

Avril enlarges its ingredients portfolio through the acquisition of Novastell

This offers the Group an opportunity to restructure its product ranges within a new platform: “Avril Oil & Ingredient Solutions”



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Avril is today announcing the signature of an agreement on its acquisition of Novastell, a French company specialized in lecithins and phospholipids. The Group is thus pursuing its growth in the valorization and marketing of vegetable oils and ingredients for B-to-B markets.

Fully in line with the Group's strategy, this announcement marks an important stage in the structuring of its product ranges in the area of oils and ingredients for industry, following the creation in early 2017 of “Avril Oil & Ingredient Solutions”.

This new commercial, marketing and innovation platform within Avril's Oilseeds Processing Business Line will manage products from the Group's subsidiaries – Saipol, Lesieur, Kerfoot and Expur – for customers in the agrifood, nutrition and dietetics, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals industries.

Avril Oil & Ingredient Solutions can already offer an extensive portfolio of vegetable oils produced by its European facilities, and thanks to a dedicated R&D team is developing specific solutions based on know-how available throughout the Avril Group.

Avril's acquisition of Novastell will favor numerous synergies and complementary solutions, and allow the Group to continue developing innovative solutions for its customers.

According to Olivier TILLOUS-BORDE, Director of the Avril Oil & Ingredient Solutions platform: *"After the development in 2017 of two units for sunflower lecithin, a natural emulsifier which offers a promising alternative to soy lecithin, the acquisition of Novastell will accelerate the growth of our activities in France and internationally, while increasingly focusing on providing responses to the needs of our customers. We are very much looking forward to welcoming the Novastell teams as they join the Avril Group."*

For Pierre LEBOURD, Chairman and Founder of Novastell: *"These new ties between Novastell and Avril will allow us to pursue the development of new opportunities and solutions for industry. The Novastell teams will find opportunities for innovations in nutrition and health in the diversity of the skills and subsidiaries within the Avril Group, thus enabling them to better serve their customers."*

And for Jean-Baptiste BACHELERIE, General Manager of the Oilseeds Processing Business Line within Avril: *"Creation of the Avril Oil & Ingredient Solutions platform marks an important stage in the structuring of our activities in this area. Based on the operational efficiency of our international sites, the platform is already very active. Our natural alliance with Novastell is emblematic of these synergies."*

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About the Avril Group

Avril is the industrial and finance actor of the French oilseeds and proteins sectors.

Set up in 1983 at the initiative of French farmers in order to assure long-term markets for French agricultural products, Avril has become a major industrial and financial group that is developing in France and internationally.

It is present in sectors as diverse as human foods, animal feeds and expertise, renewable energies and chemistry, and owns a portfolio of strong brands that are leaders in their markets: Diester®, Sanders, Lesieur, Puget, Matines, Bunica, Taous, etc.

In nearly 35 years, the Group has changed in size but its purpose has remained the same: to create sustainable value in the vegetable oils and proteins sector while contributing to better foods for humans and preservation of the planet.

To fulfil its mission, Avril draws strength from its industrial activities organized around plant production and livestock sectors, and from its financial arm which operates through Sofiprotéol, its finance and development company.

In 2016, the Avril Group achieved turnover worth €5.9 billion. It counts 7,200 employees working in 21 countries.

For more information: www.groupeavril.com | Twitter: @Avril

About Novastell

Based in Etrépnay (Normandy, France), Novastell was created in 2006 by Pierre LEBOURD, who has more than 20 years experience in the field of lecithins and was convinced of the multiple nutritional benefits of phospholipids.

By creating the "Phospholipids for Life" concept, Novastell's ambition is to contribute to a healthier way of life with eco-friendly ingredients.

Novastell's teams benefit from a three-fold expertise:

- technical mastery of phospholipids,
- scientific knowledge,
- marketing creativity to provide concepts in line with market trends.

French specialists in phospholipids, Novastell offers innovative, healthy and efficient solutions to its customers. It thus serves its ambition to highlight the health benefits of its phospholipids in the service of its customers.

Novastell has achieved international recognition and plays an essential role in the field of lecithins and phospholipids.

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