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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dorf Ketal Announces Several Expansion Projects

Immediate growth in India and Brazil will better serve US-based customers

HOUSTON Dec 12— Dorf Ketal Chemicals LLC, a leading global additives and process chemicals company, is expanding its production capabilities to better meet the needs of additive, adhesive and other specialty chemical customers. The increased capacity and new facilities will offer a wider product range and strengthen Dorf Ketal's ability to produce custom chemicals.

“Dorf Ketal is committed to producing best-of-breed stock and specialty chemicals for customers across a wide spectrum of industries,” said Bill Loven, the newly appointed president, North America. “Looking at current production, these expansion projects will offer more options and shorter delivery times across the globe. Strategic projects in Singapore and Egypt will, also, soon be announced.”

The Talaja, India, facility houses Dorf Ketal's R&D facility, pilot plant and is the main center for petroleum process chemicals production. New infrastructure is being built to support a hydrogen reformer; an updated effluent treatment plant and quality control labs are already under construction. Ongoing additions include:

- An antioxidant unit for the manufacturing of chemicals used in the polyurethane, water treatment, optical and fine chemical industries
- Ethoxylation capacity will grow 5000 tons to cater to increased demulsifier demand
- A loop reactor has been commissioned for high pressure and highly exothermic reactions for specialty chemicals
- Due to the acquisition of ExxonMobil Chemical's component additive division, new equipment is being installed to increase capacity by 8000 tons

As a result of a government-established Special Economic Zone (SEZ), Dorf Ketal has acquired 10 hectares of land in Jamnagar, India. Announced in early 2000, SEZs were established to spur economic growth and quality infrastructure in rural India by offering favorable trade and fiscal incentives to corporations. The new state-of-the-art facility will exclusively handle export business and provide production redundancy for other facilities.

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To meet the growing needs in Brazil and Argentina, two hectares of land have been purchased in Bahia, Brazil, for the installation of a batch facility. The new 3000-ton facility will produce additives to serve the lubricant, fuel and adhesive industries

About Dorf Ketal Chemicals LLC

Dorf Ketal, headquartered in Mumbai, India, develops tests and manufactures specialty chemicals for the petrochemical, adhesive, paint and coating industries. All products are produced in the company's state-of-the-art plant in Mumbai and sold through six major sales offices across the globe for guaranteed delivery at competitive rates.

Dorf Ketal produces specialty chemicals for independent lube oil manufacturers; a wide range of performance-engineered products for use in refineries and for petrochemical treatment processes; and UOP refinery chemicals and UOP plastic additives.

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