**Wk 19 Content (1 news / 1 curation) (EN)**

Title: Imerys acquires Kerneos in 2017

Thanks to its takeover of the French specialty cement producer Kerneos, Imerys now offers more products to industries such as construction and infrastructure.

The acquisition, which was first announced in December 2016, received unreserved approval by the European Commission earlier this year.

It comes more than a century after Paris-based Kerneos patented its signature product, Ciment Fondu, a cement binder based on calcium aluminate rather than the calcium silicates found in Portland cements.

Kerneos’ binders are used in everything from sewerage systems to heat-resistant materials in power plants or blast furnaces. Its products can, for example, promote hardening and prevent corrosion.

There are Kerneos production sites in five countries and the company, which employs approximately 1,500 people worldwide, is particularly active in Europe, North America and emerging economies.

The acquisition took place in the wake of ongoing strong financial performance by Kerneos, with sales growth averaging 3.3% in the past three years. Total revenues in the year ending 30 September 2016 were €415 million and profits over the same 12-month period jumped 8% to almost €100 million.

Kerneos welcomed its takeover by Imerys, with its management “delighted” by the deal, saying that coming under the umbrella of a major industrial player will allow the company to continue its development.

Imerys has given its backing to the Kerneos management and its new acquisition’s strategic plan.

The Kerneos takeover was part of a wider external growth push by Imerys, following its purchase of leading European industrial minerals producer, S&B, two years ago.

**LinkedIn**

(long)

After the European Commission approved the acquisition of Paris-based calcium aluminates specialist Kerneos, the deal opened up the potential to create synergies worth €23 million a year and will considerably enhance Imerys’ offering to the construction and infrastructure industries.

(short)

The European Commission has approved the acquisition of Paris-based calcium aluminates specialist Kerneos.

**Facebook**

Imerys’ takeover of Kerneos is expected to lead to €23 million in synergies.

**Twitter**

Acquiring #Kerneos has allowed Imerys to offer more products for #construction and #infrastructure.

ends