



[OFFICIAL COMMERCIAL]

Orbia CEO / Lord Johnson, Friday 3rd November, 11:30 – 12:00

Context

- You are meeting with Mexican investor Orbia who will be represented by Sameer Bharadwaj (CEO) and Dave Smith (VP Koura and Wavin groups).

- [REDACTED] Out of scope

- [REDACTED] 12(5)(e)

[REDACTED] Out of scope

[REDACTED] Out of scope

[REDACTED] Out of scope

[REDACTED] 12(5)(e)



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For info

- The company are concerned about regulations on PFAS. There has been talk of a ban on these chemicals in the EU and DEFRA are currently deciding a UK position on this. See background for further details.

Background

- 12(5)(e)
[Redacted text block]
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- 12(5)(e)
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PFAS

- Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) represent a group of thousands of chemicals, with hundreds used commercially across many sectors of industry and society. There is increasing evidence of the occurrence of PFAS in the environment and, once in the environment, PFAS are persistent. This means we will continue to detect them for many years, despite restrictions.
- Action has already been taken to ban or highly restrict specific PFAS both domestically and internationally, including perfluoro-octane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). However, PFAS represent a very diverse group of chemicals with a wide range of uses for which safer and more sustainable alternatives are not yet available - making this a challenging issue to tackle.
- Defra and the Environment Agency, working closely with other regulators, have coordinated a programme of work on PFAS to develop our management approach.



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This initiative will help us assess levels occurring in the environment, their sources, and the potential risks, to inform future policy and regulatory approaches.

- We welcomed the publication of the PFAS Regulatory Management Options Analysis (RMOA), on 4 April 2023, which represents a significant milestone in the UK's efforts to protect people and the environment. DEFRA's ministers, in close consultation with the Devolved Governments, carefully considered the RMOA and have accepted its recommendations. Actions announced as part of the Plan for Water include work under UK REACH to reduce PFAS emissions by developing UK REACH restrictions, beginning with a restriction on PFAS in fire-fighting foams, and exploring further restrictions covering a wide range of industrial and consumer uses, along with implementing a joined-up approach to PFAS across government and with external stakeholders.
- The government has committed to publishing a Chemicals Strategy this year, which will frame the work we are doing across chemicals and put us on a path for improved chemicals management. It will set out our approach to managing PFAS, along with other chemicals of concern.

Out of scope



Biographies



Sameer S. Bharadwaj, CEO, Orbia

Mr. Sameer was appointed as Chief Executive Officer for Orbia in February 1st, 2021. He has also served as President of Orbia's Fluorinated Solutions & Polymer Solutions business groups. He has more than 20 years of leadership experience in technology-led innovation, operational excellence and talent development across the advanced materials, technology, energy and pharmaceutical industries.

Prior to joining Orbia, he held numerous executive leadership positions over the course of an 11-year tenure at Cabot Corporation, as Vice President and General Manager. He started his career as a senior research engineer at The Dow Chemical Company.

Mr. Sameer has an MBA from Harvard Business School, a Ph.D in Chemical Engineering from the University of Minnesota and a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Bombay.



Dave Smith, VP Product Management Koura & VP Strategy Wavin

David has degrees in Engineering and Chemical Engineering from the University of Birmingham. David joined ICI as a plant manager in 1995 and has continued to progress through the business from Business Development Manager, Commercial Director to become the Business Director.

David has P&L responsibility across Koura's Refrigerant and Medical propellant divisions with global sales reach and manufacturing sites in USA, UK and Japan.



Department for
Business & Trade

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Drafting official: 12(3) & 13(1)

Email: 12(3) & 13(1)

Tel no: 12(3) & 13(1)

SCS sign off: Beccy Eggleton

Email: 12(3) & 13(1)

Tel no: 12(3) & 13(1)



ANNEX A

Quotes and recent activity

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Out of scope