

## News release

### Oxea increases capacity for specialty esters at Amsterdam plant

**Oberhausen, January 22, 2014** – The chemical company Oxea announced today that it has successfully increased its capacity by 20 percent for specialty esters at its Amsterdam Esters Plant (AEP). To this end, the company invested an amount in the single-figure million Euro range to implement several optimization measures.

Oxea produces several phthalate-free plasticizers at AEP, including Oxsoft TOTM (trioctyl trimellitate) and DOTP (dioctyl terephthalate), marketed under the brand name Oxsoft GPO. This capacity upgrade will specifically benefit producers of medical devices and flooring that are looking for alternatives to replace the conventional plasticizers, dioctyl phthalate (DOP) and diisononyl phthalate (DINP).

“At the end of last year a leading flooring company announced its decision to switch to phthalate-free products. Shortly after, the main European DOP producer announced that it would discontinue production of this plasticizer, which is also still widely used in medical applications,” said Jacco de Haas, Global Marketing Manager Specialty Esters at Oxea. “Our successful capacity expansion will enable our customers to make a timely switch from DOP to alternative products such as TOTM and DOTP.”

“The increasing demand for phthalate-free plasticizers re-affirms the strategic vision of Oxea and the necessity of continuous investments and initiatives that we have embarked upon to address the industry’s changing requirements,” affirmed Cristobal Ascencio, Global Vice President for Oxo Derivatives at Oxea. “This capacity enhancement in Amsterdam is another excellent example of our strong commitment to supporting our customers with sufficient and reliable supplies of specialty esters.”

For more information about Oxsoft TOTM and GPO, visit [www.phthalate-free-plasticizers.com](http://www.phthalate-free-plasticizers.com)

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#### **About Oxea**

Oxea is a global manufacturer of oxo intermediates and oxo derivatives, such as alcohols, polyols, carboxylic acids, specialty esters, and amines. These products are used for the production of high-quality coatings, lubricants, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products, flavorings and fragrances, printing inks and plastics. In 2012, Oxea generated revenue of about EUR 1.5 billion with its over 1,400 employees worldwide.

Oxea is owned by Oman Oil Company S.A.O.C.

For more information about Oxea, visit [www.oxea-chemicals.com](http://www.oxea-chemicals.com)

#### **About Oman Oil Company**

Oman Oil Company S.A.O.C (OOC) is a commercial company wholly owned by the Government established in 1996 to pursue investment opportunities in the wider energy sector both inside and outside Oman. The Company plays an important role in the Sultanate's efforts to diversify the economy and to promote domestic and foreign investments as well as fostering and building human capital.

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