
PRESS RELEASE

AVA Biochem Looking To Build Large-Scale 5-HMF Plants

Muttenz, Switzerland – 13th May 2014 – AVA Biochem is searching for partners to build large-scale production plants for renewable platform chemical 5-Hydroxymethylfurfural (5-HMF). AVA Biochem is exhibiting at the BIO World Congress, where it will meet potential partners to discuss industrial scale production of 5-HMF. The conference takes place from 12-15 May in Philadelphia. Chief Financial Officer Gordon Mehrtens will present on a breakout panel on bio-based automotive, construction and building materials at 2.30pm on Tuesday 13 May.

Production of high-purity 5-HMF started this year at the Biochem-1 facility in Muttenz, Switzerland. AVA Biochem’s plant currently has a capacity of 20 tonnes per year and bulk 5-HMF is within reach, thanks to the company’s highly-scalable modified hydrothermal carbonisation process. 5-HMF has a range of applications in sectors such as plastics, food, chemicals or automotive. Identified as one of the most valuable platform chemicals by the United States Department of Energy, AVA Biochem is already selling 5-HMF commercially, including to Fortune 500 companies.

AVA Biochem is keen to discuss moving forward with other companies at the BIO World Congress. CEO Jan Vyskocil spoke of AVA Biochem’s future ambitions, “Collaborating with industry leaders will see increased opportunities to replace petro-based products with bio-based ones. Bulk production of 5-HMF has the potential to open the door to more innovative and highly interesting applications – which is a clear win for the bio-based industries.”

About AVA Biochem

AVA Biochem BSL AG (AVA Biochem) operates the world’s first industrial plant for the production of renewable 5-Hydroxymethylfurfural (5-HMF, CAS 67-47-0). A subsidiary of AVA-CO2 Schweiz AG, Zug, AVA Biochem has a game-changing production process for 5-HMF production. Biochem-1, the first industrial plant for the production of 5-HMF from biomass is located on Clariant’s Infrapark in Muttenz, Switzerland where AVA Biochem is headquartered. AVA Biochem delivers high-purity 5-HMF to industrial and research customers around the globe. www.ava-biochem.com

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