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Don Smolenski Named to Key Role of OEM Liaison Manager, North America for Evonik Oil Additives

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HORSHAM, PA --- Evonik Oil Additives USA, Inc. announces the addition of Dr. Donald Smolenski to its OEM Liaison team in North America.

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Dr. Smolenski joins Evonik Oil Additives after a long career with General Motors, most recently as a Technical Fellow in GM's Research and Development Center in Warren, Michigan. Prior to being named Technical Fellow, he served as GM's Lab Group Manager for Fluid Chemistry and Systems and, previous to that, served as Lab Group Manager for Sustainable Automotive Systems.

"In this key role," explains Evonik Oil Additives USA, Inc. President Doug Placek, "Don will collaborate with North America's leading OEM design and manufacturing engineers to identify lubrication solutions for resource efficiency challenges in transportation and industrial applications."

In the automotive world, Don Smolenski is recognized for his significant contributions to lubrication technology. He is co-inventor of the GM automatic engine oil life monitor (OLM), which has been installed on over 20 million vehicles and is now standard on most GM vehicles in North America. He currently serves as Chair of Technical Committee 2 for the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) and is also on the MRF Certification Committee of the Society of Tribologists and Lubrication Engineers (STLE).

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Dr. Smolenski has authored numerous technical papers on a wide range of lubricant topics and holds a Ph.D in Chemical Engineering from Wayne State University.

Don will be based in the Detroit area, where he and his family currently reside.

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About Evonik Oil Additives

Evonik Oil Additives has taken a leadership role in developing lubricant additive technology designed to improve fuel efficiency and productivity. Energy saving results have been demonstrated with VISCOPLEX® Viscosity Index Improvers (VIIs) in engine oils, driveline fluids and gear oils. Industrial and off-highway equipment field tests have also produced double-digit improvements in fuel savings with DYNAVIS® technology for hydraulic fluids.

Formerly known as RohMax, the Evonik Oil Additives business line of Evonik Industries specializes in high-performance additives for lubricants and refinery products. Evonik's specially customized VISCOPLEX™ grades allow the flow characteristics, lubricating performance, and crystallization properties of lubricants and biodiesel to be optimized over wide temperature ranges. Energy-efficient hydraulic systems using its DYNAVIS™ hydraulic fluid technology save fuel and boost productivity, thereby reducing CO₂ emissions and reducing operating costs.

Company information

Evonik, the creative international industrial group, is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. Its activities focus on the key megatrends health, nutrition, resource efficiency and globalization. Evonik benefits specifically from its innovative strength and integrated technology platforms. Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In fiscal 2011 more than 33,000 employees generated sales of around €14.5 billion and an operating profit (EBITDA) of about €2.8 billion.

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