



PRESS RELEASE

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FMC Corporation Transfers Lithium-ion Cathode Patents to Umicore

CHARLOTTE, N.C., January 27, 2011 – FMC Corporation announced today that Umicore will acquire a set of FMC product and process patents covering high-end active cathode materials. This patented technology increases the performance and safety for lithium-ion (li-ion) batteries using lithium cobalt oxide (LCO) and mixed metal lithium oxides (NMC) as the cathode material. Both companies believe this transaction will accelerate penetration of this patented technology into the li-ion battery market, both for portable electronics cells and the emerging automotive segment for li-ion batteries.

The patent family covers a unique way of stabilizing the cathode material at the molecular structure level that avoids degradation of battery performance even at severe operating conditions such as high temperature, high charge and discharge rate and large number of cycles. Ultimately, the patented technology could lower the costs for li-ion batteries.

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“This technology is a result of FMC’s ongoing commitment to innovative chemistries based on lithium for the energy storage market. We believe the acquisition and marketing of this technology by a worldwide cathode leader such as Umicore will accelerate its growth in high-end cathode materials,” said Eric Norris, global commercial director, FMC Corporation Lithium Division.

“Umicore is pleased to be able to expand its wide product portfolio with this new family of materials. We take over the existing licensing agreement with Tianjin B&M Science and Technology Joint-Stock Co (PRC) and will actively market this technology based on our IP portfolio,” said Kurt Vandeputte, business line manager, UMICORE Rechargeable Battery Materials Business Line.

From its headquarters in Charlotte, N.C., FMC Lithium serves markets including battery and energy, air treatment, construction, fine chemicals, glass and ceramics, greases and lubricants, pool-water treatment, and polymers. Information is available at fmclithium.com. The company may be reached by phone at 888/LITHIUM or 704/426-5300, by fax at 704/426-5370, or by email at lithium.info@fmc.com.

FMC Corporation (NYSE:FMC) is a diversified chemical company serving agricultural, industrial and consumer markets globally for more than a century with innovative solutions, applications and quality products. The company employs approximately 4,800 people throughout the world. The company operates its businesses in three segments: Agricultural Products, Specialty Chemicals and Industrial Chemicals.

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Umicore is a materials technology group. It focuses on application areas where its expertise in materials science, chemistry and metallurgy can make a real difference. Umicore generates approximately 50 percent of its revenues and spends approximately 80 percent of its R&D budget in the area of clean technology, such as emission control catalysts, materials for rechargeable batteries and photovoltaics, fuel cells, and recycling. Umicore's overriding goal of sustainable value creation is based on this ambition to develop, produce and recycle materials in a way that fulfills its mission: materials for a better life.

The Umicore Group has industrial operations on all continents and serves a global customer base; it generated a turnover of € 6.9 billion (€ 1.7 billion excluding metal) in 2009 and currently employs some 13,700 people.

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