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*Dunkirk, France, March 25th, 2025*

# **SNF and Mitsubishi Chemical Forge a Groundbreaking Industrial Collaboration on NVF Technology**

**Dunkirk, France—French chemical leader SNF and Japan's Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation have partnered in a pioneering project to produce N-vinylformamide (NVF), an advanced monomer essential for polymers used in the paper industry. This collaboration combines the expertise of both companies to drive innovation and sustainability in industrial manufacturing.**

The partnership began with a licensing agreement in March 2019, enabling Mitsubishi Chemical to design a state-of-the-art NVF production facility at SNF's Flocryl site in Dunkirk, France. Mitsubishi Chemical's expertise in monomer technology and SNF's leadership in polymer science addressed the technical challenges of NVF production—an area new to SNF.

“This project exemplifies strategic synergy,” said Pascal Remy, CEO of SNF Group. “By combining Mitsubishi Chemical's monomer expertise with our leadership in water-soluble polymers, we've created a groundbreaking facility that supports the circular economy through recycled paper production. Together, we're advancing sustainability and innovation.”

## **A New Era in NVF Manufacturing**

The NVF facility, fully operational following its start-up in December 2024, utilizes Mitsubishi Chemical's cutting-edge technology to deliver high-performance NVF polymers and their PVAM (polyvinylamine) derivatives. Optimized processes ensure the facility meets stringent performance benchmarks, with full ramp-up completed.

NVF-based polymers enhance paper products' strength, durability, and recyclability, making it a key enabler of circular economy practices. The facility's output supports the growing global demand for specialty water-soluble polymers, positioning SNF as a leader in sustainable solutions for industries prioritizing environmental impact reduction.

## **Economic and Regional Benefits**

Beyond technological advances, the project is a significant economic driver for the Dunkirk region. It has created 50 local jobs, with plans to expand progressively. This initiative further cements Dunkirk's status as a hub for advanced industrial manufacturing.

## **A Blueprint for Future Collaborations**

The NVF project highlights the power of international partnerships in industrial innovation. By combining Mitsubishi Chemical's technological expertise with SNF's market knowledge, the collaboration sets a benchmark for future ventures.

"NVF is more than a material—it's a platform for innovation," said Johann Kieffer, R&D Director at SNF. "This partnership reflects our commitment to delivering cutting-edge solutions that address evolving global market needs while advancing sustainability."

As the Dunkirk facility scales operations, SNF and Mitsubishi Chemical are already exploring new opportunities to build on their successful partnership.



SNF's NVF plant in Dunkirk, France

## **About SNF**

*SNF is a specialty chemical company and an expert in water chemistry. All our products treat, preserve, and recycle water. We help reduce energy needs and carbon intensity while contributing to the responsible extraction of crucial mineral resources essential to the energy transition.*

*As a global leader in designing and manufacturing water-soluble polymers, SNF continuously improves a range of more than 1,000 products, which helps preserve natural resources, encourages recycling, and improves industrial process efficiencies. In addition, SNF products have several*

*complementary functionalities, making them suitable for many applications, such as solids-liquid separation, viscosity modification, and friction reduction.*

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