

Kemira opens a research and development center at Georgia Tech campus in Atlanta

Kemira announced today it has signed a lease on a new research and development center located at Technology Enterprise Park (TEP) in association with the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia. The new center in Atlanta will start up by summer 2009 and employ 85 R&D professionals.

The TEP facility is part of Kemira's target to consolidate 17 existing R&D sites into 5 global facilities by summer 2009. In addition to this new R&D Center at TEP, the consolidated network will also include one center in Northern Europe, one in Continental Europe and one in Asia. A fifth center will be established in Latin America during 2009. The resulting R&D infrastructure will be strategically focused on enhancing development and commercialization of innovative technologies and products for Kemira's customers locally and globally meeting the needs of the pulp and paper, water treatment and oil and mining industries.

"Kemira has a strong commitment to the customer segments we serve in North America", says **Hannu Melarti**, Region Head. "The introduction of this R&D center in Atlanta further strengthens our partnerships with customers in North America, while also allowing our highly skilled R&D team to contribute to our customer needs globally."

"Kemira enhances its strategic cooperation with the industry clusters, universities and overall research community through our regionally located R&D Centers. This is how we will ensure highly skilled and motivated resources to the benefit of our customers businesses. We develop new products, improve our services and concepts and utilize the synergies in our different areas of expertise to enhance the profitability and efficiency of our customers", states **Johan Grön**, head of R&D and Technology of The Kemira Group.

Founded in 1885, Georgia Institute of Technology is one of the top-rated research universities in the US. In addition to its student population of over 19,000, Georgia Tech has extended its "campus" far beyond the borders of its Atlanta campus to encompass learning and research platforms as close as southeast Georgia and as far as Europe and Asia.

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Kemira will be a focused company, the best in water and fiber management chemistry.

In 2007, Kemira recorded revenue of approximately EUR 2.8 billion and had a staff of 10,000. Kemira operates in 40 countries.

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