

## Press release

25 March 2003

### Umicore to invest in Eurotungstene

Umicore has reached an agreement in principle to purchase a 49% interest in Eurotungstene Poudres SA from Swedish-based engineering group Sandvik.

Eurotungstene Poudres SA (ETP) is based in Grenoble, France, and employs some 100 people. The company is active in the production of cobalt and tungsten-based powders for use primarily in the diamond tools industry.

The transaction represents an opportunity for Umicore to make a financial investment in a company which has demonstrated an ability to generate good levels of profit and which is active in market sectors which are well known to Umicore.

The transaction remains subject to certain conditions including clearance from the relevant competition authorities.

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## PROFILE

Umicore is an international metals and materials group. Its activities are centred on four business areas :  
Advanced Materials, Copper, Precious Metals and Zinc. Each business area is divided into market-  
focused business units.

Umicore focuses on application areas where it knows its expertise in materials science and metallurgy  
can make a real difference, be it in products that are essential to everyday life or those at the cutting edge  
of exciting, new technological developments. Umicore's overriding goal of sustainable value creation is  
based on this ambition to develop, produce and recycle metals in a way that fulfils its mission: materials  
for a better life.

The Umicore Group has industrial operations on all continents and serves a global customer base; it  
generated a turnover of EUR 3.2 billion in 2002 and currently employs some 9,000 people.

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