

Media release

DKSH and PolymerExpert win SEPAWA Innovation Award 2016

DKSH, the leading Market Expansion Services provider with a focus on Asia, and PolymerExpert, a leader in the field of innovative polymer research, development and production, were presented with an Innovation Award during the 63rd SEPAWA Congress and European Detergents Conference.

Hamburg, Germany, October 14, 2016 – DKSH's Business Unit Performance Materials, a leading Market Expansion Services provider and distributor of personal care and cosmetics ingredients, and PolymerExpert, a producer of innovative polymers for the cosmetics and pharmaceutical industries, received an Innovation Award at the SEPAWA Conference 2016 for ExpertGel.

With over 1,500 members, SEPAWA is the largest European professional association for the cosmetics, detergents/cleansers and the perfume industries. The awards ceremony, which this year took place in Fulda, Germany, has been held annually since 2013 and attracts submissions from leading personal care and cosmetics companies. Every year, only three innovation awards are presented and, in 2016, a shortlist of 20 nominations was considered for the awards.

ExpertGel is produced by PolymerExpert, to whom DKSH provides Market Expansion Services in key regions around the world. It is a patented thermoreversible hydrogel that has the unique ability to reversibly change its physical state upon a change in temperature. When diluted in water, it behaves like a liquid at ambient temperature and gellifies upon an increase in temperature. ExpertGel's polymers are hyper branched polyurethanes that are compatible with a wide variety of ingredients commonly found in cosmetics and personal care formulations. ExpertGel was awarded for its innovative attributes and broad compatibility.

Olivier Patricola, Director, Personal Care Industry Europe, Performance Materials, commented: "Receiving a SEPAWA Innovation Award is an outstanding achievement for us. I congratulate my team for their efforts in bringing awareness to ExpertGel, which is a truly innovative cosmetics product. This award further strengthens our relationship with our valued business partner PolymerExpert and we very much look forward to seeing further success as result of our cooperation."

DKSH has provided Market Expansion Services to PolymerExpert since 2012. PolymerExpert is a pioneer in the field of innovative polymers for cosmetics and pharmaceutical applications. The cooperation began in Korea and Japan and expanded to the USA in 2013, Great Britain, Italy, Spain in 2014, France in 2015 and Germany in 2016.

About PolymerExpert

PolymerExpert is an ISO 9001-certified contract research and development company at the forefront of innovative polymer research, development and production for cosmetic and pharmaceutical applications.

About DKSH

DKSH is the leading Market Expansion Services provider with a focus on Asia. As the term "Market Expansion Services" suggests, DKSH helps other companies and brands to grow their business in new or existing markets. Publicly listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange since 2012, DKSH is a global company headquartered in Zurich. With 770 business locations in 36 countries – 740 of them in Asia – and 28,300 specialized staff, DKSH generated net sales of CHF 10.1 billion in 2015. DKSH was founded in 1865. With strong Swiss heritage, the company has a long tradition of doing business in and with Asia and is deeply rooted in communities and businesses across Asia Pacific.

Think Asia. Think DKSH.

DKSH Business Unit Performance Materials is a leading specialty chemicals distributor and provider of Market Expansion Services for performance materials, covering Europe, North America and the whole of Asia. The Business Unit sources, develops, markets and distributes a wide range of specialty chemicals and ingredients for pharmaceutical, personal care, food & beverage as well as various industrial applications. In addition, it creates innovative and cutting-edge concepts and applications in 26 innovation centers located worldwide. With 100 business locations in 30 countries and around 970 specialized staff, Business Unit Performance Materials generated net sales of CHF 782.5 million in 2015.

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