



**SOLVAY
SOLEXIS**

May 24, 2011

Rosemary Loutey
Director of Purchasing
Markel Corporation
435 School Lane
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

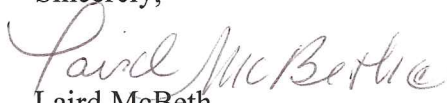
Dear Ms. Loutey:

On May 19th, 2011, our facility at Spinetta-Marengo, Italy suffered from an unexpected and unforeseen equipment failure in the distillation section of the tetrafluoroethylene monomer plant. As result of such event, the production of ALGOFLON[®], HYFLON[®], and TECNOFLON[®] products is severely interrupted. The occurrence of such event has been unpredictable and it could not have been avoided by us in any way.

As result of such unforeseen event, Solvay Solexis is declaring force majeure. Though Solvay Solexis is utilizing its available resources to remedy this situation, based on current forecast and expected date of resumption of production, Solvay Solexis anticipates that this force majeure declaration will remain in effect till August 31, 2011 ("Estimated Force Majeure Period"). During the Estimated Force Majeure Period, Solexis will allocate its supply of ALGOFLON, HYFLON, and TECNOFLON products in equitable manner among its customers and its internal requirements. Your sales representative will contact you to provide further details.

We appreciate your cooperation in our efforts to resolve this Force Majeure event. Please call your sales representative if you have any question.

Sincerely,


Laird McBeth
President