

Press release

21 November 2006

Umicore wins prize for best sustainability report

On 20 November Umicore was awarded the Belgian Prize for the Best Sustainable Development Report for the year 2005. The competition for the award was organized by the Belgian “Instituut der Bedrijfsrevisoren / Institut des Reviseurs d’Entreprises” (IBR-IRE) with the help of Business & Society Belgium.

The jury – composed of members of the IBR-IRE “Sustainability” working group as well as external experts – made its selection based on a wide range of criteria, including verifiability, relevance, clarity and reliability. It also looked at actual performance, vision and strategy, management systems and stakeholder relationships, as well as public commitment by senior management to its economic, social and environmental goals.

Following the award, Thomas Leysen, Chief Executive Officer of Umicore, had this to say: “We consider this to be a welcome recognition of our continuing efforts to strive towards sustainability. Umicore last year actually stopped publishing separate reports on its sustainability performance, opting instead to include the economic, social and environmental elements of its business into one comprehensive document. We feel our ‘Report to Shareholders and Society’ reflects the true spirit of sustainable development.”

In parallel to presenting its Annual Report to its shareholders during the regular Annual General Meeting, Umicore for the first time presented its economic, social and environmental targets to a range of stakeholders including local government officials and society groups.

n.v. Umicore s.a.
Corporate Communication

Broekstraat 31 Rue du Marais Phone +32 2 227 71 28
B-1000 Brussels, Belgium Fax +32 2 227 79 03
www.umicore.com e-mail info@umicore.com

BTW BE401 574 852
Bank 210-0053806-23 - TRB 85382
Registered Office: Broekstraat 31 Rue du Marais, B-1000 Brussels

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 16,000 people.

For more information:

Investor Relations:

Mr Tim WEEKES - Tel. +32 2 227 73 98 – tim.weekes@umicore.com

Mr Geoffroy RASKIN – Tel. +32 2 227 71 47 – geoffroy.raskin@umicore.com

Media:

Mr Bart CROLS – Tel +32 2 227 71 29 - +32 476 98 01 21 – bart.crols@umicore.com