



Release on Receipt
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News Release

HERCULES TO EXPAND AQUALON'S OPERATIONS IN CHINA

Announces Plans to Build New HEC Plant in Nanjing, China

WILMINGTON, DE, NOVEMBER 28, 2006 . . . Hercules Incorporated (NYSE:HPC) today announced that its Aqualon business unit will build a world-scale manufacturing plant in Nanjing, China for its hydroxyethylcellulose (HEC) family of products.

Hercules signed a Letter of Intent today with the Nanjing Chemical Industry Park (NCIP), where the plant will be located. The NCIP is a modern, highly integrated chemical manufacturing complex strategically located with excellent logistics to supply Chinese and export customers. The new plant's annual production capacity will be 15,000 metric tons and is expected to start up in mid-2008. Chuck Herak, Aqualon's General Manager of Coating Additives and Asia Pacific, commented, "This major investment demonstrates Aqualon's commitment to the strategic HEC business and enhances Aqualon's strong leadership position. With HEC assets in the U.S., Europe, and Asia, Aqualon will be well positioned to supply our global customers' increasing requirements."

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Hercules manufactures and markets chemical specialties globally for making a variety of products for home, office and industrial markets. For more information, visit the Hercules website at www.herc.com.

Aqualon, a business unit of Hercules Incorporated, is a world leader in products that manage the physical properties of aqueous systems. Most of Aqualon's products are derived from renewable natural raw materials. For more information, visit the Aqualon website at www.herc.com/aqualon.

This news release includes forward-looking statements, as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, reflecting management's current analysis and expectations, based on what management believes to be reasonable assumptions. Forward-looking statements may involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause the actual results to differ materially from those projected, stated or implied, depending on such factors as: ability to raise capital, business climate, business performance, economic and competitive uncertainties, higher manufacturing costs, changes in strategies, risks in developing new products and technologies, risks in developing new market opportunities, risks in completing capital investments, risks in supplying global markets, environmental and safety regulations, foreign exchange rates, adverse legal and regulatory

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developments, the outcome of litigation and appeals, and adverse changes in economic and political climates around the world, including terrorist activities, international hostilities and potential natural disasters. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the Company will meet future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. As appropriate, additional factors are contained in other reports filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This paragraph is included to provide safe harbor for forward-looking statements, which are not generally required to be publicly revised as circumstances change, and which the Company does not intend to update.

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