



## Press release

Chemelot grows to most competitive and most sustainable site of Western Europe

*Chemicals and Materials Site Chemelot unfolds ambitious future Vision*

Sittard-Geleen, 11 May 2016 - Chemelot, the chemicals and materials community in the south of Limburg, is a growth engine for the economy and employment. By 2025 Chemelot will rank among the world leaders in chemicals and materials. Strong competitiveness and the transformation towards more sustainable processes and products are essential to fulfilling this ambition. Vision Chemelot 2025 builds on the unique location in Europe where R&D and production have been successfully connected for almost a hundred years.

This is the core of the strategic Vision Chemelot 2025\* that was presented by the joint companies at Chemelot to the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Province of Limburg and the municipality of Sittard-Geleen.

The chemical industry in Europe is under fierce pressure from global competition. To maintain and expand long term employment at Chemelot the factories need to stay on top in Europe. To do this, the cost position and the sustainability footprint of processes and products need to be further improved. Vision Chemelot 2025 contains the core principles to realize these ambitions.

In ten years, Chemelot Industrial Park and Brightlands Chemelot Campus will have jobs for over 10,000 people. To facilitate this growth, the campus will be given room to expand. Chemelot will be led by one single organization responsible for governance and communications. The organization will also be responsible for acquisition of new manufacturing companies who will settle at Chemelot to benefit from the integration of raw materials, energy supplies and R&D in one location. The Brightlands Chemelot Campus will further excel in innovation and research activities in sustainable materials and processes.

In particular, Chemelot wants to build on its unique position - the combination of R&D on the campus and industrial production in the industrial park. There is ample room for new chemical companies on site. The growth of the campus is exceeding expectations and will grow at such a rate that by 2023 there will be no room left on the current Chemelot grounds. Further expansion towards the north seems to be the best solution.

Not least because of its overarching site permit, Chemelot is a highly attractive industrial site for new tenants. Socially responsible growth of Chemelot is an important condition. For instance, neighbors will benefit from the residual heat from Chemelot via the planned construction of *Het Groene Net*. This option is currently being explored. The sustainability transition of Chemelot is also key to keeping a top global position in the long term. Chemistry means connecting and that is precisely what Chemelot is striving for; a solid base and connections to the direct surroundings, with Limburg and with the rest of the Netherlands and Europe.

Chemelot is an economic engine for the province of Limburg and for the Netherlands. Chemelot consists of the Chemelot Industrial Park, with almost a hundred companies including multinationals such as Arlanxeo, AnQore, DSM, Fibrant, OCI Nitrogen and Sabic. Furthermore, Brightlands Chemelot Campus, together with the Brightlands campuses in Maastricht, Heerlen and Venlo, is part of Chemelot. If plans become reality, the direct employment at Chemelot will grow to over 10,000 people by 2025. Currently, Chemelot Industrial Park provides jobs to over 6000 people and the campus provides jobs to another 1700 people. The campus is also home to 600 students.

Vision Chemelot 2025 emphasizes the importance of an improved infrastructure around Chemelot. The land is situated next to the European network of roads A2/E35 (Amsterdam-Rome) and includes a harbor and railroad terminal. Furthermore, Chemelot is connected to pipelines for raw materials such as naphtha and ethylene with the harbors in Antwerp, Rotterdam and the Rhine-Ruhr area. To facilitate growth, the accessibility of Chemelot is of high importance; this will be achieved via a southern railroad connection and a better connection from Chemelot to the A2. Further separation of the transport of goods and people not only increases safety but also improves accessibility.

Chemelot will have one point of contact - one organization that represents Chemelot to the outside world. This organization will streamline the consultations and collaboration between the various companies and institutions, will actively communicate with stakeholders, will be responsible for acquisition on behalf of the Chemelot Industrial Park and will lead the transition towards the most sustainable site in Western Europe.

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\*Vision Chemelot 2025 is a joint vision of the larger companies at Chemelot; Arlanxeo, Brightlands Chemelot Campus, ChemicalInvest Holding, DSM Nederland, OCI Nitrogen, SABIC Petrochemicals B.V., Sitech Services and USG.

For more information, please contact Chemelot via [chemelot.nl](http://chemelot.nl).