

Evonik launches latest crowd sourcing opportunity for college students MindSumo challenge to develop new way to cut acrylic sheet

PARSIPPANY, N.J., October 17, 2016 – Evonik Corporation recently rolled out its latest crowd sourcing competition seeking new ways to cut acrylic sheet. Winners will be awarded cash prizes as well as an opportunity to be considered for positions within Evonik.

Evonik Acrylic Products is the world's leading manufacturer of specialty acrylic-based sheet products. In this challenge, competitors must identify a new way to cut acrylic sheet that provides a dust-free, clean, polished appearance to the 90 degree cut edges with no saw chips or dust generated in the process that can get left behind on the sheet (the "canvas"). Ideally, the process should be quiet and consume low amounts energy for sustainability reasons.

"Evonik's Acrylic Products Business Line is known globally for innovation and performance. This challenge provides students with an opportunity to contribute real world solutions in the area of construction, design, lightning and elsewhere," said Dr. Sanjay Gupta, vice president and regional head of Corporate Innovation at Evonik.

The competition is conducted by MindSumo, a San Francisco, Calif.-based firm that connects companies and students through unique challenges, which are often in the field of science and technology. For more information on this particular challenge, and for competition rules, including for eligibility, please visit the MindSumo website at www.mindsumo.com. The Evonik challenge for the Acrylic Products business runs until November 15, 2017.

For additional information about Evonik in North America, please visit our website: http://corporate.evonik.us/region/north_america.

Company information

Evonik is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. The focus on more specialty businesses, high innovative prowess and an encouraging and trustful corporate culture form the heart of Evonik's corporate strategy. They are the lever for profitable growth and a sustained increase in the value of the company. Evonik benefits specifically from its customer proximity and leading market positions. Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world with more than 35,000 employees. In fiscal 2016, the enterprise

generated sales of around €12.7 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of about €2.165 billion.

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