

Press Release

Iselin, New Jersey, January 22, 2025

Brenntag Specialties expands distribution agreement with Kao Chemicals Europe for specialty surfactants and blends in the U.S.

- **Customers in the United States will benefit from expanded product line in the Beauty and Care markets**
- **Strategic agreement reflects Brenntag Specialties' efforts to further expand its Life Science product portfolio in the United States**

Brenntag, the global market leader in chemicals and ingredients distribution, today announced the expansion of an existing distribution agreement in the United States with Kao Chemicals Europe, S.L.U, a global company at the forefront of developing sustainable alternatives to traditional personal care and household, industrial and institutional cleaning ingredients.

This distribution agreement significantly enhances Brenntag customers' access to Kao's high-quality specialty surfactants and unique blends that enable formulators to create innovative well-being solutions and new formulations in alignment with market trends. Kao's product range not only meets high standards of performance but also supports customers in achieving their sustainability goals, backed by robust certifications.

Brenntag and Kao have enjoyed a long-standing and successful global collaboration since 2000, first in Canada and expanded to Europe's Nordic countries in 2023. This agreement will now extend the specialty surfactant product portfolio to Brenntag customers in the U.S. across the Beauty and Care industry.

Patrick Haineault, Regional President Beauty and Care North America, commented: "Brenntag Specialties is excited to expand our relationship with Kao Chemicals Europe to the U.S. market, proudly representing Kao's high performance, innovative and sustainable surfactants. Our expanded relationship is a great enhancement to our Personal Care and HI&I portfolio and is strongly aligned with our commitment to delivering innovative and sustainable ingredients to the market."

Marc Bernat, Business Unit Manager for Personal Care and HI&I for Kao Chemicals, added: "We are thrilled to expand our distribution partnership with Brenntag in North America by starting collaboration in the United States. We aim for fast and solid growth in the fields of Personal Care and HI&I on the East Coast and Southern regions of the U.S. As an established distribution leader, Brenntag is our ideal partner to rely on. We are poised for this exciting next stage of Kao's journey in the United States with the support of Brenntag."

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About Kao Chemicals Europe:

Kao Chemicals Europe is a part of the global Kao Corporation, which was founded in Japan in 1887. The company focuses on creating high-quality, sustainable products that enrich people's lives. Sustainability, social responsibility, and well-being are at the core of Kao Chemicals Europe's product offerings, which include a diverse array of cosmetics and cleaning ingredients. The portfolio features gentle surfactants, conditioning agents, rheology modifiers, foam enhancers, pearling agents, emulsifiers, emollients, and many other ingredients that enable formulators to create innovative solutions and new formulations that align with market trends.

About Brenntag:

Brenntag is the global market leader in chemicals and ingredients distribution. The company holds a central role in connecting customers and suppliers of the chemical industry. Headquartered in Essen, Germany, Brenntag has more than 17,700 employees worldwide and operates a network of about 600 sites in 72 countries. In 2023, Brenntag generated sales of around 16.8 billion EUR. The two global divisions, Brenntag Essentials and Brenntag Specialties, provide a diversified and broad portfolio of industrial and specialty chemicals and ingredients as well as tailor-made application, marketing and supply chain solutions, technical and formulation support, comprehensive regulatory know-how, and digital solutions for a wide range of industries. Brenntag pursues an ambitious sustainability agenda and is committed to sustainable solutions in its own sector and the industries served. Brenntag shares have been listed at the Frankfurt Stock Exchange since 2010, in the DAX since September 2021. In addition, the Brenntag SE shares are listed in the DAX 50 ESG and DAX ESG Target. For more information, visit www.brenntag.com.

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