

Gurit-Heberlein strengthens position in composite technologies

Wattwil, July 28, 2003. The Gurit-Heberlein Group (SWX Swiss Exchange: GURZ) continues to expand its position in the composite technologies market with the company's British subsidiary, SP, acquiring the assets of the Canadian based ATC Chemicals Inc. The deal was concluded on July 22, 2003. The acquisition complements the product offering of Gurit Composite Technologies with structural foams for the marine and wind energy sectors and facilitates the market penetration in North America.

The Gurit-Heberlein Group acquired the assets of the Canadian based ATC Chemicals Inc. through its British subsidiary SP Systems, effective July 22, 2003. The companies involved have agreed not to disclose the acquisition price. Apart from polyester-based adhesives, ATC produces advanced SAN-based structural foams (CoreCell[®]), mainly for the North American marine market. The integration of the former ATC should add some CHF 12 million to the sales of Gurit Composite Technologies on an annual basis.

Structural foams are used in lightweight sandwich structures as the core between fibre-reinforced laminate skins. The CoreCell[®] foam range acquired, feature high toughness and a high chemical capability with prepregs, compared to competing PVC based materials.

With the Gurit-Composite Technologies group increasing its presence in North America, the new capabilities will help the group to strengthen Gurit's position in the American marine and wind energy market.

Gurit-Heberlein AG
9630 Wattwil
Tel. 071 987 10 10
Fax 071 987 10 05
www.gurit.ch
info@gurit.ch

For further information:
Dr. R. Wehri, Gurit-Heberlein Gruppe; CH 9630 Wattwil
Phone +41 (0)71 987 1010; Fax +41 (0)71 987 1005; www.gurit.com



About Gurit-Heberlein

The Gurit-Heberlein Group specializes in clearly defined areas in the Chemical and Synthetics Technology sector. Group companies have profound and wide-ranging expertise in materials, processes and basic research for the synthetics sector. Gurit focuses on applications for the health care and industrial sectors. The *Health Care Division* addresses two market segments: the dental sector, where the main activities are impression and filling materials, as well as a wide range of supplementary products for dentists and dental laboratories; and the medical and pharmaceutical industries, where the Group manufactures airway management and disposable OEM products under clean-room conditions. Gurit's *Industrial Applications Division* is one of the world's leading suppliers of state-of-the-art advanced composite material and construction systems. In the fiber technology sector (manufacture and finishing of synthetic fibers), key components from Gurit-Heberlein set standards for the industry worldwide.

About ATC

ATC Chemicals Inc. ATC was founded in 1988 as a manufacturer of polyester compounds. Located just north of the Vermont, USA, border, the company started production of Core-Cell® foam in 1993.

About SP / Gurit Composite Technologies

With headquarters in the UK and further operations in Spain and Australia, SP has 25 years of composites experience in the automotive, marine and wind energy industries. SP's offering includes heavyweight structural prepregs, liquid epoxies for infusion and laminating, structural paste and film adhesives, dry reinforcements, core materials and extensive structural design and process engineering services. SP is part of Gurit Composite Technologies, a group of companies who offer an unrivalled range of composite products and services to their key markets.