



Planned Shutdown at OQ Chemicals' Ruhrchemie Plant in Oberhausen

Monheim am Rhein, Germany, April 11, 2023 – Global chemical company OQ Chemicals plans to carry out a shutdown at its Ruhrchemie plant in Oberhausen, Germany from April 17 to May 12, 2023. This shutdown, also known as a turnaround, is a regular process that occurs every five years and includes routine inspections, maintenance work, and legally required inspections by TÜV (a German technical inspection association) to ensure the safety of production facilities. During this time, OQ Chemicals will upgrade its facilities to the latest technical standards, and further optimize them.

Site Manager Dr. Horst Hanke emphasized the importance of the turnaround for the future of the Oberhausen site: "Such a major shutdown is an important step in bringing our facilities up to date. During the shutdown, we will also carry out several investment projects to make production processes more efficient and extend the life of our facilities. In total, we are talking about a high double-digit million Euro amount for the expenditures during this period. This time, we are coordinating the work of more than 70 external companies, with up to 1,000 employees on site. That's an increase of around 20% compared to the last shutdown in 2018. Our highly qualified teams from the technical, operational, and commercial areas are ensuring smooth operations and that the safety of all parties involved comes first."

"This turnaround and the associated measures are a significant investment in the safety and sustainability of OQ Chemicals' facilities, and in a tight economy, a challenge for the company and not to be taken for granted. These investments demonstrate our commitment to responsible production on our path to becoming a climate-neutral company by mid-century. They are also a clear signal for the further development of our site in Germany. A safe and energy-efficient plant operation helps to further reduce CO₂ emissions. In terms of climate goals, this is also an important step for the Oberhausen site," commented Dr. Oliver Borgmeier, CEO of OQ Chemicals, adding: "With regard to our customers, we have already ensured that we will be able to fulfill contractual delivery obligations during the shutdown."

About OQ Chemicals

OQ Chemicals (formerly Oxea) is a global manufacturer of Oxo Intermediates and Oxo Performance Chemicals such as alcohols, polyols, carboxylic acids, specialty esters, and amines. These are used to produce high-quality coatings, lubricants, cosmetic and pharmaceutical products, flavors and fragrances, printing inks, and plastics. OQ Chemicals employs more than 1,400 people worldwide and markets its chemicals in more than 60 countries. The company is part of OQ, an integrated energy company originating in Oman. More information is available at chemicals.oq.com.

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