

Press-release

6 June 2007

Umicore reaches agreement to acquire the catalyst business of Delphi

Deal subject to provisions of Section 363 of US bankruptcy code

Umicore has reached an agreement to acquire the automotive catalysts business of Delphi for USD 55.6 million. The transaction will now be filed with the bankruptcy court in the United States. Given the Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection under which Delphi is now operating, the agreement will be subject to Section 363 of US bankruptcy law and competitive bidding as part of an auction process. It is anticipated that this auction process will take place towards the end of July 2007 and, should Umicore's bid prevail, that the deal would close as promptly thereafter as practicable, subject to the normal regulatory approval process.

As part of the transaction, Umicore would acquire manufacturing and research facilities in Tulsa (Oklahoma, US), Florange (France) and Port Elizabeth (South Africa). Umicore would also acquire a complete customer book and intellectual property portfolio (more than 70 patents), as well as business activities and certain assets in China, Australia and Mexico. Existing test programs will continue to run in Bascharage (Luxemburg) and Flint (Michigan, US) under service agreements.

Since Delphi was spun off from its former parent company, General Motors, in 1999, its automotive catalysts business has developed a diverse customer base in the US, Europe and Asia. In 2006, the business recorded a pro-forma operating loss of USD 2 million on revenues (excluding precious metal content) of USD 162 million. Should Umicore's bid prevail it is anticipated that the acquisition would be somewhat earnings dilutive in 2007 and 2008, including the effect of integration costs, but should generate earnings above the cost of capital thereafter.

Umicore and Delphi's automotive catalyst businesses have strong complementarities in terms of technologies and customer mix. The acquisition would give access to an extended customer base and accelerate the growth of Umicore's catalyst business. It would also strengthen Umicore's research, engineering and sales teams. The combined business would continue to be driven by technology. The combination of R&D and process manufacturing competencies of the two organizations would provide the potential for greater innovation, a broader product offering and increased efficiency.

Bear Stearns is acting as financial advisor and Goodwin Procter as legal advisor to Umicore.

n.v. Umicore s.a.
Corporate Communication

Broekstraat 31 Rue du Marais
B-1000 Brussels
www.umicore.com

Phone: +32 2 227 71 28
Fax: +32 2 227 79 03
e-mail: info@umicore.com

BTW: BE401 574 852
Bank: 210-0053806-23
TRB : 85382

Conference call details

There will be a conference call and an audio webcast at 09:30 CET (08:30 UK time) during which Thomas Leysen (CEO) and Marc Grynberg (Executive Vice-President - Automotive Catalysts) will comment on the proposed acquisition and answer any questions that you might have.

LIVE AUDIO WEBCAST

The audio webcast can be accessed via following link:

<http://wcc.webeventservices.com/view/wl/r.htm?e=51690&s=1&k=4F90A0881CF4C6527539E298241E91A2&cb=genesys>

CONFERENCE CALL

Country	Free phone	Local number
UK	0500 5510 78	+44 (0)20 7162 0025
US	+1 877 491 0064	+1 334 323 6201
Netherlands	0800 02 01 229	+31 (0)20 7965 008
Belgium	0800 50 63 5	+32 (0)2 290 14 07
Hungary	0680 0180 48	+36 (0)618 8932 15
Denmark	808 866 66 0	+45 3271 4607
Ireland	1800 9321 08	+353 (0)1 4364 106
Germany	0800 1016 599	+49 (0)695 8999 0507
Switzerland	0800 0009 96	+41 (0)2 2592 7007
Finland	0800 1174 92	+358 (0)9 2313 9201
Portugal	8008 154 29	+351 211 201 731
Luxembourg	0800 24 929	+352 2700 073 408
Spain	800 0980 18	+34 917 889 896
Italy	800 9874 68	+39 023 0350 9003
France	0800 94 02 20	+33 (0)1 70 99 32 08
Sweden	0200 88 76 51	+46 (0)8 5052 0110
Austria	0800 6779 75	+43 (0)268 22 05 6292
Australia	1800 98 89 41	+61 (0)28 2239 543
Japan	00 531 1219 07	+81 (0)33 57 08 615
China North	10 800 71 21 463	
China South	10 800 12 01 463	
South Africa	0800 9914 68	

If your country is not listed, please call the UK number +44 20 7162 0025.

It's recommended that participants start dialling in 5-10 minutes prior to ensure a timely start to the conference.

Please be ready to state the name of the conference. You will be asked for your details, such as name, company name and city location, before being connected to the conference.

For Q&A: Please press the number 1 on your telephone keypad to register for a question and the hash or pound key to withdraw a question during the Q&A session.

Please note that you can call for operator assistance at any time by pressing star followed by zero on your telephone.

For more information

Investor Relations:

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

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

Media:

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

Umicore profile

Umicore is a materials technology group. Its activities are centred 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 €8.8 billion (€1.9 billion excluding metal) in 2006 and currently employs some 17,000 people.