

October 1, 2010

Dear Valued Customer:

We are pleased to inform you that, with the sale of our company to an affiliate of New Mountain Capital, LLC, we have a new name. Effective today, Mallinckrodt Baker is now Avantor™ Performance Materials. It's a new name for us and a new day for us all.

Avantor™ (pronounced ah-VAHN-tor) comes from:

- Avant, which means “leading” or “innovating” (as in avant-garde); and
- Tor, which means “mountain.”

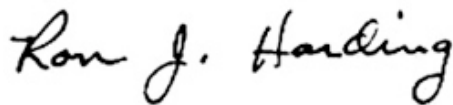
‘Avant’ captures our new energy, innovation, passion and bold, cutting-edge ideas. ‘Tor’ signifies our aspiration to achieve new heights of performance and quality. The name Avantor™ captures the heart and soul of innovation; pushing known boundaries and overcoming obstacles. It tells you we’ll be a high-tech company that is bold and energetic, passionate about helping you soar to new heights, take on new challenges and achieve new breakthroughs. It promises you a market-leading partner in advancing cutting-edge performance.

The support of our new owners gives us the opportunity to realize our full potential by enhancing our product lines and global supply chain to better serve you anywhere in the world. We know that you depend on our product quality and consistency in existing and new technologies where reliable, reproducible results are critical. Looking ahead, we will continue to enhance our offerings to provide you with advanced chemistries and materials that enable performance, increase speed to market and enhance your processes.

Over the years, our strong customer relationships have enabled us to achieve success in the worldwide chemical industry. We remain committed to providing you with the high level of quality and service you have come to expect from Mallinckrodt Baker. We do not anticipate any supply interruptions or process changes as a result of the acquisition which closed last month. And while we will continue to use the J.T.Baker® brand, the Mallinckrodt® name will be retained by Covidien. Over time, any products sold under our Mallinckrodt® product line brand name will be transitioned to a new name. We expect to make further announcements regarding the branding of the Mallinckrodt® product line in the near future.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We will update you regarding significant developments during this exciting time as they occur. If you have any questions about our company or any of the matters discussed in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact your Avantor™ sales representative.

Sincerely,



Ron J. Harding
President