

1st December, 2008

AVAILABILITY OF ACETONITRILE

Dear Valued Sigma-Aldrich Customer:

There is currently a global shortage of acetonitrile that is likely to last into the first half of 2009.

At Sigma-Aldrich, we have so far been able to maintain a stable supply of acetonitrile for our established customer base. We have a reliable supply chain based on multiple-sourcing from a number of our business partners producing the raw materials.

Because the availability of acetonitrile is now worsening, we have been forced to take the regrettable decision of allocating and rationing material to customers based on their order history from us. As a regular customer of ours, you will from now on receive a proportion of the quantities you have purchased from us in the past.

In addition, we may not be able to supply new customers with acetonitrile.

We are taking all possible actions to maintain an adequate supply of this critical material. We will inform you of any change in the situation. Until that time, please feel free to call our Customer & Sales Service representatives.

With many thanks for your patience and continued support.

Sigma-Aldrich