



Department of Justice

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The Department of Justice announced today it has filed an antitrust suit challenging the acquisition by Rohm and Haas Company of the ion exchange resins business and assets of Duolite International, Inc., a subsidiary of Diamond Shamrock Corporation. The Department filed at the same time a proposed consent decree settling the suit.

Both were filed in U.S. District Court in the District of Columbia.

Charles F. Rule, Acting Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division, said that the suit alleged that the effect of the acquisition may be substantially to lessen competition in the production of ion exchange resins for sale in the United States.

Ion exchange resins are synthetic resinous beads principally used to remove objectionable ions from aqueous solutions, thereby purifying the solution. In 1983, total sales of such resins in the United States amounted to approximately \$112 million. Rohm and Haas, which has its headquarters in Philadelphia, accounted for approximately 35 percent of those sales, and Duolite accounted for approximately 16 percent.

To resolve antitrust concerns resulting from the acquisition, Rohm and Haas has agreed to divest, through a

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broker, the Duolite ion exchange resin plant, which is located in Redwood City, California, and a non-exclusive technology license for the manufacture and sale of Duolite ion exchange resins.

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