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***Press Release***

**SCG and Mahidol partner up to open “SCG – MUSC Innovation Research Center” in a bid to develop plastic innovation with improved recyclability and meet the market needs for sustainable packaging.**

**The Chemicals Business, SCG, in collaboration with the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Mahidol University, has established SCG-MUSC Innovation Research Center, an institute dedicated to the research and development of special innovative polymers from catalysts that enhance recyclability in response to the global demand for sustainable plastic packaging.**

**Tanawong Areeratchakul, President of the Chemicals Business, SCG**, stated that the company strives to innovate high value added (HVA) products and services by placing a continuous emphasis on research and development. In 2018, thanks to an R&D investment of over THB 2.4 billion, or 1.1% of its sales revenue, the company successfully expanded the proportion of its sales from HVAs to 53% and held over 1,200 patents, which was a 40% increase from the previous year. In addition, the company is also using core ideas of the circular economy as the guiding principles for its product design, prioritizing durability, recyclability, and high performance to meet global demand, especially for plastic packaging with greater recyclability.

“In this partnership between SCG and the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Mahidol University to establish SCG-MUSC Innovation Research Center, we aim to develop special innovative polymers from catalysts that improve recyclability and material recoverability for applications such as mono-material packaging. This collaboration will enhance our potential and encourage an exchange of knowledge in innovation development, enabling the Chemicals Business to offer products and services that not only meet global demand promptly but also have specifications that are better aligned with customer needs.”

**Assoc. Prof. Sittiwat Lertsiri, Ph. D., Dean of Faculty of Science, Mahidol University**, said that this public-private partnership has marked a significant leap forward in the national research community. In addition, through this collaboration, the two organizations will create a new generation of science and technology experts and innovators for the country through a joint research program, which not only shows how this R&D partnership is concretely realized but also synergizes the strengths of both partners. Students will also be given an opportunity to become involved in the R&D program and work alongside researchers in the center.

**Dr. Suracha Udomsak, Vice President - CTO – Innovation and Technology of the Chemicals Business, SCG**, remarked, “The Chemicals Business and the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Mahidol University have had collaborative R&D initiatives since 2007. This year, we have established SCG-MUSC Innovation Research Center at Chemistry Building at Faculty of Science, Mahidol University. This center will accelerate and improve the efficiency of research by bringing together the foundational knowledge in chemistry and advanced chemical structure analytical implements of the academic sector and SCG’s experience and expertise in scaling up and commercialization to meet customer needs while also ensuring environmental responsibility.”

This partnership between SCG and Mahidol University will prompt research institutes and other organizations in every sector across Thailand to recognize the significance of research and development guided by the principles of circular economy as well as encourage commercial research for sustainable and mutual development of both businesses and the world.

**For more details about Chemicals Business, SCG, please visit** [**http://www.scgchemicals.com**](http://www.scgchemicals.com) **or check out SCG’s latest news at** [**http://scgnewschannel.com**](http://scgnewschannel.com) **/ Facebook:** [**scgnewschannel**](https://facebook.com/scgnewschannel) **/ Twitter:** [**@scgnewschannel**](https://twitter.com/scgnewschannel) **or Line@:** [**@scgnewschannel**](https://line.me/R/ti/p/%40scgnewschannel)**.**

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