

## Vertex and Tata Chemicals Europe sign major low carbon hydrogen offtake agreement

Vertex Hydrogen has signed a 'Heads of Terms' offtake agreement for over 200 megawatts of low carbon hydrogen with Northwich-based Tata Chemicals Europe ("TCE").

TCE is one of Europe's leading producers of sodium carbonate, salt, sodium bicarbonate and other products used in the manufacture of food and animal feed, glass, detergents, chemicals and several other industry applications.

In June 2022, Tata opened the UK's first industrial scale carbon capture and usage plant. The £20 million investment captures 40,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide each year – the equivalent to taking over 20,000 cars off the road.

Under the new offtake agreement, Vertex will supply TCE with hydrogen as the manufacturer continues to decarbonise its operations in the UK with a target of achieving "net zero" manufacturing by 2030.

**Joe Seifert, CEO of Vertex Hydrogen said:** *"We are thrilled to sign these Heads of Terms with TATA Chemicals Europe, as an industry leader driving tangible change to reduce emissions. This agreement marks another major step forward in the North West's energy transition, as Vertex continues to help build the UK's low carbon energy future."*

**Martin Ashcroft, Managing Director of Tata Chemicals Europe, said:** *"We have been supporters of Vertex and the low carbon hydrogen segment as a real opportunity to further reduce emissions at our world class CHP facility. This agreement marks the next step in our relationship as we continue our journey as a leader in industrial decarbonisation."*

Vertex is proud to be helping the UK lead the development of low carbon hydrogen production as an integral part of HyNet – the UK's leading industrial decarbonisation cluster. It will help to solve our urgent need to drastically reduce carbon emissions in our manufacturing sector – securing and growing vital industry.

Vertex is:

- Delivering an initial 1,000 megawatts of low carbon hydrogen capacity – enough to provide the fuel consumed by a city the size of Liverpool;
- Capturing 1.8 million tonnes of carbon dioxide every year at full capacity – equivalent to taking 750,000 cars off the roads;
- Investing around £1 billion in the North West of the UK and facilitating the investment of a further £1 billion or more of associated infrastructure;
- Playing a leading role in kickstarting the UK low carbon, large scale hydrogen market.



**ENDS**

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### **About Vertex Hydrogen**

Vertex Hydrogen is a leading player in the energy transition which is developing the first large scale, low carbon hydrogen production hub in the UK. This will produce (in its initial phases) 1GW of hydrogen capacity (enough to power a city like Liverpool) and capture some 1.8 million tonnes of carbon per annum (equivalent to taking 750,000 cars off the roads).

By 2030, Vertex expect to deliver nearly 4GW of low carbon hydrogen – 40% of the UK Government's national target. The organisation is investing an expected £1bn in the UK's largest industrial region (the North-West) to enable businesses to switch from fossil fuels to low carbon energy, helping to secure and grow vital industries and jobs and unlocking billions of pounds of related investment.

An integral part of HyNet, one of two of the UK Government's Track 1 clusters for industrial decarbonisation that was included in the UK Government's Plan for Growth, Vertex has been selected as one of four hydrogen projects to proceed to the due diligence phase in the Phase-2 Cluster Sequencing Process by the UK Government.

### **About Tata Chemicals Europe**

Tata Chemicals Europe (TCE) is one of Europe's leading producers of soda ash, salt and sodium bicarbonate and other products, from our plants in Cheshire, UK.

TCE's high-quality soda ash is used in the manufacture of glass, detergents and chemicals and in several other industry applications. The many grades of sodium bicarbonate have applications ranging from haemodialysis and pharmaceuticals, food and animal feed, flue gas treatments through to detergents and personal care products.



TCE's subsidiary, British Salt, is the UK's leading salt business, producing pure white salt for a variety of uses from food, water-softening, and industrial uses through to de-icing.

TCE have a long and proud history. Having been founded in 1874, and being a founder-member of ICI. Now owned by Tata Chemicals, TCE is proud to be part of the Tata Group of companies. Not only does this give TCE global reach, but aligns the business squarely with the industry-leading ethical business and sustainability practices, for which the Tata Group is rightly recognised.