

Avantium partners with Nikki-Universal to boost its catalysis business in Japan

AMSTERDAM, 20 November 2019, 08:30 CET – Avantium Catalysis and Japan-based catalyst and process licensing company Nikki-Universal entered into an agency agreement to better serve Avantium’s customers and boost its business in Japan. Through Nikki-Universal, Avantium expects to generate leads for both its Flowrence® units as well as for service projects.

Japan is highly advanced in technology and has a large chemicals sector, including some large refineries. The country has a strong focus on catalysis research and data quality and has a global top-three position in patent-filings on catalysis. It therefore offers the perfect environment for the Catalysis business unit of Avantium.

Steven Olivier, managing director of Avantium Catalysis, comments: “We highly value the strong network of Nikki-Universal within the Japanese chemical sector. Also, we see that our Flowrence™ technology delivers the performance that chemical and catalyst companies in Japan value. We are therefore very pleased to enter into a partnership with Nikki-Universal who will help us further boost our rapidly growing business in Japan.”

Hirofumi Itoh, President of Nikki-Universal, says: “We believe that an advanced high-throughput platform for catalysts and adsorbents testing provided by Avantium will assist the promoting of development of chemical related technology and business in Japan through our business network”.

About Avantium’s Flowrence Technology®

Avantium’s Flowrence Technology® is an advanced high-throughput platform for high-quality testing of catalysts and adsorbents. The Flowrence Technology® can be used for a broad range of industrial applications that operate in gas, vapor or trickle phases. The parallel reactor system combines the reproducibility of larger-scale reactors with the advantages of small-scale reactors such as intrinsic safety, high accuracy, low costs per experiment and, ultimately, faster time-to-market. The Flowrence Technology® is leading for refinery, green chemistry and many other applications. The combination of Avantium’s broad knowledge of applications and the Flowrence Technology® creates a powerful, cost-efficient method of testing catalysts and a faster way to bring new products to the market.

About Nikki-Universal

Nikki-Universal Co., Ltd. (N-U) is a joint venture company established in 1963 by JGC Corporation, a Japanese corporation, and UOP LLC (UOP), a United States company. N-U’s business is mainly to

manufacture and sell Refining & Petrochemical catalysts for UOP processes and environmentally friendly catalysts.

About Avantium

Avantium is a leading technology development company and a forerunner in renewable chemistry. Avantium develops novel technologies based on renewable carbon sources as an alternative to fossil-based chemicals and plastics. The company currently has three technologies at pilot and demonstration phase. The most advanced technology is the YXY® plant-to-plastics-technology that catalytically converts plant-based sugars into a wide range of chemicals and plastics, such as PEF (polyethylene furanoate). Avantium has successfully demonstrated the YXY Technology at its pilot plant in Geleen, the Netherlands. The second technology is the Dawn Technology™ that converts non-food biomass into industrial sugars and lignin in order to transition the chemicals and materials industries to non-fossil resources. In 2018, Avantium opened the DAWN pilot biorefinery in Delfzijl, the Netherlands. The third technology is called Ray Technology™ and catalytically converts industrial sugars to plant-based MEG (mono-ethylene glycol). Avantium is scaling up its Ray Technology™ and the demonstration plant in Delfzijl, the Netherlands opened on November 7, 2019. Next to developing and commercializing renewable chemistry technologies, the company also provides advanced catalysis R&D services and systems to customers in the refinery and chemical industries. Avantium works in partnership with like-minded companies around the globe to create revolutionary renewable chemistry solutions from invention to commercial scale.

Avantium's shares are listed on Euronext Amsterdam and Euronext Brussels (symbol: AVTX). Its offices and headquarters are in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

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