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AD HOC ANNOUNCEMENT PURSUANT TO ART. 53 LR

Clariant confirms talks regarding a potential acquisition of Ashland

Muttenz, 23 November 2026

Clariant, a sustainability-focused specialty chemical company, notes recent market speculation regarding a potential transaction involving Clariant and Ashland Inc.

In light of this speculation, Clariant confirms discussions regarding a potential acquisition of Ashland in partnership with Clayton, Dubilier & Rice (CD&R), one of the world's leading private investment firms.

There can be no certainty that a transaction will be agreed or completed, nor as to the final terms of any such transaction. A further announcement will be made if and when appropriate.

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Clariant is a focused specialty chemical company led by the overarching purpose of "Greater chemistry – between people and planet." By connecting customer focus, innovation, and people, the company creates solutions to foster sustainability in different industries. On 31 December 2025, Clariant totaled a staff number of 10 281 and recorded sales of CHF 3.915 billion in the fiscal year. Since January 2023, the Group conducts its business through the three Business Units Care Chemicals, Catalysts, and Adsorbents & Additives. Clariant is based in Switzerland.