



Press release

MiXscience (Avril Group) and Salus Group present plans for a strategic alliance to serve the growing needs of the animal production and nutrition markets in Brazil and its region

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MiXscience (Avril Group) and Salus Group, two leading players in premixes and feed additives specialties, have announced their plans to develop an alliance agreement under which both companies will join forces to develop a platform to best serve the growing needs and demand of their markets. Through this strategic alliance, both partners will capitalize on their shared know-how, values and capacity for innovation to boost development in Brazil and conquer new markets, in a context of growth in livestock production.

- A natural and promising partnership -

The alliance between MiXscience and Salus Group provides for MiXscience to become a majority shareholder in Salus Group. This alliance will operate under a strategic committee dedicated to developing the synergies and internationalization of the two companies.

With Brazil being the 3rd most dynamic animal feed market in the world, this alliance will enable Salus Group to expand its capacity to supply the Brazilian market with a fully-integrated offer, focused on innovation to help customers optimize their performance and better anticipate environmental and health challenges for safer, more sustainable growth.

For MiXscience, the alliance represents a major step in the company's international development, shortly after it established subsidiaries in Poland and Turkey. To target markets that are seeing growth in livestock production, MiXscience pursues the development of joint platforms with recognized regional leaders, such as Salus Group in Brazil, thus offering innovative and tailor-made solutions and services fully dedicated to customers' specific needs and challenges.

This alliance will be fully adapted to the Brazilian market's specific needs at all stages of the animal production and nutrition value chain, including premixes, nutritional specialties, feed additives, nutritional or analytical services. This end-to-end approach will also create opportunities for both MiXscience and Salus Group to capitalize on their natural synergies to foster opportunities for growth in neighboring markets outside Brazil.

- Leaders with common values -

Founded in 2011, Salus Group brings together a highly skilled team of experts in the field of animal nutrition and feed additives. It is committed to offering best-in-class services focused on helping customers reach the highest standards of quality, traceability and safety, notably in terms of cross-contamination control and laboratory services.

MiXscience is the animal expertise center of the Avril Group. With over 50 years of history, it is specialized in the products and services that are essential to improving livestock farming in terms of husbandry and the management of animal health. MiXscience is committed to contributing to the

leadership of its customers and to strengthening its expertise in a strongly growing global market, with two main activities: nutrition-health and biosecurity. Both activities converge towards priority areas in response to global trends regarding the demedicalization of livestock units: disease prevention, control of the environment and the enhanced immune status of animals.

MiXscience's expertise also draws considerable strength from key partnerships with a widely spread network of international universities, as well as the MiXscience Research Center (MRC). Based near Paris, France, it is the first private center in Europe for research and innovation in animal nutrition and livestock management.

The Avril and Salus groups will make every effort to ensure that all the partners and employees central to the achievement of this plan will be able to play an active role in the success of this new and ambitious opportunity for the animal production and nutrition markets in Brazil. The completion of this project is subject to several conditions, including an authorization from the competition authorities.

For **Jean-Pierre PAILLOT, the CEO of MiXscience**: *"MiXscience is a company with long-term experience. Today's joint alliance plans with the Salus Group are a major advance, bringing together two natural partners to offer their customers new opportunities for differentiation and excellence. Both the MiXscience and Salus teams share the same vision and values, and are eager to start working together under their common trademark: know-how, market understanding and best customer service."*

For **Fábio ZAVICKIS, the General Manager of Salus Group**: *"We believe that this partnership will strongly reinforce Salus strategy, knowledge and differentiation. Our vision is to become the preferred choice of the Brazilian animal nutrition market and we are fully committed to support our client's performance improvement through the application and development of reliable, healthy and innovative solutions."*

About MiXscience

MiXscience is part of the Avril Group and today has 250 employees in France, Poland and Turkey. The Company is driven by innovation in animal nutrition and production and reinvests nearly 10% of its turnover in R&D. MiXscience produces premixes and feed specialties that represent more than 7 million metric tons of Compound Feed Equivalent under MiXscience's technique.

About the Salus Group

The Salus Group has 80 employees and had a turnover of \$24M in 2015. It has a brand new state-of-the-art premixes unit in Santo Antonio de Posse. The company is now eager to develop new products adapted to the expectations of the Brazilian market together with the shared knowledge of MiXscience.

About the Avril Group

Set up in 1983 at the initiative of French farmers in order to assure the future of the vegetable oil and proteins sector, Avril has become a major industrial and financial group that is developing in France and internationally.

Present in sectors as diverse as human foods, animal feeds and expertise, renewable energies and chemistry, Avril owns a portfolio of strong brands that are leaders in their markets: Diester®, Sanders, Lesieur, Puget, Matines, Bunica, Taous...

In more than 30 years, the Group has changed in size but its purpose has remained the same: to create sustainable value in the vegetable oils and proteins sector while contributing to better foods for humans and preservation of the planet.

To fulfill its mission, Avril draws strength from its industrial activities organized around the vegetable oils and animal production sectors, as well as from its financial activity, which operates through the finance and development company Sofiprotéol.

In 2015, the Avril Group achieved turnover worth €6.1 billion. It counts 7,200 employees working in 21 countries.

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