



Hunter Douglas acquires Mermet, a French sunscreen manufacturer

Rotterdam, July 28, 2005 - Hunter Douglas, the world market leader in window coverings, has acquired 91.8% of Mermet from the Mermet family. Mermet is a French based manufacturer of glass fiber sunscreen and wallcovering fabrics.

Hunter Douglas will, in September, make a public offer for the remaining shares, which are listed on the French stock exchange.

Mermet is the world's leading manufacturer and marketer of glass fiber sunscreen, and also manufactures wallcovering fabrics. In 2004, the company had sales of EUR 51.2 million and employs 360 people.

Mermet operates two plants, in Veyrins, France, and South Carolina, U.S.A., and has distribution facilities in Melbourne, Australia, and Barcelona, Spain. Management will remain unchanged.

The acquisition is expected to strengthen Hunter Douglas' position in the global sunscreen market.

Hunter Douglas has its Head Office in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, and a Management Office in Luzern, Switzerland. The Group is comprised of a 162 companies with 64 manufacturing and 98 assembly operations in more than 100 countries. Hunter Douglas had sales in 2004 of EUR 1,720 mln and has about 16,500 employees.

The shares of Hunter Douglas N.V. are traded on the Dutch and German Stock Exchanges.

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