

For Immediate Release
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Rockwood Color Pigments Announces World's First cGMP-certified Plant for Pharmaceutical Grade Iron Oxide

Beltsville, Md., August 17, 2009 — Rockwood Color Pigments, a leading global producer of synthetic iron oxide pigments, has announced that it has commissioned its high-purity iron oxide facility in Turin, Italy. Completed in January 2009, the new plant, sited at Rockwood Italia S.p.A., is the first current **Good Manufacturing Practice** (cGMP)-certified iron oxide facility in the world.

“By voluntarily seeking cGMP certification for our new facility, we have confirmed our significant commitment to our customers and reinforced our technological expertise and leadership position in the industry,” said Rockwood Pigments President Andy Ross. The DQS Group of Frankfurt, Germany completed the audit and awarded the certificate of compliance to the plant in May.

Rockwood's head of global operations Marino Sergi explained what this cGMP certification means to pharmaceutical manufacturers: “Customers will no longer need to perform costly and time-consuming audits to verify compliance with the pharmaceutical industry's production rules. They can accept our cGMP certificate of conformity and have the confidence we are manufacturing products according to the same stringent guidelines that they are.”

The new two-and-a-half-story manufacturing facility is located adjacent to Rockwood's existing manufacturing plant for its Ferroxiide® brand of iron oxide pigments for plastics, paper, ceramics, paints, coatings, catalysts, toner and concrete construction materials.

The new facility is dedicated to the exclusive production of high-purity iron oxide pigments, such as those used to color and mark pharmaceuticals. To eliminate the risk of cross-contamination with other iron oxide pigments, the state-of-the-art, completely contained production line ensures that the high purity pigments are processed, packed and stored in a carefully controlled environment.

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Rockwood's Color Pigments & Services Division is one of the largest worldwide suppliers of iron oxides and colored inorganic pigments for construction, coatings, plastics and specialty applications. The Division's manufacturing sites and customer service centers are located in the United States, United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, Australia and China with additional sales offices located in Singapore. The Rockwood Color Pigments & Services Division is part of Rockwood Holdings, Inc., Princeton, N.J., U.S.A. For more information on Rockwood Color Pigments, please visit www.rockwoodpigments.com.

Rockwood Holdings, Inc. is a leading global specialty chemicals and advanced materials company. Rockwood has a worldwide employee base of approximately 10,000 people and annual net sales of approximately \$3 billion. The company focuses on global niche segments of the specialty chemicals, pigments and additives and advanced materials markets. For more information on Rockwood, please visit www.rocksp.com.

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