

*Release: September 1, 2016*

***Southern Ionics enters Alumina Tri Hydrate Market***

Southern Ionics Incorporated (SII) has begun supply of Alumina Tri Hydrate products to North American customers. ATH (aka Bayer hydrate) is a critical raw material for a variety of applications in the alumina chemicals market. SII has long been one of the largest North American Bayer hydrate consumers. With the shutdown of Alcoa's Point Comfort, TX and Sherwin Alumina's Gregory, TX refineries in 2016, Southern Ionics established import supply for its own hydrate requirements. SII now has wet and dry hydrate products available for sale in the US Gulf, with barge, rail and truck shipping capabilities. Plans are also under way to import, warehouse and supply calcined alumina to consumers in North America.

In support of market entry, Southern Ionics is pleased to announce the hire of Del Thomas as Business Manager of Alumina Products, effective September 1, 2016. Mr. Thomas has 25 years of experience in the alumina chemicals industry with Alcoa World Alumina LLC, with extensive knowledge in all alumina products. He will be responsible for managing sales of Southern Ionics Alumina Products. Feel free to contact Del at (856) 537-0778, or by email at [dthomas@southernionics.com](mailto:dthomas@southernionics.com).