

Development of FiberLean™ MFC an innovative mineral/micro-fibrillated cellulose composite and the signing of agreements to supply two leading paper producers

Under its innovation programs, Imerys has developed FiberLean™ MFC, a mineral/micro-fibrillated cellulose (MFC) composite which is produced using a patented and innovative manufacturing technology. This new product has great potential in multiple industries. The first commercial applications are in the paper and packaging markets, where this composite product allows paper & packaging producers to improve quality and/or significantly increase the mineral filler loading in the sheet to achieve productivity gains and reduced cost.

Imerys has signed two separate commercial agreements for the full-scale supply of FiberLean™ MFC, with two leading papermakers, one in Asia and one in the USA.

The Asian customer is a major manufacturer of coated woodfree paper with a large share of its production in the high-end of the coated paper segment. The Imerys on-site production plant is due for startup in Q3 2016.

The US-based customer has a strong position in the printing and writing market. Imerys will build an on-site plant to provide one of its southeastern US mills with FiberLean™ MFC. This plant should also be commissioned and start production in Q3 2016.

Imerys will have 8,000 metric tonnes per year capacity of MFC with the completion of these two plants, which is making of Imerys the most important supplier of micro-fibrillated cellulose worldwide.

A Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Contact Notification for Imerys FiberLean™ MFC became effective in November 2015 for use as a food contact substance in paper and paperboard for food packaging applications.

The world leader in mineral-based specialty solutions for industry, with €4.1 billion revenue and 16,130 employees in 2015, Imerys transforms a unique range of minerals to deliver essential functions (heat resistance, mechanical strength, conductivity, coverage, barrier effect, etc.) that are essential to its customers' products and manufacturing processes.

Whether mineral components, functional additives, process enablers or finished products, Imerys' solutions contribute to the quality of a great number of applications in consumer goods, industrial equipment or construction. Combining expertise, creativity and attentiveness to customers' needs, the Group's international teams constantly identify new applications and develop high value-added solutions under a determined approach to responsible development. These strengths enable Imerys to develop through a sound, profitable business model.

More comprehensive information about Imerys may be obtained from its website (www.imerys.com) under Regulated Information, particularly in its 2014 Registration Document filed with the Autorité des marchés financiers on March 19, 2015 under number D.15-0173 (also available from the Autorité des marchés financiers website, www.amf-france.org). Imerys draws the attention of investors to chapter 4, "Risk Factors and Internal Control", of its Registration Document.

<p><u>Analyst/Investor relations:</u> Vincent Gouley - + 33 (0)1 4955 6469 finance@imerys.com</p>	<p><u>Press contacts:</u> Vincent Gouley - + 33 (0)1 49 55 64 69 Philemon Tassel - + 33 (0)6 30 10 96 11 Sarah Fornier - + 33 (0)7 87 40 83 50</p>
---	--