

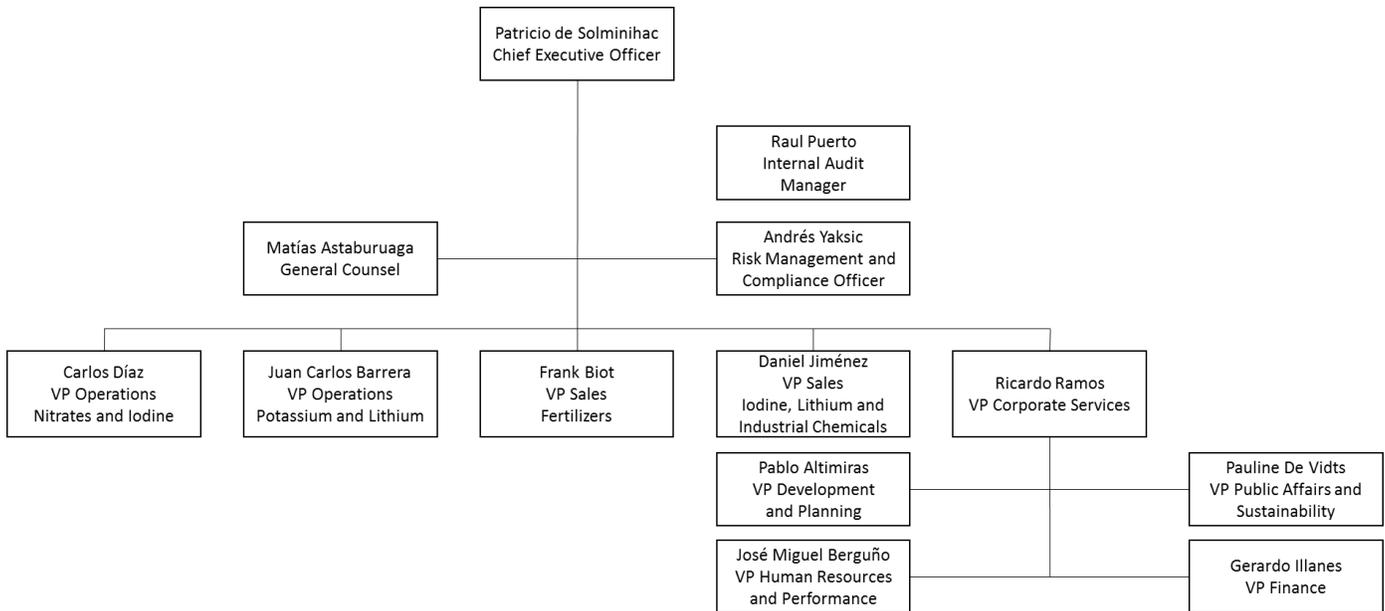


SQM ANNOUNCES CHANGES IN ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Santiago, Chile. May 18, 2016.- Sociedad Química y Minera de Chile S.A. (SQM) (NYSE: SQM; Santiago Stock Exchange: SQM-B, SQM-A) announced a structural reorganization, as a part of the Company's strategic development. Under the new structure, there will be two separate sales departments, one for the fertilizer business and one for the industrial business, in order to best serve the specific needs of each segment. In addition, new departments have been created to oversee the areas of development and planning, human resources and performance, public affairs and sustainability, and finance, all reporting to the vice president of corporate services.

SQM's Chief Executive Officer, Patricio de Solminihac, stated, "We have been working diligently in recent months to evaluate the best way to face the challenges we see in the different markets in which we participate, in the coming years. As a result, we have decided to make some organizational changes that will allow us to more effectively focus our efforts on the priorities of our business. The executives that have been placed in charge of each of the departments that make up our company all have a proven track record of success at SQM. I am confident that the great team we have will be able to successfully take on the challenges and opportunities that the future will bring, creating value for our shareholders, customers, employees, and communities where we operate."

An organizational chart illustrating the new structure is set forth below:



SQM

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About SQM

SQM is an integrated producer and distributor of specialty plant nutrients, iodine, lithium, potassium-related fertilizers and industrial chemicals. Its products are based on the development of high quality natural resources that allow the Company to be a leader in costs, supported by a specialized international network with sales in over 110 countries. SQM's development strategy aims to maintain and strengthen the Company's position in each of its businesses.

The leadership strategy is based on the Company's competitive advantages and on the sustainable growth of the different markets in which it participates. SQM's main competitive advantages in its different businesses include:

- Low production costs based on vast and high quality natural resources;
- Know-how and its own technological developments in its various production processes;
- Logistics infrastructure and high production levels that allow SQM to have low distribution costs;
- High market share in all its core products;
- International sales network with offices in 20 countries and sales in over 110 countries;
- Synergies from the production of multiple products that are obtained from the same two natural resources;
- Continuous new product development according to the specific needs of its different customers;
- Conservative and solid financial position.

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Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as: "anticipate," "plan," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "strategy," "should," "will" and similar references to future periods. Examples of forward-looking statements include, among others, statements we make concerning the Company's business outlook, future economic performance, anticipated profitability, revenues, expenses, or other financial items, anticipated cost synergies and product or service line growth.

Forward-looking statements are neither historical facts nor assurances of future performance. Instead, they are estimates that reflect the best judgment of SQM management based on currently available information. Because forward-looking statements relate to the future, they involve a number of risks, uncertainties and other factors that are outside of our control and could cause actual results to differ materially from those stated in such statements. Therefore, you should not rely on any of these forward-looking statements. Readers are referred to the documents filed by SQM with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, specifically the most recent annual report on Form 20-F, which identifies important risk factors that could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are based on information available to SQM on the date hereof and SQM assumes no obligation to update such statements, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.