

Press Release

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ALTANA Electrical Insulation Uses Synergy Potential

Wesel, February 04, 2004 – As part of its continuing policy of strategic alignment, ALTANA Electrical Insulation (AEI), a business unit of ALTANA Chemie AG, Wesel, is concentrating on realizing synergy potentials and on improving the structures within the business unit. The focus here is on strategic fit, growth and an enhanced market position.

With effect from 1.1.2004, AEI is to integrate the distributing company for impregnating resins and compounds Epoxylite Ltd., Bradford (UK) into Sterling Technology Ltd., Manchester (UK). Dr. Christoph Schlünken, head of the AEI business unit, has stated: "The brand name of Epoxylite will be preserved and the product line will continue to be consistently developed."

With effect from December 31, 2003, the Italian subsidiary Syntel S.p.A was merged with Dea Tech SIVA s.r.l. which has since been trading as Deatech s.r.l. The two sites at Ascoli Piceno and Quattordio will be maintained and play an important role in future as wire enamel production sites, not least as a result of production of the wire enamel business being transferred from Schenectady International Inc.

ALTANA Chemie is consistently focusing on highly profitable specialty chemicals. It was on January 7 of this year that AEI acquired through its US subsidiary P.D. George the electrical insulation business of Ranbar Electrical Materials Inc. in the USA.

ALTANA Chemie develops and produces high-quality, innovative products in the special chemicals sector. The special chemicals activities of the ALTANA Group as a globally active group of companies are consolidated in ALTANA Chemie AG. ALTANA Chemie AG with its headquarters in Wesel, Germany, is the executive company for the three business units of Additives & Instruments, Coatings & Sealants, and Electrical Insulation. ALTANA Chemie provides innovative and environmentally compatible solutions, along with with the appropriate special products, for coatings manufacturers, paint and plastics processors, and the electronics industry. The range of products includes additives, special coatings, sealing and plugging compounds, impregnating agents, and testing and measuring instruments. In its target markets the company occupies a leading position in terms of quality, innovation and service.

In 2003 ALTANA Chemie with more than 2,600 employees achieved sales of €755m. Sectorally, therefore, ALTANA Chemie is among the most innovative, fast-developing and profitable chemical corporations in the world.

This press release is also available on the Internet at www.altanachemie.com/press