

Milan/ Mülheim an der Ruhr, December 1, 2006

SAFECHEM appoints Brenntag as authorized distributor in Italy

Brenntag Italy and SAFECHEM Europe GmbH announced today that they have signed an agreement appointing Brenntag as an authorized distributor of SAFECHEM's state-of-the art SAFE-TAINER™ system. The agreement enables Brenntag Italy to expand the range of solutions it offers to its customers, and gives SAFECHEM a broader channel to market, benefiting from Brenntag's geographic presence and expertise.

"This agreement will enable us to provide even better care for our customers and to meet their varied needs and cleaning requirements", said Karsten Beckmann, Managing Director, Brenntag Italy. "Particularly in view of the requirement to implement the EU Solvent Emission Directive (SED) by October 2007, customers are looking for ways to comply with the regulatory requirements of the SED while protecting their equipment investment and continuing to comply with high quality cleaning standards. SAFECHEM offers a full range of solutions and services, both for chlorinated and non-chlorinated solvents, that help customers make the best choice for their cleaning needs."

With this agreement Brenntag expands its partnership with Safechem in addition to the existing co-operations in France, Germany, Switzerland, Poland and the Netherlands.

About SAFECHEM

SAFECHEM Europe GmbH, a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Dow Chemical Company, offers services and solutions for the safe and sustainable use of solvents in a variety of high-quality industrial cleaning applications. SAFECHEM helps customers to meet the principles of Responsible Care® and Product Stewardship by offering active risk

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management for the use of chlorinated and non-chlorinated solvents that provides full protection of both workers and the environment.

With offices in Dusseldorf and Paris, SAFECHEM serves more than 4,500 clients across Europe

About Brenntag

Brenntag is the leading chemical distributor in Europe, with external sales of EUR 3 billion in 2005 and more than 5,200 employees.

In 2005 Brenntag once again succeeded in underpinning its position as one of the world's leading chemical distributors. The company recorded external sales of EUR 5.3 billion (US\$ 6.6 billion). Brenntag operates more than 300 locations with 9,200 people in 50 countries. In keeping with the company's strong position in world markets, Brenntag is committed to providing value to its customers and suppliers through superior supply chain logistics, single-sourcing and value-added services. Brenntag offers an unrivalled, extensive and state-of-the-art distribution network for industrial and specialty chemicals to its suppliers and customers alike, both in Europe and the Americas.

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