



Joint press release



Brussels, 15 July 2010, 5.40 pm

Promat International NV buys Microtherm Engineered Solutions

Promat International NV, a subsidiary of the Etex Group NV, has reached an agreement with the shareholders of Microtherm Engineered Solutions NV (Gimv, Sofindev II and KBC Private Equity) on the sale of all Microtherm shares. This transaction is subject to approval by the German competition regulator (*Bundeskartellamt*). Following approval, the parties expect to complete the transaction within a couple of months.

Microtherm (www.microtherm.be) has been manufacturing high-performance thermal insulation materials based on microporous silica for more than 40 years. As a manufacturer of a broad range of products that are often custom-made, Microtherm Engineered Solutions provides made-to-measure solutions for its customers. Microtherm has offices in Belgium, Japan and the US and employs more than 200 staff.

The Etex Group is a Belgian industrial group specialised in manufacturing and commercialising high-quality building material and systems. Promat International is the Etex Group's specialist in passive fire protection and high temperature insulation.

The parties have agreed that no additional details will be released at present.

NOTE FOR THE EDITOR

About Gimv

Gimv is a European investment company with 30 years' experience in private equity and venture capital. It is listed on NYSE Euronext Brussels and manages assets of some 1.8 billion euros (including third-party funds).

Gimv invests in buyouts and finances growth in established companies through its four local teams based in Belgium, the Netherlands, France and Germany. The company invests growth capital in larger companies in Flanders (Belgium) through the Gimv-XL fund, and invests venture capital in high tech sectors through its specialised Life Sciences, Technology and Cleantech teams.

In addition, Gimv focuses on infrastructure projects in the Benelux through its DG Infra+ and DG Infra Yield funds, and is active in Central and Eastern Europe through funds and joint ventures.

More information on Gimv is available at www.gimv.com

About Sofindev II

Since the early 1990s, Sofindev's funds have been some of the most important sources of private equity and buyout capital in Belgium. Sofindev provides growth capital to medium-sized companies with substantial growth potential and helps them to implement long-term strategies aimed at creating value.

More information on Sofindev II is available at www.sofindev.be

About KBC Private Equity

With an experienced team, KBC Private Equity has around seventy active investments in portfolio with a market value of some 500 million euros. An active shareholder, it is involved in taking strategic decisions and providing support to management in the further development of their company.

More information on KBC Private Equity is available at www.kbcpe.be