

## **SGL Group is an official upcycling partner for fluoropolymers**

*Wiesbaden, May 15, 2017.* SGL Group is official upcycling partner of Dyneon GmbH, a subsidiary of 3M Deutschland GmbH, and was awarded the upcycling signet 2017.

Dyneon GmbH, in collaboration with the University of Bayreuth and the InVerTec research institute, has developed an innovative process for the "upcycling" of perfluorinated polymer residues as part of a project funded by the German Federal Foundation for the Environment (Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt). In a worldwide first, this new waste treatment technology enables environmentally friendly and sustainable recovery of raw materials, which are then used for the production of new materials. The award means that fluoropolymers from SGL Group are now approved for use in this recycling plant.

Resource-conserving management and the protection of the environment are important components of SGL Group's sustainable production process. The upcycling process saves raw materials and energy by converting old products into new ones at the end of their life cycle – and thus closes the recycling loop for fluoropolymers. "This represents a major breakthrough in the sustainability of these valuable high-tech materials, such as our PTFE materials. Not only are resources saved, but waste and emissions from disposal are also significantly reduced," explains Robert Meyer zu Westram, Product and Sales Manager at SGL Group.

The industry's first high-temperature upcycling facility is located in the Gendorf industrial park in Burgkirchen (Bavaria) and is based on a multi-phase pyrolysis process. Via pyrolysis, the perfluorinated "end-of-life" waste material is split back into monomers with a very high recovery rate of more than 90 percent. These are fed into the existing distillation plant and can be reused in normal production.

Proven and reliable fluoropolymer applications from SGL Group under the POLYFLURON® brand have long been established in chemical plant construction, where the material is used for lining corrosion-sensitive components, as well as other applications. In addition, POLYFLURON®, a PTFE fluoropolymer, is also employed in many other industries, for example as a highly effective plastic insulator in electrical equipment, in bellows for applications requiring very high flexural fatigue strength or when extremely high product purity is needed.

### About SGL Group – The Carbon Company

The SGL Group is a leading manufacturer worldwide of products and materials made from carbon. The extensive product portfolio ranges from carbon and graphite products, carbon fibers all the way through to composites. The SGL Group's core expertise comprises the control of high-temperature technologies as well as the deployment of many years' application and engineering know-how. This is used to exploit the company's wide materials base. These carbon-based materials combine a number of unique material properties such as very good conductivity of electricity and heat, resistance to heat and corrosion as well as lightweight construction coupled with high firmness. The level of demand for the SGL Group's high-performance materials and products is increasing due to the industrialization of the growth regions of Asia and Latin America and the ongoing substitution of traditional construction materials by new materials. The SGL Group's products are deployed in the automotive and chemicals industries as well as in the semiconductor, solar, LED industry segments and in the field of lithium-ion batteries. Carbon-based materials and products are also used in wind energy, aviation and space travel as well as in the defense industry.

**With 33 production locations in Europe, North America and Asia as well as a service network in over 100 countries, the SGL Group is an enterprise with a global orientation. In the 2016 financial year, approx. 4,000 employees generated 769.8 million euros in sales revenue. Its Head Office is based in Wiesbaden / Germany.**

*Further particulars on the SGL Group can be found in the Newsroom of the SGL Group at [www.sglgroup.com/presse](http://www.sglgroup.com/presse) and at [www.sglgroup.com](http://www.sglgroup.com).*

**Important note:**

To the extent that our press release contains forward-looking statements, the latter are based on information that is available at present and on our current forecasts and assumptions. Forward-looking statements, by their very nature, entail known as well as unknown risks and uncertainties that may lead to actual developments and events differing substantially from the forward-looking assessments. Forward-looking statements must not be understood to be guarantees. Instead, future developments and events depend on a large number of factors; they comprise various risks and imponderables and are based on assumptions that may possibly turn out not to be appropriate. These include unforeseeable changes to fundamental political, economic, legal and societal conditions, particularly in the context of our main customers' industries, such as electric steelmaking, the competitive situation, interest and exchange rate trends, technological developments as well as other risks and uncertainties. We perceive additional risks e.g. in pricing developments, unforeseeable events in the environment of companies acquired and Group member companies as well as in current cost savings programs from time to time. The SGL Group assumes no obligation and does not intend to adjust or otherwise update these forward-looking statements either.

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