

Press release

6 March 2006

Zinc hedging extended for 2007 and into 2008

In line with its hedging policy, Umicore has locked in a further portion of its zinc price exposure for 2007. As a result, about 70% of Umicore's zinc price exposure for 2007 is now hedged at an average forward price of EUR 1,465 per tonne. Umicore has also extended its zinc hedging to cover approximately 80% of its exposure for the first three months of 2008 at an average forward price of EUR 1,635 per tonne.

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Umicore profile

Umicore is a materials technology group. Its activities are centered on four business areas: Advanced Materials, Precious Metals Products and Catalysts, Precious Metals Services and Zinc Specialties. Each business area is divided into market-focused business units.

Umicore focuses on application areas where it knows its expertise in materials science, chemistry and metallurgy can make a real difference, be it in products that are essential to everyday life or those at the cutting edge of new technological developments. Umicore's overriding goal of sustainable value creation is based on this ambition to develop, produce and recycle materials 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 6.6 billion in 2005 and currently employs some 14,000 people.