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Arkema and Barrday, Inc. join forces to manufacture high performance composite solutions for the oil and gas market

Barrday Inc., a major player in the composite market, and Arkema announce the creation of a joint venture to manufacture and market carbon fiber and specialty polymer tapes for the growing oil and gas industrial market.

The new venture, to be named Barrflex® TU, will supply the most efficient thermoplastic composite solutions to the various players of the oil and gas industrial markets. The tapes will deliver substantial improvements in terms of weight reduction (replacement of metal) and corrosion resistance for the flexible pipes used in the deep offshore as well as onshore operations of tomorrow.

The complementary offerings of Barrday (proven experience in thermoplastic composite manufacture) and of Arkema's range of specialty polymers and resins (PVDF, Polyamides 11 and 12, PEKK, etc.) will enable Barrflex® TU to fully capitalize on the growth of the oil and gas market by marketing a new comprehensive and integrated range of solutions. Barrflex®TU will be focused on satisfying customer composite tape requirements using any resin, fiber and the development of product and process technology.

"This partnership with Arkema provides us with access to a unique and wide range of proven polymer solutions for this sector", stated Michael Buckstein, Barrday Inc. CEO. "For a long time Arkema has been an innovative and renowned player in fluoropolymers with Kynar® PVDF, in specialty polymers with Rilsan® PA11, and more recently with its new Kepstan® PEKK resins. We are delighted to be teaming with Arkema for this exciting oil and gas opportunity".

"Barrday is an innovative first-class supplier of thermoplastic composites for the composite pipes market serving the oil and gas industry", declared Christophe André, Executive Vice-President, advanced materials at Arkema. "Our respective capabilities and expertise are highly complementary, and this new integrated offering will deliver high added value to our pipe manufacturing customers as well as the major oil groups".

*A designer of materials and innovative solutions, **Arkema** shapes materials and creates new uses that accelerate customer performance. Our balanced business portfolio spans high-performance materials, industrial specialties and coating solutions. Our globally recognized brands are ranked among the leaders in the markets we serve. Reporting annual sales of €8.3 billion in 2017, we employ approximately 20,000 people worldwide and operate in close to 55 countries. We are committed to active engagement with all our stakeholders. Our research centers in North America, France and Asia concentrate on advances in bio-based products, new energies, water management, electronic solutions, lightweight materials and design, home efficiency and insulation. www.arkema.com*

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