale, competitiveness, and quality of service. Strong cash generators, the activities of the Performance Chemicals Segment have launched new excellence programs to create sustainable value.

FUNCTIONAL POLYMERS
(Activity: Polyamide & Intermediates, Fibras, Engineering Plastics)
2014 net sales: € 1,654 million
REBITDA: € 111 million
The key success factors in this Segment that groups the various Polyamides activities are its optimization strategies and industrial innovation. Solvay is one of the only players to master the entire polyamide 6.6 chain.

CORPORATE & BUSINESS SERVICES
(Activity: Energy Services, Business Services)
REBITDA: € -188 million
This Segment covers the activities Energy Services, which provides energy optimization programs for the Group and for third parties. It also includes the corporate functions of the Group.