



Gurit sells Swiss medical equipment trading company Homedica

Wattwil, 3 January 2006. With effect from 31 December 2005, Gurit-Heberlein sold its Swiss medical equipment trading company, Homedica AG, Hünenberg, to Codan Medical AG in neighbouring Steinhausen. Homedica AG sells medical equipment made by well-known international manufacturers on the Swiss market and, to a lesser extent, the airway management products manufactured by the Group's own Medisize brand.

With effect from 1 January 2006, Homedica AG, Hünenberg, came under new ownership: Aligning its Health Care activities, Gurit has sold its interest in this company, which specializes in the sale and distribution of medical disposables used in anaesthesia/intensive care, radiology, cardiology and neurosurgery, to Codan Medical AG in nearby Steinhausen. In Homedica's wide product range, the only items manufactured by the Group itself are the airway management products marketed under the Medisize brand. Most of the products are made by other international medical corporations. With approximately ten employees, Homedica generates sales in the region of CHF 4 to 5 million.

Complementary products and improved cost structure

The products represented and the regional specializations of the two neighbouring companies complement each other ideally. In the face of relentless price pressure in the health care sector, amalgamation of the two companies will lead to more efficient use of the infrastructure and a sustained improvement in the cost structure. Any practical consequences or changes will be communicated directly in writing and in good time to the customers of Homedica AG and/or CODAN Medical AG.

About Gurit-Heberlein

Gurit-Heberlein specializes in Chemical and Synthetics Technology. The Group's two existing Divisions, *Industrial Applications* and *Health Care*, are to be made financially independent of each other in the course of 2006, retroactive to 1 January 2006, and will continue to be run as two public companies.

The *Health Care* Division is active in two main areas: the production of impression and filling materials, pins and posts, and a wide range of supplementary products for dentists and dental laboratories; and the clean-room



manufacture of disposable medical and pharmaceutical OEM products as well as airway management products for the Medisize brand. Gurit's *Industrial Applications* Division is one of the world's leading suppliers of advanced composite materials to the wind energy, aircraft and aerospace, and marine and automotive industries, as well as for civil engineering applications.

About Codan Medical: www.codan.ch

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