

Borealis demands clarity following reports of alleged human trafficking on construction site in Kallo, Belgium

Borealis has been made aware of the intervention by the Belgian authorities at IREM-Ponticelli, the contractor overseeing the construction of the new propanedehydrogenation (PDH) installation in Kallo. Borealis requires all contractors and business partners of Borealis to comply fully with all legal requirements, including labour laws. Borealis considers the respectful treatment of all people working with and for the company as its absolute priority, and demands full transparency from IREM-Ponticelli.

To be clear, the current case does not concern Borealis employees, but the employees of the temporary joint venture of Irem S.p.a. and Ponticelli S.A.S., hereafter IREM-Ponticelli. This joint venture, like any other contractor or business partner of Borealis, is contractually obliged to behave in an ethical and compliant manner, as clearly outlined in the Borealis Code of Business Conduct.

Borealis is surprised and indignant to learn about the human trafficking allegations that are currently circulating in the media.

Borealis has set up a task force to investigate the matter. The company demands full transparency and disclosure by IREM-Ponticelli. In the meantime, Borealis will evaluate further actions from its side and pledges full cooperation with the authorities.

Borealis cannot speak on behalf of IREM-Ponticelli, and therefore cannot provide any more details at this time.

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Borealis is one of the world's leading providers of advanced and sustainable polyolefin solutions and a European front-runner in polyolefins recycling. In Europe, we are a market leader in base chemicals and fertilizers. We leverage our polymer expertise and decades of experience to offer value adding, innovative and circular material solutions for key industries such as consumer products, energy, healthcare, infrastructure and mobility. In re-inventing essentials for sustainable living, we build on our commitment to safety, our people, innovation and technology, and performance excellence. We are accelerating the transformation to a circular economy of polyolefins and expanding our geographical footprint to better serve our customers around the globe.

With head offices in Vienna, Austria, we employ 6,900 employees and operate in over 120 countries. In 2021, we generated total sales of EUR 12.342 EUR billion and a net profit of EUR 1,396 million. OMV, the Austria-based international oil and gas company, owns 75% of our shares, while the remaining 25% is owned by a holding company of the Abu-Dhabi based Mubadala. We supply services and products to customers around the globe through Borealis and two important joint ventures: Borouge (with the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, or ADNOC, based in UAE); and Baystar® (with TotalEnergies, based in the US).

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