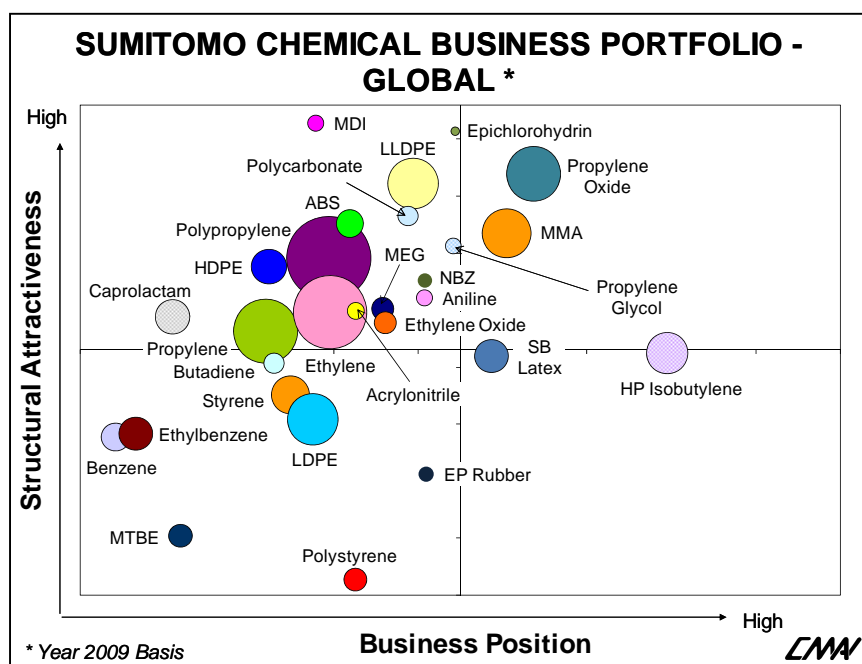


For Immediate release:

CMAI Outlines Sumitomo Chemical Strategic Business Position

Houston – Chemical Market Associates, Inc. (CMAI): CMAI’s Chemical Company Analysis (CCA) on *Sumitomo Chemical*, the fourth company report of the 2009 Edition, is now available. The report features comprehensive overviews of the chemical businesses of Sumitomo Chemical, including strategic direction and corporate structure; global chemical operations, and business positions of Sumitomo Chemical and its competitors within major product markets; manufacturing site flowcharts and descriptions; as well as vertical product integration and market exposure.



The report aims at providing clients with a thorough understanding of not only the present situation, but also the impact of future developments by assessing Sumitomo Chemical’s opportunities and risks within the framework of CMAI’s outlook for the global petrochemical industry. Rapidly changing industry structure and dynamics will necessitate company-specific responses that will determine the success of chemical producers in the future.

Sumitomo Chemical, with sales of over U.S. \$17 billion (1.79 trillion Yen) in 2008, is the second largest chemical company in Japan and ranks among the top twenty global producers. The company employs almost 27,000 people and is headquartered in Tokyo, Japan. From a single fertilizer plant in Ehime Prefecture (Japan) in 1913, the company has expanded into aluminum smelting, petrochemicals & plastics, agricultural and fine chemicals, pharmaceuticals and since the beginning of this decade, also into IT-related chemicals.

Sumitomo Chemical grew mostly organically into the diversified chemical and pharmaceutical company it is today. Reliance on technologies and expertise from third parties has been replaced with proprietary in-house developments that led to a more focused product portfolio, particularly over the past ten years. Sumitomo pursues a growth strategy based on technological innovation and strategic alliances in specific product areas. By far the most important recent joint venture is Petro-Rabigh with Saudi Aramco in Saudi Arabia. If Phase II of the joint venture will be realized by the middle of the next decade as planned, as much as 50 percent of Sumitomo's capacity for petrochemicals and plastics could be based on Petro-Rabigh's feedstock-cost advantaged production. So far Sumitomo is the only major Asian chemical producer with a significant asset base in the Middle East.

The *Chemical Company Analysis (CCA)* is a planning advisory service aimed at analyzing the structure, dynamics, competition and strategic issues of global and regional chemical industry participants. The 2009 Edition includes company reports on LyondellBasell Industries, INEOS, NOVA Chemicals (including other IPIC petrochemical holdings), Sumitomo Chemical, Sasol and SABIC.

CMAI is the premier provider of Market, Planning and Business Advisory services offering a unique combination of consulting analytics and expertise for the global chemical, plastics, fibers and chlor-alkali industries. With offices in Houston, New York, London, Dubai, Düsseldorf, Singapore and Shanghai, CMAI has provided expert advisory services to a broad base of companies across multiple value chains and geographies since 1979. Clients to CMAI services include chemical and oil companies, technology & EPC companies, banking and financial institutions, plastic converters, textile & apparel manufacturers, brand-owners, grocers/retailers, government agencies and trading companies.

For additional information on this analysis, visit CMAI's website at www.cmaiglobal.com or contact:

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