

## **Avantium appoints Zanna McFerson as Chief Business Development Officer**

**Amsterdam, 8 June 2017 – Avantium, a leading chemical technology company and forerunner in renewable chemistry announces today it has appointed Mrs. Zanna McFerson as its Chief Business Development Officer.**

McFerson, former Chief Business officer at Amyris and Vice-President at Cargill, will join Avantium on 1 July 2017. She will be member of the company's management team, and further drive Avantium's market opportunity in the increasing demand for renewable chemicals.

"With the appointment of Zanna McFerson we strengthen the commercial leadership of Avantium to attract industrial partners and to pursue effective go-to-market strategies for our emerging renewable chemistry business. Zanna brings a wealth of experience and a strong deal track record structuring, negotiating and managing strategic partnerships for transformative products and the renewables industry. We look forward to her contribution to the successful growth of Avantium," said Tom van Aken, CEO of Avantium.

Zanna McFerson: "I am honored to join the talented team at Avantium and together continue to transform industries through its exciting technology platform. The company's leading position in renewable chemistry allows us to work with likeminded partners to bring sustainable biobased materials meeting an increasing world demand in diversified markets."

Zanna McFerson (Finland, 1965), had several positions at Cargill over a 20-year period, in trading, sales, product development and global business management. Her last position held at Cargill was Vice-President and Business Director of Truvia®, where she led the successful introduction of the natural sweetener Truvia® in the US, Latin America and Europe. McFerson directed a global team with resources across research and development, supply chain, sales and marketing. After Cargill, McFerson became Chief Business Officer at Amyris, an American biotechnology company, active in the development and commercialization of renewable products.

### **About Avantium**

Avantium is a leading chemical technology company and a forerunner in renewable chemistry. Together with its partners around the world, Avantium develops efficient processes and sustainable products made from biobased materials. Avantium offers a breeding ground for revolutionary renewable chemistry solutions. From invention to commercially viable production processes. One of Avantium's success stories is YXY technology, with which it created PEF: a completely new, high-quality plastic made from plant-based industrial sugars. Since October 2016 all YXY activities have been transferred to Synvina, the joint venture of Avantium and BASF. Avantium is also working on a host of other ground-breaking projects and provides advanced catalysis research services and systems to the leading chemical and petrochemical companies. Avantium recorded revenues of €10.5 million in 2016.



## Press release

Avantium shares are listed on Euronext Amsterdam and Euronext Brussels (symbol: AVTX), its offices and headquarters are based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

### Further information

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