

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BRENNTAG SPECIALTIES, INC., AND KANEKA CORPORATION ANNOUNCE THEIR COLLABORATION WITH A NEW PERSONAL CARE INGREDIENT LINE**

*Brenntag Specialties, Inc., part of the Brenntag Group, announces a new collaboration with Kaneka Corporation for the distribution of the KANEKA Surfactin Line in the United States.*

The KANEKA Surfactin Line reduces the use of other surfactants and acts as an inhibitor for acne bacterial growth. In addition, this line is suitable for sensitive skin and is compatible with various alcohols and cationic ingredients.

The line includes:

- KANEKA Surfactin - 100 percent natural, easily biodegradable, and highly sustainable product
- KANEKA Premixed SQ401 - a pre-blend gel used for gelling oil and emulsification
- KANEKA Premixed TC301 - a pre-blend gel used for gelling oil and emulsification

"The KANEKA Surfactin Line is an exciting addition to our Personal Care portfolio," said Kim DeSordo, President of Brenntag Specialties, Inc. "Our Personal Care chemists have developed an innovative prototype highlighting Kaneka's newest technology. From our lab, to our sales team, to our customer base, Brenntag continues to provide technical support, innovative product development, and starting point formulations with our full-line of Personal Care ingredients."

Kaneka, headquartered in Tokyo and Osaka, Japan, has been in the market for over 70 years. Kaneka's four solution units consist of business segments that span functional plastics, expandable plastics, electronics products, synthetic fibers, life science products, foodstuffs, and chemicals.

"Our company focuses on technology and innovation. We seek the same from partners, such as Brenntag Specialties, where we create new business to satisfy current market needs and anticipate future requirements. We are devoted to improving the quality of life by developing more sustainable and environmentally conscious products," said Yoshifumi Okamoto, Senior Manager, in the New Business Development Department of Kaneka Corporation.

**About Brenntag:**

Brenntag, the global market leader in chemical distribution, covers all major markets with its extensive product and service portfolio. Headquartered in Essen, Germany, the company operates a global network with more than 530 locations in 73 countries and a workforce of more than 16,000 employees. In 2017, the company generated sales of EUR 11.7 billion (USD 13.3 billion). Brenntag connects chemical manufacturers and chemical users. The company supports its customers and suppliers with tailor-made distribution solutions for industrial and specialty chemicals. With over 10,000 products and a world-class supplier base, Brenntag offers one-stop-shop solutions to around 185,000 customers. This includes specific application technology, an extensive technical support and value-added services such as just-in-time delivery, product mixing, formulation, repackaging, inventory management and drum return handling. Long-standing experience and local excellence in the individual countries characterize the global market leader for chemical distribution.

For more information on Brenntag North America, please visit <https://www.brenntagnorthamerica.com>.

**About Kaneka Corporation:**

Kaneka Corporation is a diversified Chemicals company which was established in 1949 with the headquarters in Tokyo and Osaka, Japan. Kaneka Corporation has roughly 10,000 employees worldwide with annual sales of around \$5 billion USD. Regional Head Offices are located in Belgium, United States (Pasadena, TX) and China with sales offices or plants in 20 countries globally. Kaneka Americas Holding, Inc., a U.S. subsidiary of Kaneka Corporation, oversees the sales activities for Surfactin in the U.S. Kaneka Corporation's core technologies are polymer and fermentation technologies. These fermentation technology advances have resulted in Kaneka's CoEnzyme Q10/QH products, pharmaceutical intermediaries, foodstuffs and KANEKA Surfactin.

For more information, visit Kaneka's website at <http://www.kaneka.com/>.

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