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Camford Chemical Report

A weekly market letter on Canada's chemical process industries

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SDTC set to lead the way to net-zero Ottawa commits \$750 million to develop clean technologies

The federal government committed a further \$750 million in support of Canada's growing cleantech sector last month by recapitalizing Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC). The government believes continued support for SDTC is critical for startup and scaleup ventures in the clean technology field.

It is hoped this commitment will help businesses of all sizes adapt to meet current economic realities. The funding is expected to enable clean technology firms to grow and scale to meet domestic and global demand for solutions in the net-zero era. The intention of the federal plan is to create economic growth, cut pollution and support entrepreneurs in the manufacture of low-carbon products.

"Today's announcement will be very welcome news for our companies across Canada," commented Arnette Verschuren, who chairs the SDTC board of directors. "Clean technology is revolutionizing our world, and Canadian entrepreneurs are leading the way. From transforming waste into source materials, to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and creating cleaner air, water and soil, SDTC companies are developing world-class solutions that are being deployed and delivering real environmental benefits."

As the largest funder of small and medium sized cleantech enterprises in Canada, SDTC plays a crucial role in supporting entrepreneurs to seize the opportunities of the net-zero economy. The federal government commitment will enable SDTC to keep the momentum going and support even more Canadian cleantech entrepreneurs in the coming years.

Canada has joined countries around the world – including China, France, Japan and the U.S. – in introducing legally binding net-zero commitments. Hundreds of multinational corporations, as well as major Canadian companies, such as Maple Leaf Foods, Shopify and Canadian Natural Resources, have also made the commitment to achieving net-zero. Industries are scouring the world for technologies that can help them take all emissions and waste out of their businesses and the market for sustainable solutions is growing exponentially.

SDTC president and CEO Leah Lawrence also commented on the funding: "Today's announcement is about the entrepreneurs who will lead the transition to a zero-carbon, zero-waste economy. Canadian cleantech companies are doing extraordinary things, and we're proud to keep supporting them as they create economic and environmental prosperity for Canadians."

Opportunities for the chemical sector

Achieving the goal of net zero carbon emissions for all of Canada by 2050 will require chemistry-based solutions, according to Bob Mattinson, president and CEO of the Chemistry Industry Association of Canada (CIAC). "Our industry continues to be a solutions-provider to the world's most challenging problems. We are ready to step up to the challenge, but we need close collaboration to meet this

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Brenntag strengthens position in Atlantic Canada via Alpha acquisition

Brenntag has signed an agreement to acquire Alpha Chemical, a full-line chemical distributor headquartered in Dartmouth, NS. Alpha maintains its focus on several key industries, including oil and gas, mining, water treatment, food, pharmaceuticals and aquaculture. The acquired business currently generates annual sales of approximately US\$12 million. The transaction is expected to close this month, subject to customary conditions.

Lars Schneider, president of Brenntag Canada, underlined the potential of the acquisition: "Alpha Chemical has had an impressive track record of growth and high level of customer satisfaction over the past two decades. The company's infrastructure, capabilities and personnel will support the expansion of our new Brenntag Essentials and Brenntag Specialties divisions in Canada. The acquisition will allow Alpha Chemical and Brenntag Canada to provide even stronger value to our customers and supply partners in Atlantic Canada. I am thrilled to welcome the Alpha Chemical team to Brenntag."

Alpha Chemical offers a full range of services, including laboratory analysis, onsite logistics support and technical support. The company can ship full truckload and less-than-truckload shipments and also handles rail and international transport. Alpha offers bulk railcar,

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