



## THE INNOVATION FUND

NEWSLETTER #03 ————— MARCH 2016



### THE INNOVATION FUND IS ONE YEAR OLD !

On February 4, 2016, an Extraordinary General Assembly has celebrated the first anniversary of the Innovation Fund and a new capital increase. Officium, Arkema, Nomainvest, members of the Innovation Circle and a newly created Feeder Fund (for friends investing EUR 50.000 each) have contributed EUR 2.1m, raising the capital to EUR 19.4m. We welcome the new members and look forward to their active contribution. Following the potential interest of Taminco to participate in the Fund and of LRD to increase its investment, we may consult the shareholders on a last equity offering in may, which would bring us well above EUR 20m.'

### A NEW INVESTOR : ARKEMA

# ARKEMA

INNOVATIVE CHEMISTRY

A designer of materials and innovative solutions, Arkema shapes materials and creates new uses that accelerate customer performance. Its balanced business portfolio spans high-performance materials, industrial specialties and coating solutions. Arkema's brands are globally recognized and rank among the leaders in the markets Arkema serves. Reporting annual sales of €7.5 billion in 2014, Arkema employs approximately 19,200 people worldwide and operates in close to 50 countries. The group is committed to active engagement with all its stakeholders. The research centers in North America, France and Asia concentrate on advances in lightweight materials, renewable feedstocks, energy generation and storage, water treatment, electronics and 3D printing. For the latest, visit [www.arkema.com](http://www.arkema.com).

Christian Collette, Director R&D Arkema, has joined the Board of Directors of the Innovation Fund.

### THE HOST OF THE WINTER: SOLVAY (IN THE HOUSE OF ERNEST SOLVAY)

On February 14th, 1883, 20 years after the creation of the company Solvay & Cie, Ernest Solvay buys, by auction, the property located at 45 rue des Champs Elysées from the heirs of the late Edward Stevens, former Secretary General of the Ministry of Interior. He had bought the land in 1840 and had built the house and outbuildings in 1850. Ernest Solvay keeps the house and especially the southern entrance façade, but enlarges it to the north and changes the interior and decoration, with the architects Bosmans and Vandeveld, the sculptor Chambon (chimneys) and the painters Dillens brothers and Henri Baes (ceilings).

After the death of Ernest Solvay, on May 26th 1922, the family keeps the house and then sells it to the company Solvay in 1933. The house is given to the University Foundation from 1954 to 1980. She is redecorated at the end of 1980. Solvay SA uses the house to receive eminent guests.





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## THE GUEST OF THE DAY: JEAN-MARIE SOLVAY

### 1. What is your Background?

After studying chemistry at the ETH, in Zürich, I launched my first entrepreneurial project in the USA in the helicopter service industry in the mid-1980s. I am a serial entrepreneur having founded companies and invested in areas as diverse as aviation services, powerline construction, biometrics, real estate and clean tech. I have been involved with Solvay as a member of the board of directors since 1991 and as a member of the innovation board since 2004. I am passionate about supporting creative people with ideas that they want to bring to market.

### 2. Why did Solvay invest in the Innovation Fund?

The Solvay group is dedicated to pushing the limits of what chemistry can deliver in the future as new solutions to make our world more sustainable. As a large group, Solvay is aware that valuable research initiatives can be brought to market within startup organizations when the proper financing is made available. This needed support is what the Innovation Fund provides to entrepreneurs.

### 3. What is your expectation?

I expect that through our support, valuable ideas will be developed in such a way that will provide economic growth and jobs to the chemical sector in Belgium and nearby.



## INVESTMENT PROPOSALS

### GREEN2CHEM

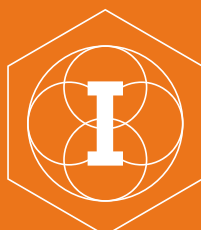
Green2Chem is a company that aims to conceive and build new low-cost bioreactors for root-culture and to identify and produce high value botanicals for the nutraceutical, pharmaceutical, chemical and cosmetics markets.

The company has been created in 2011 in Ghislenghien. It occupies today 4 R&D FTEs, has a 60 m<sup>2</sup> white-room and already succeeded in the manufacturing of low cost bioreactors with a content of up to 200L and is working further on using these reactors to produce hairy roots (brassica, ginseng, salvia, ...) and on increasing the reactor size to 400L. The R&D is supported by Carah (Ath), the university of Mons and MateriaNova (Ghislenghien).

They have filed a patent to protect their reactor technology. The main difference with the competitors' technology is its low cost. A first test is running for a pharmaceutical client looking to grow genetically modified roots in these reactors.



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