



## Albemarle announces realignment of global business units and executive leadership team

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BATON ROUGE, La., Jan. 20, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- Albemarle Corporation (NYSE: ALB) announced today that as a result of the completion of its acquisition of Rockwood Holdings, it will realign its global business units, effective by the end of the first quarter 2015. The new structure aligns the company's strategic assets and businesses to be market focused and allows the company to more effectively leverage its combined resources on innovation and growth.



The new Albemarle structure will consist of three global business units (GBUs): **Chemetail Surface Treatment, Refining Solutions and Performance Chemicals**. Chemetail Surface Treatment will continue to supply specialty chemicals with a focus on processes for the surface treatment of metals and plastics. Refining Solutions will consist of the Heavy Oil Upgrading and Clean Fuels Technologies businesses, delivering a robust portfolio of catalyst solutions that apply to the entire refinery process. Performance Chemicals will combine the lithium, aluminum alkyls and derivative catalysts businesses with Albemarle's existing Performance Chemicals GBU. Each GBU will have a dedicated team of sales, R&D, process engineering, manufacturing and sourcing, and business strategy personnel and will have full accountability for improving execution through greater asset and market focus, agility and responsiveness.

"This organizational structure will help us achieve our goal of growing faster and performing at even higher levels and help accelerate the identification and achievement of strategic synergies beyond the identified cost synergies," said Luke Kissam, Albemarle's chief executive officer. "The new company will be structured to leverage its complementary fit, especially between lithium and bromine, allowing us to capitalize on our long-term lithium strategy while providing immediate scale and ability to leverage its similarities with bromine."

Consistent with the new organizational structure, the company also announced its senior leadership team, all reporting to President and Chief Executive Officer Luke Kissam:

**Joris Merckx** will serve as president, Chemetail Surface Treatment. With over twenty years' experience in technical sales, account management and business unit management, Mr. Merckx has managed Chemetail's global surface treatment business since October 2007 and has served as president since September 2012.

**Silvio Ghyoot** will serve as president, Refining Solutions. Mr. Ghyoot has held numerous commercial and management positions of increasing responsibility, including roles in business, sales and supply chain, since joining Albemarle in 1990.

**Michael Wilson** will serve as president, Performance Chemicals. Mr. Wilson has served as president of Catalyst Solutions since 2013. Prior to joining Albemarle, he served as president of the Specialty Chemicals Group at FMC Corporation.

**Matt Juneau** will serve as senior vice president, Corporate Strategy and Investor Relations. Mr. Juneau has over thirty years' experience in the chemical industry and has held leadership positions across all of the Albemarle businesses and global sales during his career with the company.

**Susan Kelliher, Karen Narwold and Scott Tozier** will continue in their current roles as senior vice president, Human Resources and chief people officer; senior vice president, General Counsel, Corporate & Government Affairs, Corporate Secretary; and senior vice president and chief financial officer, respectively.

The leadership team changes will become effective with the realignment of the global business units before the end of the first quarter. In the interim, business and investor questions should be routed to the current contact.

The company will provide financial transparency for each of the new business units, including lithium and bromine in Performance Chemicals.

### About Albemarle

Albemarle Corporation, headquartered in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, is a premier specialty chemicals company with leading positions in attractive end markets around the world. With a broad customer reach and diverse end markets, Albemarle develops, manufactures and markets technologically advanced and high value added products, including lithium and lithium compounds, bromine and derivatives, catalysts and surface treatment chemistries used in a wide range of applications including consumer electronics, flame retardants, metal processing, plastics, contemporary and alternative transportation vehicles, refining, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, construction and custom chemistry services. Albemarle is focused on delivering differentiated, performance-based technologies that deliver innovative and sustainable solutions to its customers. The Company employs approximately 6,900 people and serves customers in approximately 100 countries. Albemarle regularly posts information to [www.albemarle.com](http://www.albemarle.com), including notification of events, news, financial performance, investor presentations and webcasts, Regulation G reconciliations, SEC filings and other information regarding the Company, its businesses and the markets it serves.

*"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Statements in this press release regarding Albemarle Corporation's business that are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties. For a discussion of such risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements, see "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K and its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q.*

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